



# Canadian Natural

## CANADIAN NATURAL RESOURCES LIMITED

### NOTICE OF THE ANNUAL AND SPECIAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS TO BE HELD ON THURSDAY, MAY 5, 2022

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the Annual and Special Meeting (the “Meeting”) of the Shareholders of Canadian Natural Resources Limited (the “Corporation”) will be held on **Thursday, May 5, 2022, at 1:00 p.m.** (MDT) for the following purposes:

1. To receive the Annual Report of the Corporation to the Shareholders, the Consolidated Financial Statements, and the report of the Auditors, for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2021;
2. To elect Directors for the ensuing year;
3. To appoint Auditors for the ensuing year and to authorize the Audit Committee of the Corporation’s Board of Directors to fix their remuneration;
4. To consider, and if deemed appropriate, to pass an ordinary resolution approving all unallocated stock options pursuant to the Amended, Compiled and Restated Employee Stock Option Plan of the Corporation as set forth in the Information Circular accompanying this Notice of Meeting;
5. To consider, and if deemed appropriate, to pass an ordinary resolution, on an advisory basis, on the Corporation’s approach to executive compensation as described in the Information Circular accompanying this Notice of Meeting; and
6. To transact such other business as may properly be brought before the Meeting or any adjournments thereof.

We are mindful of the unprecedented public health impact of the novel coronavirus (known as COVID-19) and the effects the COVID-19 pandemic have created on our Shareholders, employees, industry partners and other stakeholders, including the communities in which we operate, and the measures mandated or recommended by governments and public health authorities to mitigate risks to human health and safety. The Canadian provincial and federal governments, as well as many municipalities, have implemented restrictions on public gatherings and encouraged social distancing during the pandemic, and the Canadian Securities Administrators have indicated their support for measures taken to mitigate the risk of transmission of this virus. **The Corporation will hold the Meeting in a virtual, audio only, online format conducted by live webcast at: <https://meetnow.global/MAURX7C>. Registered Shareholders and duly appointed proxyholders (as defined in the Information Circular) can attend and participate in the live webcast of the Meeting. The Corporation is utilizing a virtual meeting for the 2022 Meeting to mitigate the health and safety risks posed by COVID-19 and the changing government restrictions on social gatherings as a result thereof. Consistent with the goals of the regulators, stakeholders and others invested in the corporate governance process, the Corporation is utilizing technology to make the Meeting more accessible, regardless of geographic location. The Corporation will consider whether to revert to physical in person meetings for future Shareholder meetings as circumstances permit.**

**ANY SHAREHOLDER OF RECORD AT THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS ON MARCH 16, 2022 WILL BE ENTITLED TO RECEIVE NOTICE OF, AND VOTE AT THE MEETING, PROVIDED THAT TO THE EXTENT SUCH A SHAREHOLDER TRANSFERS THE OWNERSHIP OF ANY OF THEIR COMMON SHARES AFTER THE RECORD DATE AND THE TRANSFEREE OF THOSE COMMON SHARES PRODUCES A PROPERLY ENDORSED SHARE CERTIFICATE OR OTHERWISE ESTABLISHES THAT THEY OWN SUCH COMMON SHARES AND DEMANDS NOT LATER THAN 5 DAYS BEFORE THE MEETING THAT THEIR NAME BE INCLUDED ON THE SHAREHOLDERS’ LIST, SUCH TRANSFEREE IS ENTITLED TO VOTE SUCH SHARES AT THE MEETING. IF YOU CANNOT ATTEND THE MEETING ONLINE, PLEASE SIGN AND RETURN THE ENCLOSED PROXY FORM IN THE ADDRESSED ENVELOPE PROVIDED.**

**IN ORDER FOR YOUR PROXY FORM TO BE EFFECTIVE, IT MUST BE DULY COMPLETED AND MUST REACH THE OFFICE OF COMPUTERSHARE TRUST COMPANY OF CANADA, 8TH FLOOR, 100 UNIVERSITY AVENUE, TORONTO, ONTARIO, CANADA M5J 2Y1 AT LEAST 48 HOURS BEFORE THE MEETING, WHICH WILL BE HELD ON THURSDAY, MAY 5, 2022 AT 1:00 P.M. OR 48 HOURS (EXCLUDING NON-BUSINESS DAYS) PRIOR TO THE TIME FIXED FOR THE HOLDING OF ANY POSTPONEMENT OR ADJOURNMENT OF THE MEETING.**

Shareholders will not be able to attend the Meeting in person, but will have an opportunity to participate at the Meeting online regardless of their geographic location. Registered Shareholders and duly appointed proxyholders who attend the Meeting online will still have the opportunity to participate and vote their common shares at the Meeting, provided that they follow the instructions in the accompanying Information Circular and remain connected to the internet at all times during the Meeting. Non-registered (beneficial) shareholders who do not appoint themselves as their proxyholder in accordance with the instructions in this Information Circular and provided by their intermediary, will be able to participate as guests at the Meeting but will not be able to vote. Guests will be able to listen to the proceedings of the Meeting but cannot vote. Shareholders that usually vote by proxy ahead of the Meeting will be able to do so in the same manner as previous Shareholder meetings.

The Information Circular of the Corporation accompanying this Notice contains important instructions and details on how to participate at the Meeting and vote your common shares by proxy or online during the Meeting. The specific details of the matters proposed to be put before the Meeting are also set forth in the Information Circular.

Copies of the Annual Report of the Corporation and Consolidated Financial Statements referred to herein are being sent under separate cover if you are a registered holder, or if, as a beneficial Shareholder, you returned the financial statement request card sent with the 2021 proxy solicitation material.

**DATED** at Calgary, Alberta, this 16th day of March 2022.

**BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Paul M. Mendes', is written over a large, light blue oval shape.

PAUL M. MENDES  
Vice-President, Legal, General Counsel  
and Corporate Secretary



**Canadian Natural**

**CANADIAN NATURAL RESOURCES LIMITED**

**PROXY STATEMENT AND  
MANAGEMENT INFORMATION CIRCULAR**  
for Annual and Special Meeting of Shareholders  
to be held May 5, 2022

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**CANADIAN NATURAL RESOURCES LIMITED**  
**(the “Corporation”)**

**PROXY STATEMENT AND INFORMATION CIRCULAR**  
**FOR THE ANNUAL AND SPECIAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS**  
**TO BE HELD ON THURSDAY, MAY 5, 2022 AT 1:00 P.M. (MDT)**

**LIVE VIA WEBCAST ONLINE AT:**  
**<https://meetnow.global/MAURX7C>**

The Corporation will hold the Meeting in a virtual, audio only, online format conducted by live webcast. Registered Shareholders and duly appointed proxyholders (as defined herein) can attend and participate in the live webcast of the Meeting. The Corporation is utilizing a virtual meeting for the 2022 Meeting to mitigate the health and safety risks posed by COVID-19 and the changing government restrictions on social gatherings as a result thereof. Consistent with the goals of the regulators, stakeholders and others invested in the corporate governance process, the Corporation is utilizing technology to make the Meeting more accessible, regardless of geographic location. The Corporation will consider whether to revert to physical, in person meetings for future Shareholder meetings as circumstances permit.

Shareholders will not be able to attend the Meeting in person, but will be able to participate online during the Meeting regardless of their geographic location. Registered shareholders and duly appointed proxyholders who participate in the Meeting over the internet will still have the opportunity to participate in the question and answer session and vote at the Meeting. Non-registered (beneficial) shareholders who do not appoint themselves as their proxyholder will not be able to vote at the Meeting, but will be able to attend the Meeting and observe proceedings as guests. Guests cannot vote but will be able to listen to the proceedings of the Meeting. See the instructions below under Information Concerning Voting.

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Unless otherwise indicated, all dollar figures stated in this Circular represent Canadian dollars. On December 31, 2021, the reported WM/Refintiv noon benchmark exchange rate for one Canadian dollar was U.S. \$0.79014 and for one Pound Sterling was £0.58341. On December 31, 2021, the reported WM/Refintiv noon benchmark exchange rate for one U.S. dollar was Canadian \$1.2656 and for one pound sterling was Canadian \$1.71407.

# I. Information on Items to be Acted Upon

## Solicitation of Proxies

This Information Circular (the "Circular") is furnished in connection with **THE SOLICITATION OF PROXIES BY THE MANAGEMENT OF CANADIAN NATURAL RESOURCES LIMITED** (the "Corporation" or "Canadian Natural") for use at the 2022 Annual and Special Meeting of the Shareholders of the Corporation.

The solicitation of proxies will be primarily by mail, but may also be by telephone, electronic communication or oral communications by the directors, officers and regular employees of the Corporation, at no additional compensation. The costs of preparation and mailing of the Notice of Meeting, Instrument of Proxy and this Circular as well as any such solicitation referred to above will be paid by the Corporation.

Except as otherwise stated, the information contained herein is given as of **March 16, 2022**.

## Information Concerning Voting

### WHEN AND WHERE THE MEETING WILL BE HELD

The 2022 Annual and Special Meeting of the Shareholders of the Corporation will be held in a virtual, audio only, online format conducted via live webcast online at: **<https://meetnow.global/MAURX7C>** on Thursday, May 5, 2022 at 1:00 p.m. (MDT) (the "Meeting") and at any adjournment(s) or postponement(s) thereof, for the purposes set forth in the accompanying Notice of Meeting.

### QUORUM FOR THE MEETING

Holders of five percent (5%) of the outstanding common shares of the Corporation (the "Common Shares") entitled to vote, present at the Meeting by participating online or by proxy, will constitute a quorum for the Meeting. To participate online see the instructions below under the heading How to Participate at the Meeting.

### HOW TO PARTICIPATE IN THE MEETING

The Corporation is holding the Meeting in virtual, audio only, online format conducted via live webcast. Registered Shareholders and duly appointed proxyholders (as defined in the Information Circular) can attend and participate in the live webcast of the Meeting. The Corporation is utilizing a virtual meeting for the 2022 Meeting to mitigate the health and safety risks posed by COVID-19 and the changing government restrictions on social gatherings as a result thereof. Consistent with the goals of the regulators, stakeholders and others invested in the corporate governance process, the Corporation is utilizing technology to make the Meeting more accessible, regardless of geographic location. Shareholders will not be able to attend the Meeting in person but will be able to participate and vote online, provided they follow the instructions herein.

Registered shareholders and duly appointed proxyholders can participate by attending online and will be able to listen to the proceedings of the Meeting, ask questions and vote during the specified times, provided they remain connected to the internet and follow the instructions below under the heading Who Can Vote at the Meeting and Voting as a Registered Shareholder.

- **If you are a non-registered (beneficial) shareholder and wish to vote your Common Shares online during the Meeting, you must follow the instructions below under "Who Can Vote at the Meeting" and "Voting as a Beneficial Shareholder".** Non-registered (beneficial) shareholders who have not duly appointed themselves as proxyholders may still attend the Meeting as guests, but will not be able to vote.
- Guests, including non-registered (beneficial) shareholders, who have not duly appointed themselves as proxyholder, will be able to login and listen to the proceedings of the Meeting but will not be able to vote.

Attendees can login to the Meeting by following the instructions below:

- Login online at: <https://meetnow.global/MAURX7C>. The Corporation recommends that you log in thirty minutes before the Meeting starts.
- Click "Shareholder" and then enter your Control Number or Invite Code (see below), as applicable.

For Registered Shareholders: The 15 digit Control Number to access the Meeting will be located on the form of proxy or in the email notification you received for the Meeting.

For duly appointed proxyholders: The Corporation's transfer agent, Computershare Trust Company of Canada, will provide you with an Invite Code by email **after the proxy voting deadline has passed** provided that the proxyholder has been duly appointed **and** registered as described below.

**OR**

- Click "Guest" and then complete the online form to access the Meeting.

If you attend the Meeting online, it is important to remain connected to the internet at all times in order to vote when balloting commences. It is your responsibility to ensure internet connectivity is maintained for the duration of the Meeting. For additional details and instructions on accessing the Meeting online from your tablet, smartphone or computer, please see the user guide provided by Computershare and included with this Circular. The virtual Meeting user guide will also be available on the Corporation's website, [www.cnrl.com](http://www.cnrl.com).

## **WHO CAN VOTE AT THE MEETING**

Anyone who holds Common Shares as a registered shareholder or a beneficial shareholder on March 16, 2022 (the "Record Date") is entitled to receive notice of the Meeting and to vote at the Meeting to be held on May 5, 2022 or any adjournment or postponement of the Meeting (see Voting as a Registered Shareholder or Voting as a Beneficial Shareholder below). If you became a shareholder after the Record Date, you may vote if you produce a properly endorsed share certificate or otherwise establish ownership of the Common Shares and, not later than 5 days before the Meeting, you request your name be included on the list of shareholders entitled to vote at the Meeting.

**You, as a shareholder, have the right to designate a person or company (who need not be a Shareholder of the Corporation) other than N. Murray Edwards or Tim S. McKay, the management designees, to attend and act for you at the Meeting. Such right may be exercised by inserting in the blank space provided on the proxy the name of the person or company to be designated and deleting therefrom the names of the management designees or by completing another proper instrument of proxy. If you are a non-registered (beneficial) shareholder and wish to vote your Common Shares yourself at the Meeting, you will need to appoint yourself as proxy by following the instructions below under Voting as a Beneficial Shareholder.**

**Shareholders who wish to appoint a third party proxyholder to represent them at the Meeting must submit their Form of Proxy or Voting Instruction Form, as applicable, prior to registering their proxyholder. Registering a proxyholder is an additional step once you have submitted a Form of Proxy or Voting Information Form. Failure to register the proxyholder will result in that person not receiving an Invite Code and being unable to vote online during the Meeting.**

Although the Meeting will be conducted in a virtual only format, shareholders can still vote by proxy ahead of the Meeting through all of the voting channels that have been available for previous meetings. To vote online during the Meeting, see Voting as a Registered Shareholder or Voting as a Beneficial Shareholder, as applicable to you.

## **VOTING AS A REGISTERED SHAREHOLDER**

A registered shareholder is a shareholder who has (i) a share certificate registered in their name, or (ii) a Direct Registration Statement in their name and confirming their holdings. If you are a registered shareholder, you will have received a Form of Proxy for this Meeting. You will also be able to vote online during the Meeting at the specified time or appoint someone to vote at the Meeting on your behalf in the manner described herein.

Voting by proxy can be done in one of the following ways: 1) by mailing or personally delivering the completed form of proxy enclosed with this Circular to Computershare Trust Company of Canada, 8th Floor, 100 University Avenue, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5J 2Y1 at least 48 hours (excluding non-business days) prior to the time fixed for the holding of the Meeting or of any postponement or adjournment of the Meeting for which it is to be used; 2) by telephone by calling the toll free number specified in the Form of Proxy; 3) through the internet, in advance of the Meeting, at: [www.investorvote.com](http://www.investorvote.com) and following the directions there; or 4) by appointing and registering a proxyholder to attend and vote online during the Meeting on your behalf. Follow the instructions below and on the Form of Proxy to complete the additional step of registering a third party proxyholder to ensure that they are provided with the Invite Code to vote online during the Meeting.

## VOTING AS BENEFICIAL SHAREHOLDER

A non-registered shareholder (a beneficial shareholder) is a shareholder who has their Common Shares held by an intermediary such as a broker, dealer, trustee or financial institution.

If you are a beneficial shareholder and you wish to have your Common Shares voted by proxy at the Meeting, you must provide instructions to the intermediary who is holding your Common Shares on how you want your Common Shares voted at the Meeting. If you have provided instructions to your intermediary to receive information from the Corporation, you will receive from your intermediary a Voting Instruction Form. This form must be completed by you and returned to the intermediary in accordance with the instructions on the Voting Instruction Form. Alternatively, you can provide voting instructions by calling a toll free number or, through the internet, by accessing the website address indicated on the Voting Instruction Form and following the instructions.

**If you wish to vote online yourself during the Meeting, you must appoint and register yourself as your proxyholder. To appoint yourself as proxyholder, insert your name in the space provided on the Voting Instruction Form provided to you with this Circular and sign and return it to the intermediary in accordance with the instructions provided and register yourself as your proxyholder by following the instructions below.** Do not otherwise complete the form, as you will be voting yourself online at the Meeting. Once you have registered, follow the instructions under How to Participate at the Meeting and cast your ballot at the designated time during the Meeting.

To register a proxyholder, shareholders must visit <https://www.computershare.com/CNRL> by 1:00 p.m. (MDT) on May 3, 2022 and provide Computershare with the required proxyholder contact information so that Computershare may provide the proxyholder with an Invite Code via email. **WITHOUT AN INVITE CODE, PROXYHOLDERS WILL NOT BE ABLE TO VOTE AT THE MEETING** but will be able to participate as a guest. The Invite Code will be provided by Computershare via email after the proxy voting deadline has passed.

In any case, DO NOT send the Voting Instruction Form to the transfer agent or the Corporation as it is not a legal proxy for voting your Common Shares at the Meeting.

### United States Beneficial Shareholders

To attend and vote at the virtual meeting, you must first obtain a valid Legal Proxy from your broker, bank or other agent and then register in advance to attend the meeting. Follow the instructions from your broker or bank included with the Proxy materials or contact your broker or bank to request a Legal Form of Proxy. After first obtaining a valid Legal Proxy from your broker, bank or other agent, you must submit a copy of your Legal Proxy to Computershare in order to register to attend the meeting. Requests for registration should be sent:

By mail to:       COMPUTERSHARE  
                    100 UNIVERSITY AVENUE 8TH FLOOR  
                    TORONTO, ON M5J 2Y1

By email at:      USLegalProxy@computershare.com

Requests for registration must be labeled as "Legal Proxy" and be received no later than May 3, 2022 at 1:00 p.m. (MDT). You will receive a confirmation of your registration by email after we receive your registration materials. You may attend the Meeting and vote your shares at: <https://meetnow.global/MAURX7C> during the Meeting. Please note that you are required to register your appointment at: <https://www.computershare.com/CNRL>.

## HOW YOUR COMMON SHARES WILL BE VOTED

Your Common Shares will be voted or withheld from voting on any ballot that may be called in accordance with the instructions you have provided on the properly completed proxy. If no voting instructions have been specified by you, the person you have appointed to vote on your behalf has discretion to vote as they see fit. If your proxyholder is one designated by us, and no voting instructions have been specified by you, your Common Shares will be voted: (i) in favour of each of the persons nominated by management for election as directors; (ii) in favour of the appointment of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP as auditor and the authorization of the Audit Committee of the Board of Directors to fix their remuneration; (iii) in favour of the resolution approving all unallocated stock options pursuant to the Amended, Compiled and Restated Employee Stock Option Plan of the Corporation as set forth in the Information Circular accompanying this Notice of Meeting; and (iv) on the advisory vote, in favour of the Corporation's approach to executive compensation.

The proxy also confers discretionary authority upon the person you have named to vote on your behalf with respect to amendments or variations to matters identified in the Notice of Meeting and with respect to other matters which may properly come before the Meeting, or at any adjournment or postponement thereof. Management of the Corporation does not know of any matters which may be presented at the Meeting, other than the matters set forth in the notice but, if other matters or amendments or variations do properly come before the Meeting, it is the intention of the persons named in the enclosed form of proxy to vote such proxy according to their best judgment.



## **CHANGING YOUR VOTE**

If you are a registered shareholder and change your mind on how you want your Common Shares voted or you decide to attend the Meeting and vote yourself, you can revoke your proxy by accessing the Meeting by following the instructions herein and voting your Common Shares during the designated time or in accordance with the following instructions.

You can also revoke your proxy by (a) providing written notice at the registered office of the Corporation or the office of Computershare Trust Company of Canada, 8th Floor, 100 University Avenue, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5J 2Y1 at any time up to and including 1:00 p.m. (MDT) on May 3, 2022 or not less than 48 hours (excluding non-business days) prior to the time fixed for the holding of any postponement or adjournment of the Meeting; or, (b) depositing another form of proxy before 1:00 p.m. (MDT) on May 3, 2022 or not less than 48 hours (excluding non-business days) prior to the time fixed for the holding of any adjournment or postponement of the Meeting. The written notice revoking your proxy can be signed by you or your attorney, provided they have your written authorization. If the Common Shares are owned by a corporation, the written notice must be from its authorized officer or attorney.

If you are a beneficial shareholder follow the instructions of your intermediary with respect to the procedures to be followed for voting as discussed above under the heading Voting as a Beneficial Shareholder. Any votes that have been cast on your behalf prior to your revoking your proxy will remain and you will be bound by such vote.

## **YOU MAY RECEIVE MORE THAN ONE SET OF VOTING MATERIALS**

You may receive more than one set of voting materials, including multiple copies of this Circular, and multiple proxy or Voting Instruction Forms if you hold your Common Shares in more than one brokerage account. You will receive a separate Voting Instruction Form for each brokerage account in which you hold Common Shares. If you are a registered holder of record and you hold your Common Shares in more than one name or variation of your name, you will receive more than one form of proxy. Please complete, sign and return each form of proxy and Voting Instruction Form you receive, or you may cast your vote by telephone or internet by following the instructions on each form of proxy or Voting Instruction Form.

## **HOW THE VOTES ARE COUNTED**

As a shareholder, you are entitled to one vote for each Common Share you hold as at March 16, 2022 on all matters proposed to come before the Meeting. Computershare Trust Company of Canada counts and tabulates the votes independently of the Corporation. Proxies are referred to the Corporation only when (i) it is clear a shareholder wants to communicate with management; (ii) the validity of the proxy is in question; or (iii) it is required by law.

## **IF YOU HAVE OTHER QUESTIONS**

If you are a Registered Shareholder and have any questions regarding the Meeting or require any assistance in completing the form of proxy, contact the Corporation's transfer agent, Computershare Trust Company of Canada, 1-800-564-6253 in Canada or the United States or outside of Canada or the United States at 1-514-982-7555.

If you are a Beneficial Shareholder and have any questions regarding the Meeting or require any assistance in completing the Voting Instruction Form received from an intermediary, contact the intermediary from whom you received the Voting Instruction Form or as otherwise provided in the Voting Instruction Form.

## Number of Voting Shares Outstanding and Principal Holders Thereof

The record date for determination of holders of Common Shares entitled to notice of and to vote at the Meeting is March 16, 2022, provided that, to the extent a shareholder transfers the ownership of any of their Common Shares after the record date and (i) the transferee of those Common Shares produces a properly endorsed share certificate or otherwise establishes that they own such Common Shares; and (ii) requests, not later than 5 days before the Meeting, that their name be included on the shareholders' list, then such transferee shall be entitled to vote such Common Shares at the Meeting.

As at March 16, 2022, the Corporation has 1,162,541,463 Common Shares issued and outstanding, each Common Share carrying the right to one vote.

To the knowledge of the directors and officers of the Corporation, no person or company beneficially owns, or controls or directs, directly or indirectly, voting securities carrying 10% or more of the voting rights attached to all voting securities of the Corporation other than:

Capital Research Global Investors, 333 South Hope Street, 55th Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90071	121,138,663	Common Shares <sup>(1)</sup>	10.4%
Capital World Investors, 333 South Hope Street, 55th Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90071	119,604,338	Common Shares <sup>(2)</sup>	10.3%

(1) Information as at December 31, 2021 based on the most recent Schedule 13G filed by Capital Research Global Investors on February 14, 2022.

(2) Information as at February 28, 2022 based on the most recent Form 62-103F3 filed by Capital World Investors on March 10, 2022.

## Business of the Meeting

Shareholders will be addressing five items at the Meeting:

1. Receiving the Annual Report of the Corporation which includes the Consolidated Financial Statements and the report of the Auditors for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2021.
2. Electing the directors of the Corporation to serve until the next Annual Meeting of shareholders.
3. Appointing the Auditors of the Corporation to serve until the next Annual Meeting of shareholders and authorizing the Audit Committee of the Board of Directors to set the Auditors' remuneration.
4. Approving all unallocated stock options pursuant to the Amended, Compiled and Restated Employee Stock Option Plan of the Corporation.
5. Conducting an advisory vote on the Corporation's approach to executive compensation.

Shareholders will also consider other business that may properly be brought before the Meeting.

## Receiving the Annual Report

Copies of the Annual Report, including the Consolidated Financial Statements and the report of Auditors for the year ended December 31, 2021, will be sent under separate cover to all registered shareholders and to those beneficial shareholders who requested a copy of the Annual Report. The Annual Report is also available on the Corporation's website at: [www.cnrl.com](http://www.cnrl.com) and under the Corporation's profile on the System for Electronic Document Analysis and Retrieval ("SEDAR") at: [www.sedar.com](http://www.sedar.com). As a shareholder, you will have an opportunity at the Meeting to address any questions you may have, to the Corporation's independent auditors, PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, regarding their audit.

## Election of Directors

The affairs of the Corporation are managed by a Board of Directors (the “Board”) who are elected annually at each Annual Meeting of Shareholders. Directors are elected to hold office until the next Annual Meeting, unless the Director resigns or the position becomes vacant for any reason prior to the next Annual Meeting. The Articles of the Corporation allow for a minimum of 3 and a maximum of 15 directors. Shareholders will be asked to elect 12 directors at the Meeting of which 9 nominees out of the 12 (75%) are independent. Mr. Steve Laut retired as the Executive Vice-Chairman of the Corporation on May 5, 2020 and is deemed to be a non-independent director for a period of three (3) years from the date of his retirement under applicable securities regulations (See Schedule “A” hereto). All of the nominees are currently Directors who were elected at the Annual Meeting of Shareholders of the Corporation held on May 6, 2021, except Ms. Dawn Farrell, who was appointed to the Board on August 4, 2021. Including Ms. Farrell, over the past ten years, four independent and two management directors retired from the Board and three independent directors and one management director have joined the Board. These changes have substantially renewed the Board as well as adding diversity, including gender diversity, and industry, business and managerial experience.

## DIVERSITY POLICY STATEMENT

The Corporation believes in diversity and values the benefits that a diverse workforce can bring to the entire organization. Diversity promotes the inclusion of different perspectives and ideas, mitigates against group bias and ensures that the Corporation has the opportunity to benefit from all available talent and ideas. By creating an atmosphere where all people are welcomed, the Corporation is a place where everyone can grow and contribute to the success of the organization. The Corporation believes promotion of diversity is best served through careful consideration of all of the knowledge, experience, skills and backgrounds of each individual in light of the needs of the organization without focusing on a single diversity characteristic. The Corporation will continue to ensure that it is a representative employer, reflecting all the diversity evident in our society.

The Corporation also believes that it is in its best interests to have a Board whose members are diverse in background and experience and can bring a broad perspective to decision making for the good governance, guidance, direction and leadership of the Corporation. The Board supports diversity in all its forms and in sufficient numbers to bring a wide range of perspectives to its decision making processes. Director nominees are selected for their ability to exercise independent judgment, experience and expertise and their individual diversity of gender, background, experience and skills is always considered. The Board believes that a Board composition where a minimum of 30% of its independent directors are women reflects appropriate gender diversity when the other factors relevant to Board effectiveness are considered, and is committed to identifying and recruiting qualified female directors to maintain that threshold. In addition to gender diversity, the Board continues to consider other aspects of diversity as part of its Board renewal efforts. The Board includes one member that identifies as a member of an ethnic and visible minority. Of the nine independent Director nominees up for election at the Meeting, four are women (44.4%) and, if elected, the Corporation would achieve its target with respect to the number of independent directors who are women. (See page A-9 for further discussion.)

The Corporation encourages the advancement of women and minorities within the organization and supports diversity as a means to stimulate creativity and innovation while promoting personal development. As part of the overall management succession plans of the Corporation and in following its mission statement to develop people, all employees have the benefit of having access to continuing education and career development opportunities within the Corporation. Appointments by the Board to the executive level are determined on the merit, performance, management skills, expertise and experience of the individual that is relevant to the area of responsibility that they will be assuming.

## MANDATORY SHARE OWNERSHIP

The Board believes that, in order to achieve better alignment in the interests of the directors and the executive officers of the Corporation and those of shareholders, requiring that the directors and executive officers maintain Common Share ownership is desirable. Details regarding the Corporation’s mandatory share ownership policy can be found on page 28.

Within five (5) years from the date of a director’s appointment to the Board, non-management directors are required to acquire and hold Common Shares and/or Deferred Share Units (“DSUs”) of the Corporation equal to a minimum aggregate value of \$675,000, being three times the annual retainer fee paid to directors in 2021. Directors are required to confirm annually, for the Corporation’s Circular, their Common Share and DSU ownership position which is reported in the table below for each director. Each director has also confirmed that such position is their beneficial and legal ownership position and that their position has not been hedged against declines in the value of the Common Shares or otherwise sold.

Management directors are required to hold Common Shares equal to a minimum aggregate market value of four times their annual salary within three (3) years from the date of their appointment as an officer of the Corporation. As the Executive Chair’s annual salary is \$1, his mandatory, required holding in 2021 was the same as that of the President at \$2,290,580, being four times Mr. T.S. McKay’s annual salary.

## MAJORITY VOTING POLICY FOR DIRECTORS

In accordance with the Corporation's majority voting policy for directors, any nominee in an uncontested election who receives a greater number of Common Shares withheld than Common Shares voted in favour of their appointment must tender their resignation to the Board for consideration and to take effect upon acceptance of the resignation by the Board. The Board would be expected to accept the resignation, absent exceptional circumstances. The majority voting policy does not apply if there are contested director elections. The Corporation shall issue a news release regarding the election of directors and the Board's decision on any such resignation.

## DIRECTOR NOMINEES

The following sets forth, among other information, the name of each of the persons proposed to be nominated for election as a director (the "Nominee"); the Nominee's principal occupation at present and within the preceding five (5) years; all positions and offices in the Corporation held by the Nominee, if applicable; other public company directorships held by the Nominee, if any; the date the Nominee was first elected, or appointed as a director of the Corporation; the voting results of the Nominee at the previous Annual Meeting of Shareholders, if applicable; the number of the Common Shares and/or DSUs of the Corporation that the Nominee has advised are beneficially owned or controlled or directed, directly or indirectly, by the Nominee as of March 16, 2022 and the value thereof; whether each Nominee meets the mandatory Common Share ownership level; the meeting attendance record of each Nominee, if applicable; whether each Nominee is independent or non-independent; and, in the case of Nominees who are members of management, the number of stock options and performance share units ("PSUs") held. (See page 33 for details on the PSU program). Refer to page A-5 for additional information on the level of experience and areas of expertise reflected on the Board.

<b>Catherine M. Best,</b> FCPA, ICD.D  (age 68)  Calgary, Alberta Canada  Director since November 2003  Independent	Ms. C.M. Best is a corporate director. Until May 2009, she served as Interim Chief Financial Officer of Alberta Health Services. Prior to that she was Executive Vice-President, Risk Management and Chief Financial Officer of Calgary Health Region from 2000. Prior to 2000, she was with Ernst & Young, a firm of chartered accountants where she served as a staff member and manager from 1980 to 1991, and was Corporate Audit Partner from 1991 to 2000. She holds a Bachelor of Interior Design degree from the University of Manitoba. Ms. C.M. Best is a Chartered Accountant, was awarded her FCA designation in 2005 and her ICD.D in 2009 and is a member of the Board of the Alberta Children’s Hospital Foundation, The Wawanesa Mutual Insurance Company and the Calgary Stampede Foundation.			
Voting Results at 2021 Annual Meeting	For: 93.95% Withheld: 6.05%			
Other Public Company Board Memberships	Badger Infrastructure Solutions Ltd. Superior Plus Corporation			
<b>Board and Committee Participation – 100%</b>		<b>Holdings – Ms. Best exceeds her Ownership Requirements with holdings having an aggregate value of \$4,156,139.</b>		
<u>Meetings</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Securities Held</u>	<u>Value</u>	<u>Required Ownership</u>
Board of Directors	5 of 5	55,675 Common Shares	\$ 4,156,139	\$ 675,000
Audit (Chair)	5 of 5			
Compensation	5 of 5			

<b>Dr. M. Elizabeth Cannon, O.C.</b>  (age 59)  Calgary, Alberta Canada  Director since November 2019  Independent	Dr. M.E. Cannon is a corporate director. Dr. Cannon is President Emerita at the University of Calgary, having previously served at the University of Calgary as Dean of the Schulich School of Engineering from 2006-2010, as well as President and Vice Chancellor from 2010 to 2018. Dr. Cannon is a fellow of the Royal Society of Canada and the Canadian Academy of Engineering, an associate of the National Academy of Engineering (US) and a corresponding member of the Mexican Academy of Engineering. Dr. Cannon holds a Bachelor of Applied Sciences (Mathematics) from Acadia University as well as Bachelor of Science, a Master of Science and a PhD in Geomatics Engineering, all from the University of Calgary. Dr. Cannon is a professional engineer and a member of the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of Alberta (“APEGA”). She also holds Honorary Doctorates from 3 universities as well as an Honorary Bachelor of Business Administration from the Southern Alberta Institute of Technology. Dr. Cannon was a recipient of the Order of Canada in 2019.			
Voting Results at 2021 Annual Meeting	For: 96.32% Withheld: 3.68%			
Other Public Company Board Memberships	None			
<b>Board and Committee Participation – 100%</b>		<b>Holdings – Dr. Cannon exceeds her Ownership Requirements with holdings having an aggregate value of \$1,320,186.</b>		
<u>Meetings</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Securities Held</u>	<u>Value</u>	<u>Required Ownership<sup>(1)</sup></u>
Board of Directors	5 of 5	12,375 Common Shares	\$ 923,794	\$ 675,000
Nominating, Governance and Risk	3 of 3	5,310 DSUs	\$ 396,392	
Health, Safety, Asset Integrity and Environmental	4 of 4			
Reserves	3 of 3			

(1) Dr. Cannon has 5 years from her appointment to achieve the required ownership threshold for Directors.

<b>N. Murray Edwards, O.C.</b>  (age 62)  St. Moritz, Switzerland  Executive Chair  Director since September 1988  Non-independent (Management)	Mr. N.M. Edwards is an investor and corporate director. Prior to December 2015, he was President, Edco Financial Holdings Ltd., a private management and consulting company. He has been a major contributor to the success and growth of the Corporation since becoming a Director and significant shareholder in 1988. Prior thereto, he was a partner of the law firm Burnet, Duckworth and Palmer in Calgary. He holds a Bachelor of Commerce degree (Great Distinction) from the University of Saskatchewan and a Bachelor of Laws degree (Honours) from the University of Toronto and is a recipient of the Order of Canada.				
Voting Results at 2021 Annual Meeting	For: 94.73% Withheld: 5.27%				
Other Public Company Board Memberships	Ensign Energy Services Inc. Magellan Aerospace Corporation				
<b>Board and Committee Participation – 100%</b>		<b>Holdings – Mr. Edwards exceeds his Ownership Requirements with holdings having an aggregate value of \$1,605,093,768.</b>			
<u>Meetings</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Securities Held</u>	<u>Value</u>	<u>Required Ownership</u>	
Board of Directors	5 of 5	21,501,591 Common Shares	\$1,605,093,768 \$	2,290,580	
		2,050,000 Stock Options			
		862,771 PSUs			

<b>Dawn L. Farrell</b> (age 62) Calgary, Alberta, Canada Director since August, 2021 Independent	Ms. D.L. Farrell is a corporate director. Prior to her appointment, she held roles of increasing seniority and significance at TransAlta Corporation, having retired from her position as President and Chief Executive Officer in March 2021. Prior thereto, she held roles as Chief Operating Officer (to 2011); Executive Vice-President, Commercial Operations and Development (to 2009); Executive Vice-President, Corporate Development; Executive Vice-President, Independent Power Projects; and Vice-President, Energy Marketing and IPP Development. Ms. Farrell previously served at BC Hydro as Executive Vice-President Engineering, Aboriginal Relations and Generation (2006 to 2007) and as Executive Vice-President, Generation (2003 to 2006). Ms. Farrell holds a Bachelor of Commerce degree with a major in Finance and a Master of Arts degree in Economics, both from the University of Calgary, and has attended the Advanced Management Program at Harvard University. Ms. Farrell is Chancellor of Mount Royal University.			
Voting Results at 2021 Annual Meeting	N/A			
Other Public Company Board Memberships	Chemours Inc. Portland General Electric			
<b>Board and Committee Participation – 100%</b>		<b>Holdings – Ms. Farrell exceeds her Ownership Requirements with holdings having an aggregate value of \$958,805.</b>		
<u>Meetings</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Securities Held</u>	<u>Value</u>	<u>Required Ownership<sup>(1)</sup></u>
Board of Directors <sup>(2)</sup>	2 of 2	12,844 Common Shares	\$ 958,805	\$ 675,000
Audit <sup>(2)</sup>	2 of 2			
Nominating, Governance and Risk <sup>(2)</sup>	2 of 2			
Health, Safety, Asset Integrity and Environmental <sup>(2)</sup>	2 of 2			

(1) Ms. Farrell has 5 years from her appointment to achieve the required ownership threshold for Directors.

(2) Ms. Farrell was appointed to each of the Board, Audit Committee, Nominating, Governance and Risk Committee, and the Health, Safety, Asset Integrity and Environmental Committee on August 4, 2021.

<b>Christopher L. Fong</b> (age 72) Calgary, Alberta Canada Director since November 2010 Independent	Mr. C.L. Fong is a corporate director. Until his retirement in May 2009, he was Global Head, Corporate Banking, Energy with RBC Capital Markets. Prior thereto, between 1974 and September 1980, Mr. C.L. Fong worked as a petroleum engineer and as a corporate planning analyst in the oil and gas industry. He has served as Chair of EducationMatters, Calgary’s Public Education Trust, as a governor of Honen’s, an International Piano Competition, past Chair of UNICEF Canada and has served on the Petroleum Advisory Committee of the Alberta Securities Commission. Mr. C.L. Fong graduated from McGill University with a Bachelor of Chemical Engineering degree and has post graduate courses in Finance, Economics and Accounting from McGill University and the University of Calgary.				
Voting Results at 2021 Annual Meeting	For: 93.40% Withheld: 6.60%				
Other Public Company Board Memberships	Computer Modelling Group Ltd.				
<b>Board and Committee Participation – 100%</b>		<b>Holdings – Mr. Fong exceeds his Ownership Requirements with holdings having an aggregate value of \$4,162,260.</b>			
<u>Meetings</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Securities Held</u>		<u>Value</u>	<u>Required Ownership</u>
Board of Directors	5 of 5	36,719	Common Shares	\$ 2,741,073	\$ 675,000
Health, Safety, Asset Integrity and Environmental (Chair)	4 of 4	19,038	DSUs	\$ 1,421,187	
Reserves	3 of 3				

<b>Ambassador Gordon D. Giffin</b>  (age 72)  Atlanta, Georgia U.S.A.  Director since May 2002 and Lead Independent Director since May 2012	Ambassador G.D. Giffin is a partner and Global Vice-Chair at Dentons US LLP, in their Washington, D.C. and Atlanta, Georgia offices, and was a Senior Partner with McKenna Long & Aldridge LLP, a law firm based in Washington, D.C. and Atlanta, Georgia from 2001 to 2015 when they merged with Dentons. Prior thereto, he was the United States Ambassador to Canada from 1997 to 2001 after a career spanning 30 years engaged in the private practice of business and regulatory law. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Duke University and a J.D. from Emory University School of Law. Ambassador Giffin also serves on the Board of Trustees of the Carter Presidential Center and is a member of both the Council on Foreign Relations and the Trilateral Commission.			
Voting Results at 2021 Annual Meeting	For: 83.41 % Withheld: 16.59%			
Other Public Company Board Memberships	Canadian National Railway Company			
<b>Board and Committee Participation – 100%</b>		<b>Holdings – Ambassador Giffin exceeds his Ownership Requirements with holdings having an aggregate value of \$8,054,436.</b>		
<u>Meetings</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Securities Held</u>	<u>Value</u>	<u>Required Ownership</u>
Board of Directors	5 of 5	107,896 Common Shares	\$ 8,054,436	\$ 675,000
Audit	5 of 5			
Nominating, Governance and Risk (Chair)	3 of 3			

<b>Wilfred A. Gobert</b> (age 74) Calgary, Alberta Canada Director since November 2010 Independent	Mr. W.A. Gobert is an independent businessman. Until his retirement in 2006, he was Vice-Chair of Peters & Co. Limited, a position he held since 2002, and was a member of its Board of Directors and its Executive Committee. He joined Peters & Co. Limited in 1979 as Managing Director, Research and throughout his career at the firm his responsibilities included the research and analysis of integrated oil companies and oil and gas producers. Mr. W.A. Gobert received an MBA (Finance) degree from McMaster University as well as a Bachelor of Science (Honours) degree from the University of Windsor and holds a Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) designation. He is Senior Fellow, Energy Studies, Centre for Energy Policy Studies with The Fraser Institute.			
Voting Results at 2021 Annual Meeting	For: 95.54% Withheld: 4.46%			
Other Public Company Board Memberships	Paramount Resources Ltd.			
<b>Board and Committee Participation – 100%</b>		<b>Holdings – Mr. Gobert exceeds his Ownership Requirements with holdings having an aggregate value of \$5,290,147.</b>		
<u>Meetings</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Securities Held</u>	<u>Value</u>	<u>Required Ownership</u>
Board of Directors	5 of 5	70,866 Common Shares	\$ 5,290,147	\$ 675,000
Audit	5 of 5			
Compensation	6 of 6			
Nominating, Governance and Risk	3 of 3			

<b>Steve W. Laut</b> (age 64) Calgary, Alberta Canada Director since August 2006 Non-independent (Former Management)	Mr. S.W. Laut retired from the Corporation effective May 5, 2020 and is a corporate director and businessman. Until his retirement, he was the Executive Vice-Chairman of the Corporation from March 1, 2018. Mr. Laut joined the Corporation as Senior Exploitation Engineer in 1991 and was appointed to positions of increasing responsibility as Vice-President, Operations in 1996; Executive Vice-President, Operations in 2001; Chief Operating Officer in 2003; and, President in 2005. He has been instrumental in contributing to the Corporation's growth and success during his tenure. Mr. S.W. Laut holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Calgary and is an APEGA member.			
Voting Results at 2021 Annual Meeting	For: 96.55% Withheld: 3.45%			
Other Public Company Board Memberships	None			
<b>Board and Committee Participation – 100%</b>		<b>Holdings – Mr. Laut exceeds his Ownership Requirements with holdings having an aggregate value of \$144,138,998.</b>		
<u>Meetings</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Securities Held</u>	<u>Value</u>	<u>Required Ownership</u>
Board of Directors	5 of 5	1,930,864 Common Shares	\$ 144,138,998	\$ 675,000
Reserves	3 of 3	147,606 PSUs		

<b>Tim S. McKay</b> (age 60) Calgary, Alberta Canada President Director since February 2018 Non-independent (Management)	Mr. T.S. McKay became President of the Corporation on March 1, 2018. Prior thereto, he joined the Corporation as Production Engineer in 1990 and was appointed to positions of increasing responsibility as Vice-President, Production in 1996, Senior Vice-President, Production in 2001, Senior Vice-President, Operations in 2002 and Chief Operating Officer since 2010. He has played a significant role in the Corporation's evolution throughout his tenure. Mr. T.S. McKay holds a Bachelor of Science in Petroleum Engineering from the University of Alberta. Mr. McKay is also a member of APEGA.			
Voting Results at 2021 Annual Meeting	For: 98.73% Withheld: 1.27%			
Other Public Company Board Memberships	None			
<b>Board and Committee Participation – 100%</b>		<b>Holdings – Mr. McKay exceeds his Ownership Requirements with holdings having an aggregate value of \$88,116,487.</b>		
<u>Meetings</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Securities Held</u>	<u>Value</u>	<u>Required Ownership</u>
Board of Directors	5 of 5	1,180,395 Common Shares	\$ 88,116,487	\$ 2,290,580
Health, Safety, Asset Integrity and Environmental	4 of 4	1,630,000 Stock Options 431,708 PSUs		



<b>Honourable Frank J. McKenna</b> , P.C., O.C., O.N.B., Q.C.  (age 74)  Cap Pelé, New Brunswick Canada  Director since August 2006  Independent	Mr. F.J. McKenna has been the Deputy Chair of TD Bank Group since May 2006. Prior to this, he served as Canadian Ambassador to the United States from 2005 to 2006. From 1998 to 2005, he acted as Counsel to the Atlantic Canada law firm McInnes Cooper, while serving on numerous boards, and he was Premier of New Brunswick from 1987 to 1997. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from St. Francis Xavier University, postgraduate studies in political science at Queen’s University, and a Bachelor of Laws degree from the University of New Brunswick. He received the Order of Canada in 2008.			
Voting Results at 2021 Annual Meeting	For: 91.93% Withheld: 8.07%			
Other Public Company Board Memberships	Brookfield Asset Management Inc.			
<b>Board and Committee Participation – 100%</b>		<b>Holdings – Mr. McKenna exceeds his Ownership Requirements with holdings having an aggregate value of \$6,072,554.</b>		
<u>Meetings</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Securities Held</u>	<u>Value</u>	<u>Required Ownership</u>
Board of Directors	5 of 5	17,064 Common Shares	\$ 1,273,828	\$ 675,000
Compensation	6 of 6	64,283 DSUs	\$ 4,798,726	
Nominating, Governance and Risk	3 of 3			

<b>David A. Tuer</b> (age 72) Calgary, Alberta Canada Director since May 2002 Independent	Mr. D.A. Tuer is a corporate director. Prior thereto, Mr. Tuer was Executive Chairman of Optiom Inc., a private insurance company. Prior thereto, from 2010 to 2015, he was Vice-Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Teine Energy Ltd., a private oil and gas exploration company. He served as Vice-Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Marble Point Energy Ltd. the predecessor to Teine Energy Ltd., also a private oil and gas exploration company from 2008 until 2010. He was Chairman of the Calgary Health Region, a position he held from 2001 to 2008 when the Alberta government consolidated all of the provincial health regions under one authority, Alberta Health Services. Mr. D.A. Tuer also served as Executive Vice-Chairman, BA Energy Inc. from 2005 until 2008, when it was acquired by its parent company Value Creation Inc. through a Plan of Arrangement and which was engaged in the potential development, building and operations of a merchant heavy oil upgrader in Northern Alberta for the purpose of upgrading bitumen and heavy oil feedstock into high-quality crude oils. Prior thereto, he was President and Chief Executive Officer of PanCanadian Petroleum Inc. from 1994 to 2001 and President, Chief Executive Officer and a director of Hawker Resources Inc. from 2003 to 2005. Mr. D.A. Tuer holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Calgary. He is Chairman of the board of directors of Altalink Management LLP, a private limited partnership.			
Voting Results at 2021 Annual Meeting	For: 93.58% Withheld: 6.42%			
Other Public Company Board Memberships	None			
<b>Board and Committee Participation – 100%</b>		<b>Holdings – Mr. Tuer exceeds his Ownership Requirements with holdings having an aggregate value of \$1,661,112.</b>		
<u>Meetings</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Securities Held</u>	<u>Value</u>	<u>Required Ownership</u>
Board of Directors	5 of 5	22,252 Common Shares	\$ 1,661,112	\$ 675,000
Audit	5 of 5			
Reserves	3 of 3			

<b>Annette M. Verschuren, O.C.</b> (age 65) Toronto, Ontario Canada Director since November 2014 Independent	Ms. A.M. Verschuren is the Chair and Chief Executive Officer of NRStor Inc., an energy storage project developer of energy storage technologies. She was President of The Home Depot Canada from 1996 to 2011. Prior to joining The Home Depot, she was President and co-owner of Michaels of Canada, a chain of arts and crafts stores. Previously, she was the Vice President, Corporate Development of Imasco Ltd. and Executive Vice President of Canada Development Investment Corporation. She currently serves as Chancellor of Cape Breton University and as a director of Liberty Mutual Insurance Group. She is also the Chair of the MaRS Discovery District and, since June 2019, the Sustainable Development Technology Centre. Ms. A.M. Verschuren is an Officer of the Order of Canada and holds honorary doctorate degrees from ten universities including St. Francis Xavier University, where she also earned a Bachelor of Business degree.				
Voting Results at 2021 Annual Meeting	For: 99.80% Withheld: 0.20%				
Other Public Company Board Memberships	Air Canada Saputo Inc.				
<b>Board and Committee Participation – 100%</b>		<b>Holdings – Ms. Verschuren exceeds her Ownership Requirements with holdings having an aggregate value of \$3,374,479.</b>			
<u>Meetings</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Securities Held</u>	<u>Value</u>	<u>Required Ownership</u>	
Board of Directors	5 of 5	26,166 Common Shares	\$ 1,953,292	\$ 675,000	
Compensation	6 of 6	19,038 DSUs	\$ 1,421,187		
Health, Safety, Asset Integrity and Environmental	4 of 4				

## Director Compensation

With the exception of the fee paid to the Lead Independent Director, which is determined by the Compensation Committee and approved by the Board, the Nominating, Governance and Risk Committee regularly reviews the fees paid to the directors to ensure the fees are reasonable and competitive. The Corporation pays compensation comprised of cash and Common Shares to its non-management directors in their capacity as directors.

On March 18, 2020, in response to the challenges arising in the oil and gas industry in relation to the drop in global crude oil demand triggered by the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the global economy and the breakdown in negotiations between OPEC+ countries regarding production cuts, the Board agreed to reduce its annual retainer fee from \$47,500 to \$42,500. In November 2020, on the recommendation of the Nominating, Governance and Risk Committee, the Board adjusted the fees paid to non-management directors to remain comparable with fees paid by companies of similar size and complexity.

Effective January 1, 2021, (i) the annual cash retainer of \$42,500, as adjusted in March 2020, would not change until such time as executive compensation was reinstated; (ii) the equity retainer would move to a monetary value of \$175,000 annually, which would be used to purchase Common Shares on behalf of the directors, from the direct purchase of 4,000 Common Shares; (iii) the per meeting fees paid to directors would be eliminated; and (iv) the time and travel fee would be reduced from \$4,000 to \$2,500 per round trip. In addition, the fees payable to the Chair of the Compensation Committee and the Chair of the Health, Safety, Asset Integrity and Environmental Committee would be increased to reflect the increase in workload associated with those roles. On May 5, 2021, the Board re-instated the earlier reductions, returning the annual retainer fee to \$50,000. The adjustments to the annual retainer were consistent with the Corporation's decisions on executive compensation.

### ANNUAL RETAINER FEES

Board Member	Cash Retainer	\$	50,000
	Equity Retainer <sup>(1)</sup>	\$	175,000 <sup>(2)</sup>
Committee Member		\$	5,000
Audit Committee Chair		\$	25,000
Compensation Committee Chair		\$	20,000
Health, Safety, Asset Integrity & Environmental Committee Chair		\$	15,000
Committee Chair		\$	10,000
Lead Independent Director		\$	25,000
Time and travel fee for a director whose principal residence is out of the Province of Alberta and attends meetings in person.		\$ 2,500 per round trip	

(1) The equity portion of retainer fees can be taken as DSUs, which are redeemed for cash after the director leaves the Board. Messrs. F.J. McKenna and C.L. Fong and Mmes. A.M. Verschuren and M.E. Cannon were participants in the DSU plan in 2021.

(2) Shares are purchased through the facilities of the Toronto Stock Exchange ("TSX").

There are no vesting or hold restrictions on the Common Shares purchased as part of director's fees except to the extent directors are required to be in compliance with the Common Share ownership threshold for directors under the Common Share ownership guidelines of the Corporation. DSUs are included in the Common Share ownership requirements for Directors. DSUs vest immediately upon the grant thereof and can only be realized by a recipient after they cease to be a director of the Corporation and only up to December 31 of the year following the year in which they ceased to be a director. Fees paid are inclusive of the time required to prepare for Board or committee meetings.

The Compensation Committee, as one of its primary responsibilities, reviews and approves compensation to directors who provide ongoing day-to-day management services to the Corporation. The compensation paid to Messrs. N.M. Edwards and T.S. McKay is reported in the Summary Compensation Table for Named Executive Officers on page 45. As a result, no annual retainer, meeting fees or other form of director fees are paid to these directors. Fees paid to the remaining non-management directors for 2021 are reported in the table below.

Name	Fees Earned	Share Based Awards	Option Based Awards	Common Share Retainer <sup>(1)(2)</sup>	Pension Value	All Other Compensation <sup>(3)</sup>	Total
C.M. Best	\$ 78,125	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 175,000	\$ —	\$ —	253,125
M.E. Cannon	63,125	—	—	175,000	—	—	238,125
C.L. Fong	68,125	—	—	175,000	—	—	243,125
D.L. Farrell <sup>(4)</sup>	28,333	—	—	72,917	—	—	101,250
G.D. Giffin	88,125	—	—	175,000	—	—	263,125
W.A. Gobert	63,125	—	—	175,000	—	—	238,125
S.W. Laut <sup>(5)</sup>	53,125	—	—	175,000	—	—	228,125
F.J. McKenna	73,125	—	—	175,000	—	—	248,125
D.A. Tuer	63,125	—	—	175,000	—	—	238,125
A.M. Verschuren	\$ 58,125	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 175,000	\$ —	\$ —	233,125

(1) The amount shown represents the cost of Common Shares purchased on the TSX as the equity portion of the 2021 fees paid to directors.

(2) Messrs. F.J. McKenna and C.L. Fong and Mmes. A.M. Verschuren and M.E. Cannon participate in the DSU Plan and receive the equivalent number of DSUs in lieu of Common Shares for the equity portion of directors' fees, which are given the same value as the Common Shares purchased for the other directors.

(3) Due to various travel restrictions imposed in Canada and elsewhere, all meetings of the Board held in 2021 were held by virtual online video conference.

(4) Ms. D.L. Farrell was appointed to the Board of Directors on August 4, 2021.

(5) Mr. S.W. Laut retired as Executive Vice-Chairman of the Corporation on May 5, 2020 at 62 years of age. He retained 76% of his unvested PSUs in accordance with the Corporation's Retirement Policy, having reached Normal Retirement Age (see page 30). He received a payout under the Corporation's PSU program in 2021 (paid out on the basis of performance over the period 2018-2020) of \$6,361,744 and will also receive payout in 2022 and 2023.

## Communication with the Board

The Chair speaks on behalf of the Board. However, any shareholder or interested party who wishes to communicate directly with the Board, the Lead Independent Director or any specific director may do so by directing any correspondence to their attention, as applicable, using the following address:

c/o Corporate Secretary  
Canadian Natural Resources Limited  
#2100, 855 – 2nd St. S.W.  
Calgary, Alberta T2P 4J8

The Corporate Secretary will forward the communication to the director to whom it is addressed and, depending on the subject matter, refer the inquiry to the appropriate corporate department, the Lead Independent Director or the Board Chair. In addition, if it is a matter that does not appear to require direct attention by the Board or an individual director, the correspondence may be directed to the appropriate corporate department. All correspondence will be reviewed and addressed through a direct response or, if more appropriate, through specific shareholder engagement sessions. Finally, the Corporate Secretary may determine that correspondence that is primarily commercial in nature or that relates to an improper or irrelevant topic should not be forwarded.

## Appointment of Auditors

The Board, upon the recommendation of the Audit Committee of the Board, has selected the firm of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP ("PwC") to be nominated at the Meeting for re-appointment as the Corporation's independent auditors for the ensuing year at remuneration to be fixed by the Audit Committee of the Board. Before PwC was recommended for appointment, the Audit Committee met with management and PwC to review and discuss the proposed fiscal year 2021 audit and non-audit services to be rendered, the relationship of PwC with the Audit Committee, and, the independence of PwC. The Corporation's independent auditor since its inception has been PwC. The Corporation has been advised by PwC that it is the policy of PwC to rotate the senior audit partner for the Corporation at least once every five years. The current senior audit partner for the Corporation has been the senior audit partner for the Corporation for four years and is scheduled to be replaced in 2022, with the transition having commenced in the fourth quarter of 2021.

The Audit Committee of the Board in 2021 approved specified audit and non-audit services to be performed by PwC. The services provided include: (i) the annual audit of the Corporation's consolidated financial statements and internal controls over financial reporting, reviews of the Corporation's quarterly unaudited consolidated financial statements, audits of certain of the Corporation's subsidiary companies' annual financial statements as well as other audit services provided in connection with statutory and regulatory filings; (ii) audit related services including pension assets and Crown Royalty Statements; (iii) tax services related to expatriate personal tax and compliance and other corporate tax return matters; and (iv) non-audit services related to expatriate visa application assistance and to accessing resource materials through PwC's accounting literature library. Fees accrued to PwC are shown in the table below.

### FEES ACCRUED TO AUDITORS PRICEWATERHOUSECOOPERS LLP

Services	Fiscal 2021	Fiscal 2020
Audit	\$ 2,310,000	\$ 2,207,000
Audit Related	463,000	412,000
Tax Related	305,000	258,000
Other	17,000	12,000
Total Accrued Fees	\$ 3,095,000	\$ 2,889,000

Additional disclosure regarding the Audit Committee and its members is contained in the Corporation's Annual Information Form under "Audit Committee Information".

## Stock Option Plan

To remain competitive with its industry peer group and to provide parity with compensation levels within the industry, the Corporation believes that granting of stock options should be used to augment the overall compensation package and therefore has maintained a long-standing policy of awarding stock options to its officers, employees and designated Service Providers under the Amended, Compiled and Restated Employee Stock Option Plan, the full text of which is attached hereto as Schedule "C" (the "SOP"). Stock options provide a long-term incentive for all employees and officers and ensure they are aligned with shareholders and are striving to maximize shareholder value. The Board believes this established policy of awarding stock options meets the Corporation's business objectives.

In order to determine the reasonable number of stock options to be awarded to executive officers and employees at all levels and in order to remain competitive with and maintain parity in the industry, the Corporation, in addition to considering the performance of the individual employee, the overall performance of the Corporation and other applicable factors, uses published data of its peer companies.

The stock options issued pursuant to the SOP are non-assignable, have an expiry term not to exceed six years and are exercisable at 20% per year commencing one or two years (for options awarded to new employees at the time of hire) after the date of grant. The exercise price of the options is determined as the closing market price on the TSX the day prior to the date of the grant. The aggregate number of Common Shares available for issuance under the SOP to any one person shall not exceed 5% of the issued and outstanding Common Shares. The SOP provides that (i) the aggregate number of Common Shares reserved for issuance under the SOP, together with all other share based compensation plans shall be equal to 7% of the issued and outstanding Common Shares; (ii) the aggregate number of Common Shares reserved for issuance to insiders pursuant to all share based compensation plans including options shall not exceed 10% of the issued and outstanding Common Shares; and (iii) the aggregate number of Common Shares issued to insiders pursuant to all share based compensation plans including options within any one year period shall not exceed 10% of the issued and outstanding Common Shares. The Corporation does not provide any form of financial assistance to facilitate the purchase of securities pursuant to the SOP.

Options are exercisable only during the term of employment with the Corporation and provided that the option holder is not subject to a collective agreement as defined in the SOP. If an Optionee ceases to be a Service Provider to the Corporation for any reason, all unvested options granted to such Optionee shall immediately terminate and be of no further force and effect and all vested options granted to such Optionee and not exercised within 30 days of the Optionee ceasing to be a Service Provider for any reason other than death shall terminate. If an Optionee dies while a Service Provider to the Corporation, any Option which has vested at the date of death shall be exercisable from three to twelve months after the date of death and, if not exercised, shall terminate no later than twelve months from date of death.

Independent Directors are not eligible to receive options under the SOP.

Shareholders have authorized the Board of Directors of the Corporation to make certain amendments to the SOP without requiring further shareholder approval. Pursuant to terms of the SOP, any amendment to any provision of the SOP or the stock option certificate shall be subject to the approval, if required, of TSX or any governmental or regulatory authority having jurisdiction over the securities of the Corporation, and if required by TSX, of the shareholders of the Corporation in the manner prescribed by TSX from time to time. The Board may at any time, without further action by or approval of the shareholders, amend or modify the SOP and amend or modify the stock option certificate at any time, if and when it is advisable, in the absolute discretion of the Board; provided however, that approval by shareholders shall be obtained for any amendment which: (a) increases the number of Common Shares issuable pursuant to the SOP; (b) would reduce the exercise price of an outstanding option, including a cancellation of an option and re-grant of an option in conjunction therewith, constituting a reduction of the exercise price of the option; (c) would extend the term of any option granted under the SOP beyond the expiration date of the option; (d) amends the SOP to allow for a maximum term of an option to be greater than six years except in the event the Option Period expires during a Blackout Period or within two business days following the end of a Blackout Period voluntarily imposed by the Corporation during which period affected Service Providers, amongst others, are prohibited from trading or otherwise dealing in the Corporation's securities, the Option Period shall be extended to the seventh business day following the later of (i) the last day of a Blackout Period; and (ii) the date the Option would otherwise expire, if the expiration date would otherwise occur in the time period commencing at the commencement of the Blackout Period to which the Optionee is subject and ending on the second business day subsequent to the Blackout Period; (e) expands the authority of the Corporation to permit assignability of options beyond that contemplated by the SOP; (f) adds to the categories of participants who may be designated for participation in the SOP; and (g) amends the SOP to provide for other types of compensation through equity issuance. No amendment as it may relate to a UK Approved Option (whether granted or to be granted) shall take effect unless and until the approval of the Board of Inland Revenue has been obtained for such amendment.

## **APPROVAL OF UNALLOCATED STOCK OPTIONS**

Section 613(a) of the TSX Manual provides that, every three (3) years after the institution of a security based compensation arrangement, which does not have a fixed maximum number of securities issuable, all unallocated rights, options or other entitlements under such arrangements must be approved by a majority of the issuer's directors and by the issuer's security holders.

The shareholders, at their meeting held on May 9, 2019, approved the SOP as a "rolling 7%" plan which provides that the aggregate number of Common Shares reserved for issuance pursuant to all share based compensation plans including options shall not exceed such number which represents 7% of the number of issued and outstanding Common Shares from time to time. The SOP is considered an evergreen plan, since the Common Shares covered by stock options which have been exercised shall be available for subsequent grants under the SOP.

When stock options have been granted pursuant to the SOP, Common Shares that are reserved for issuance under outstanding stock options are referred to as allocated stock options. The Corporation has additional Common Shares that may be reserved for issuance pursuant to future grants of stock options under the SOP but, as they are not subject to current stock option grants, they are referred to as unallocated stock options.

The current number of Common Shares issued and outstanding as at March 16, 2022 is 1,162,541,463. Accordingly, as the "rolling 7%" plan is in effect, there are 81,377,902 Common Shares reserved for issuance upon the exercise of stock options, which constitutes 7.0% of the issued and outstanding Common Shares of the Corporation. There are currently 37,497,423 stock options outstanding (3.2% of the issued and outstanding Common Shares as at March 16, 2022) and 43,880,479 options unallocated under the SOP. The average number of options outstanding under the SOP has been at approximately 5.2% of the outstanding Common Shares since the shareholders originally approved the SOP on May 6, 2010.

As the SOP is a security based compensation arrangement which does not have a fixed maximum number of securities issuable, all unallocated stock options under the SOP must be approved by a majority of the Corporation's directors and by the Corporation's security holders every three years. Accordingly, the SOP, and all unallocated stock options thereunder, was most recently ratified, confirmed and approved by the directors and by the shareholders on May 9, 2019.

Approval by the shareholders of the unallocated stock options under the SOP is required by the policies of the TSX and, therefore, must be approved by an ordinary resolution. An affirmative vote by holders of more than 50% of the Common Shares represented and voted at the meeting is necessary to approve the resolution set forth below.

If the shareholders approve the ordinary resolution: (i) the maximum number of Common Shares issuable under the SOP shall be equal to 7% of the Common Shares outstanding from time to time; (ii) all unallocated stock options under the SOP will be approved; (iii) the Corporation will be authorized to continue to grant stock options under the SOP until May 5, 2025; and (iv) the Corporation will be required to seek approval for any unallocated stock options under the SOP again on or before May 5, 2025. If the resolution is not approved at the Meeting, stock options which have not been allocated as of May 5, 2022 and Common Shares which are reserved for issuance pursuant to stock options which are outstanding as of May 5, 2022 and which are subsequently cancelled, terminated or exercised will not be available for new grant of stock options under the SOP. Previously allocated stock options will continue to be unaffected by the approval or disapproval of the resolution.

As noted above, continuation of the SOP is necessary to maintain a competitive compensation program that will also be an effective retention program for key employees and executives. Accordingly, the Board of Directors recommends approval of the unallocated stock options under the SOP to be allocated and the number of Common Shares issuable pursuant to the SOP.

**The Board of Directors unanimously recommends that shareholders vote in favour of the proposed resolution. The persons designated in the enclosed Voting Instruction Form or Form of Proxy, unless instructed otherwise, intend to vote FOR the resolution.**

Shareholders will be asked at the Meeting to approve the following resolution:

***"BE IT RESOLVED, AS AN ORDINARY RESOLUTION OF THE SHAREHOLDERS OF THE CORPORATION, THAT:***

- 1. The SOP, as described under the heading "STOCK OPTION PLAN" in the Information Circular relating to this Meeting, is hereby ratified, confirmed, endorsed and approved.*
- 2. All unallocated stock options under the SOP, as amended, are approved and authorized until May 5, 2025.*
- 3. Any director or officer of the Corporation be and is hereby authorized to do such things and to execute and deliver all documents that such directors or officers may, in their discretion determine to be necessary in order to give full effect to the intent and purpose of the foregoing resolutions.*
- 4. Notwithstanding that this resolution has been duly passed by the shareholders of the Corporation, the directors of the Corporation are hereby authorized and empowered to revoke this resolution, without any further approval of the shareholders of the Corporation, at any time if such revocation is considered necessary or desirable by the directors."*

## Non-Binding Advisory Vote on Approach to Executive Compensation

The Corporation is once again providing you with an opportunity to advise us of your view on our approach to executive compensation through a non-binding advisory vote ("Say On Pay"). Our compensation policies and procedures are centered on a pay-for-performance philosophy and aligned with the long-term interests of our shareholders. With a pay mix heavily weighted towards at-risk incentive pay (short-term incentives comprised of annual cash incentive awards, medium-term incentives comprised of PSUs and long-term incentives comprised of stock options), our compensation program is designed to:

- Reward the creation of long-term shareholder value.
- Reflect short-, mid- and long-term corporate performance.
- Maintain an appropriate balance between base salary and short-term and long-term incentive opportunities, with a distinct emphasis on compensation that is "at risk".
- Be competitive, so as to attract and retain talented individuals.
- Encourage Common Share ownership by employees.
- Align the pay-for-performance approach to executive compensation to the long-term interests of the shareholders.

In deciding how to vote on this proposal, the Compensation Committee encourages you to read the "Letter to Shareholders" from the Compensation Committee and the "Compensation Discussion and Analysis" sections beginning on page 24 for a detailed description of our executive compensation programs, the compensation decisions the Compensation Committee has made under these programs and the factors considered in making these decisions.

Although this is an advisory vote, and the results will not be binding on the Compensation Committee or the Board, the results of the vote will be taken into consideration by the Compensation Committee in determining its approach to executive compensation in the future. At the last Annual Meeting on May 6, 2021, shareholders supported the Corporation's approach to executive compensation, with **97.54%** of the votes cast in favour of the resolution. The Corporation continues to engage with shareholders on a regular basis to discuss the Corporation's compensation philosophy, emphasizing that its executive compensation program reflects a pay for performance approach. This approach is reviewed on an ongoing basis in order to align it with the long-term interests of shareholders.

**The Board of Directors unanimously recommends that shareholders vote in favour of the proposed resolution on the Corporation's approach to executive compensation. The persons designated in the enclosed Voting Instruction Form or Form of Proxy, unless instructed otherwise, intend to vote FOR the resolution.**

Shareholders will be asked, at the Meeting, to approve the following resolution:

***"BE IT RESOLVED, AS AN ORDINARY RESOLUTION OF THE SHAREHOLDERS OF THE CORPORATION, THAT:***

*On an advisory basis and not to diminish the role and responsibilities of the Board of Directors of Canadian Natural Resources Limited (the "Corporation") or that of the Compensation Committee of the Corporation, the shareholders accept the approach to executive compensation as described in the "Compensation Discussion and Analysis" section of the Information Circular of the Corporation dated March 16, 2022 and delivered in advance of the 2022 Annual and Special Meeting of Shareholders."*

## Other Matters

Management is not aware of any matters to come before the Meeting other than those set forth in the Notice of Meeting. If other matters properly come before the Meeting, it is the intention of the persons named in the form of proxy to vote the same in accordance with their best judgment in such matters.



## II. Information Respecting Executive Compensation

### *Letter to Shareholders from the Compensation Committee*

Dear Fellow Shareholders:

The Compensation Committee (the "Committee") is pleased to provide you with an overview of the Corporation's performance in 2021 and a summary of our approach to determining the compensation of our executives. The Compensation Discussion and Analysis that follows provides Shareholders with details on the compensation paid to your Corporation's executives in 2021. The discussion also gives you comprehensive information on your Corporation's pay-for-performance, governance practices and continuous improvement culture, with a focus on maximizing Shareholder value through safe, effective and efficient operations that generate significant free cash flow over the long-term.

Throughout 2021, Canadian Natural demonstrated the unique and diverse nature of its asset base combined with the Corporation's track record of operational excellence and delivered value for its Shareholders. Despite the on-going challenges of COVID-19 in 2021, the Corporation, had a very strong year operationally and financially as the Corporation delivered record average production volumes of 1,235 MBOE/d, generating robust annual adjusted funds flow<sup>(1)</sup> of approximately \$13.7 billion. After disciplined net capital expenditures of approximately \$3.5 billion<sup>(2)</sup>, excluding acquisitions, and dividends of approximately \$2.2 billion, the Corporation generated annual free cash flow<sup>(2)</sup> of approximately \$8.0 billion. The resilience and sustainability of the Corporation's business model and four pillar capital allocation strategy continues to create value for Shareholders. In 2021, Canadian Natural enhanced its free cash flow allocation policy to allocate 50% of free cash flow to share repurchases and 50% of free cash flow to the balance sheet when net debt<sup>(3)</sup> levels are below \$15 billion. The Corporation further enhanced the policy in late 2021 to state that to the extent net debt is below \$15 billion, such amount will be made available for strategic growth / acquisition opportunities. In 2021, the Corporation increased its sustainable and growing dividend twice for a combined increase of 38% to \$2.35 per share annually, marking 2021 as the 21st consecutive year of dividend increases. Returns to Shareholders in 2021 totaled approximately \$3.8 billion, comprised of a sustainable and growing dividend of approximately \$2.2 billion and share repurchases throughout the year, which totaled approximately \$1.6 billion.

Canada and the Corporation are well positioned to deliver responsibly produced energy that the world needs through leading ESG performance. The Corporation's culture of continuous improvement provides a significant advantage and results in ongoing enhancements to the Corporation's environmental performance. In 2021, the Corporation together with oil sands industry participants that together operate approximately 95% of Canada's oil sands production, formally announced the Oil Sands Pathways to Net Zero initiative ("Pathways"). The goal of this unique alliance, working collectively with the federal and Alberta governments, is to achieve net zero Greenhouse Gas ("GHG") emissions from oil sands operations by 2050 to help Canada meet its climate goals, including its Paris Agreement commitments and 2050 net zero aspirations.

We continue to focus on aligning pay for performance, assessing the Corporation's performance under four categories: 1) financial, 2) strategic capital allocation, 3) operational, and 4) safety, asset integrity and environmental. In each of these categories, performance is evaluated against a specific target performance range and/or a benchmark determined by prior period performance. In addition, the Committee endorsed a 50% increase to the weighting attributed to the safety, asset integrity and environmental performance factor, recognizing the significance of environmental performance and social contributions to the overall performance of the Corporation. This change further aligns the Corporation's executive compensation with its performance against targeted sustainability metrics for safety, asset integrity and the environment. The chosen metrics align with the Corporation's four pillar capital allocation strategy with the goal to create long-term Shareholder value.

## 2021 PERFORMANCE

The Committee believes the Corporation achieved excellent results in 2021 and was successful in executing on its objectives and four pillar capital allocation strategy. We carefully considered this performance in the context of the economic realities faced by the industry, as well as considering the Say On Pay vote cast by you in 2021 and the emerging trends in executive compensation. We evaluated Canadian Natural's performance relative to the Corporation's 2021 budget, issued December 9, 2020. Throughout 2021, the Corporation remained disciplined, continued its focus on effective and efficient operations across all segments of its business and accomplished strong strategic and operational execution, despite the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. The Corporation's targeted response to the COVID-19 pandemic allowed the Corporation to increase production and make strategic acquisitions, while maintaining safety and environmental performance in relation to its established goals:

- **Financial:** The Corporation maintained a disciplined capital budget, significantly strengthened its balance sheet and generated record adjusted funds flow.
- **Strategic Capital Allocation:** The Corporation executed its capital allocation strategy:
  - Significantly deleveraging its balance sheet, with overall reduction in net debt, before net property acquisitions, of approximately \$8.7 billion.
  - Added accretive natural gas and natural gas liquids assets to its portfolio, with the closing of the strategic acquisitions in the liquids-rich Montney.
  - Delivered increasing returns to Shareholders through two increases to the dividend in the year for a combined increase of 38% and executed on share repurchases of approximately \$1.6 billion under the Corporation's enhanced free cash flow allocation policy.
- **Operations:** The Corporation leveraged its unique asset base and achieved record production of 1,235 MBOE/d despite the challenges faced due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Additionally, the Corporation continued to maximize value for Shareholders through its effective and efficient operations, maintaining operating costs on a BOE basis.
- **Safety, Asset Integrity and Environmental:** The Corporation remained focused on delivering top tier safety, asset integrity and environmental performance in 2021. The Corporation continued to improve its environmental performance, with reduced corporate GHG emission intensity, including outperforming targets for absolute methane emissions reductions in its North America Exploration and Production segment. The Corporation improved on its already top tier loss time incident record and significantly exceeded well abandonment levels from 2020 levels, with over 3,000 wells abandoned in the year.

The Committee reviewed the Corporation's Total Shareholder Return<sup>(4)</sup> ("TSR") performance over short, medium and long term time horizons noting that the absolute 3 year TSR was 93%. This reflects the top tier performance of the Corporation and its continued focus on delivering increasing Shareholder returns through a period influenced by the COVID-19 pandemic and the resulting impacts on hydrocarbon demand and price as well as changing workplace dynamics. Additionally, the Committee reviewed the Corporation's reserves per share growth<sup>(4)</sup>, with the Corporation returning 34% reserves per diluted common share growth for the 3 year period. The relative TSR and reserves growth per share delivered by the Corporation over the short and long-term demonstrates the unique, sustainable and robust nature of the Corporation's business, the strength of its management team and the continued execution on its balanced four pillar capital allocation strategy.

Canadian Natural's 3 year performance as measured by TSR ranked well against its primary and secondary peers, placing the Corporation in the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile, outperforming 9 out of 10 peers. Additionally, the Corporation's 3 year reserves per diluted common share growth outperformed 7 out of 8 peers, placing the Corporation in the 87<sup>th</sup> percentile versus its peer group. These results reflect the increased value created by the accretive transactions the Corporation has undertaken over the last several years.

## 2021 PAY DECISIONS

In March 2020, the Committee approved a salary reduction program for all employees, including the Named Executive Officers, in response to the ongoing challenges in the Canadian oil and natural gas industry brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic. In April of 2021, as a result of improved commodity prices and continued confidence in the Corporation's ability to deliver on its four pillar capital allocation strategy, the Committee approved the reinstatement of salary reductions taken in 2020. Furthermore, in November 2021, the Committee approved a base salary increase for all employees, including an increase of 1.25% for all executives, including the Named Executive Officers, in order to reflect the increased cost of living resulting from increased inflation.

In 2021, Canadian Natural achieved a corporate performance score of 150%, based on strong financial performance and achievement of key strategic goals. This score results in bonus and PSU awards at 200% of target. The Committee also endorsed a PSU multiple of 2.00x for PSUs vesting in 2022, as awarded to the Corporation's senior executives in accordance with the Corporation's PSU program.

We are accountable for ensuring that the links between pay and our business goals are responsible, appropriate and strongly align with your interest as Shareholders while mitigating compensation related risks to the Corporation. The Committee is of the view that the Corporation's performance was exceptional and supports the resulting NEO compensation. As always, we welcome comments and feedback from our Shareholders.

Submitted by the members of the Compensation Committee:

Frank J. McKenna (Chair)  
Catherine M. Best  
Wilfred A. Gobert  
Annette M. Verschuren

- (1) *Non-GAAP Financial Measure. Refer to the "Non-GAAP and Other Financial Measures" section of the Company's MD&A, dated March 2, 2022.*
- (2) *Non-GAAP Financial Measure. Refer to the "Non-GAAP and Other Financial Measures" section of this Circular.*
- (3) *Capital Management Measure. Refer to the definition of Long-term Debt, net in the "Non-GAAP and Other Financial Measures" section of the Company's MD&A, dated March 2, 2022.*
- (4) *Supplementary Financial Measure. Refer to the "Non-GAAP and Other Financial Measures" section of this Circular.*

# Compensation Discussion and Analysis

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS OVERSIGHT AND COMPENSATION GOVERNANCE

To oversee the Corporation's compensation practices, the Board has established a Compensation Committee (the "Committee") comprised solely of independent directors.

The Directors who were members of the Committee during 2021 were: Catherine M. Best, Wilfred A. Gobert, Frank J. McKenna (Chair), and Annette M. Verschuren, each of whom is independent and knowledgeable with respect to executive compensation. Collectively, the members of the Committee have expertise in, among other areas, finance, audit, law, business and management. They possess extensive experience in executive compensation acquired through their careers as business executives, directors of other companies and specifically as members of compensation committees, acquiring an in-depth understanding of executive compensation from a diverse array of industries which provided exposure to and experience with varied approaches to executive compensation.

## COMPENSATION COMMITTEE MANDATE

With respect to compensation, the Committee reviews and approves the Corporation's compensation philosophy and programs for executive officers, including the Corporation's Named Executive Officers ("NEOs"), and employees of the Corporation. The Committee sets the compensation paid to each of the Corporation's executive officers; the overall compensation paid by the Corporation to its employees; the granting of stock options to executive officers and employees; and, approves the compensation paid to the Executive Chair and the President. The Committee's role includes ensuring there is (i) a well-defined link between executive compensation and performance, and (ii) rigor in setting corporate goals and assessing the performance of individuals and the Corporation. A detailed breakdown of the mandate of the Committee can be found on page A-4.

## COMPENSATION PHILOSOPHY

Compensation at Canadian Natural is structured to attract, retain and motivate employees and officers, and to encourage a focus on improving corporate performance with an accountability to shareholders. Compensation is comprised of base salary as well as short-term and longer term performance-conditioned incentive payments. Over the years, this structure has been endorsed by shareholders (through the "Say-on-Pay" Vote) and continues to align employee compensation with our shareholders' interests:

- Total compensation is targeted at the median of Canadian oil and gas companies (U.S. peer company pay data is used as a reference only) with base salaries and bonuses that are below the 25<sup>th</sup> percentile. As Canadian Natural targets a median pay position, but provides low base salaries, the proportion of Canadian Natural's variable pay and pay at risk is high relative to peers.
- The Corporation maintains a Common Share savings plan for all its employees, through which Common Shares are purchased – our culture of Common Share ownership is demonstrated by the high participation rate in the plan (approximately 98% employee participation).
- The Corporation does not have a pension plan for its employees or officers, including its NEOs.
- Canadian Natural does not provide employment agreements to its NEOs and therefore they do not benefit from pre-determined compensation awards in the event of a change of control and/or loss of position.
- Vesting provisions for equity based compensation granted to the Corporation's Management Committee (which includes the NEOs) contain a "double trigger" whereby, in the event of a change in control, an individual must also be terminated without cause as a result of the change of control, or within 24 months thereof, in order for such compensation to vest.
- The Corporation establishes its performance goals prior to the beginning of the fiscal year to ensure that achieving such goals is based upon an objective measure and, as the goals are being set, there is sufficient uncertainty to effectively motivate performance.

The Committee applies the Compensation Philosophy through its assessment of the Corporation's performance, which is measured against the Corporation's annual performance goals and objectives. While the Committee addresses NEO compensation directly, the Compensation Philosophy is applied to all employees and the Committee also considers the overall compensation program for the Corporation's employees. The Corporate Scorecard documents this approach by setting out the assessment of the Corporation's achievement against its stated goals and objectives, establishing a direct linkage between corporate performance and the short term incentive plan ("STIP") compensation paid to all employees, including the NEOs. Given that corporate performance is directly linked to STIP compensation, using the resulting STIP to establish the value of PSUs awarded to NEOs aligns short and longer term corporate performance to shareholder interests. NEO compensation is further linked to long-term corporate performance by having vesting PSU grants determined by using

a weighted 3 year average of relative reserves growth per common share on a fully diluted basis (1/3) and relative total shareholder return (2/3), both measured against identified industry peers. Over the 3 year cycle of a PSU grant, NEO compensation continues to be linked to the short term and long-term performance of the Corporation, directly aligning NEO compensation to shareholder value.

Having reviewed market practice, in 2021, Canadian Natural has maintained its approach to target compensation at the median of larger energy companies based in Canada. While Canadian Natural reviews U.S. compensation levels, the information is provided to the Committee for reference purposes only and has not been considered in the development of executive pay levels. The Committee believes this target pay level, mix and the use of peer group comparisons is appropriate to ensure that overall compensation levels remain competitive to attract and retain quality employees while also ensuring that overall compensation levels do not become excessive. The Committee continually reviews all components of the Corporation's compensation program to ensure that the Corporation's compensation program is competitive, reasonable, fair to all of its employees, and overall, in the best interests of the Corporation and its shareholders.

## PEER GROUP AND PEER GROUP PERFORMANCE

Compensation levels of the NEOs are compared to similar positions within comparable Canadian peer companies, while a U.S. peer group is used by the Corporation as a secondary point of reference. The Canadian peer group of companies (the "Primary Group") is chosen from Canadian energy industry companies that are of a similar size as the Corporation (including comparable oil and gas exploration and production companies), have comparably complex operations and operate in similar geographical regions. The U.S. peer group of companies (the "Secondary Group") is chosen from U.S. exploration and production companies that are of similar size as the Corporation, and have comparably complex operations (including operations in geographical regions similar to those in which the Corporation operates). The listed companies were deemed by the Committee to be reasonable peers to benchmark executive compensation.

	<b>FY 2021 Revenue (C\$B)</b>	<b>Total Enterprise Value<sup>(1)</sup> (C\$B) Dec. 31, 2021</b>	<b>Production FY 2021 (MBOE/d)</b>
<b>Canadian Natural Resources Limited</b>	\$ 30	\$ 78	1,235
<b>Primary Group (production before royalties)</b>			
Cenovus Energy Inc.	\$ 46	\$ 44	792
Crescent Point Energy Corp.	3	6	133
Enbridge Inc.	47	186	N/A
Suncor Energy Inc.	39	62	732
TC Energy Corporation	13	114	N/A
Average of Primary Group	\$ 30	\$ 82	552
<b>Secondary Reference Group (production after royalties)</b>			
Apache Corp.	\$ 8	\$ 23	388
Devon Energy Corporation	15	43	572
EOG Resources, Inc.	23	67	829
Marathon Oil Corporation	7	20	348
Ovintiv Inc.	13	18	534
Average of Secondary Group	\$ 13	\$ 34	534

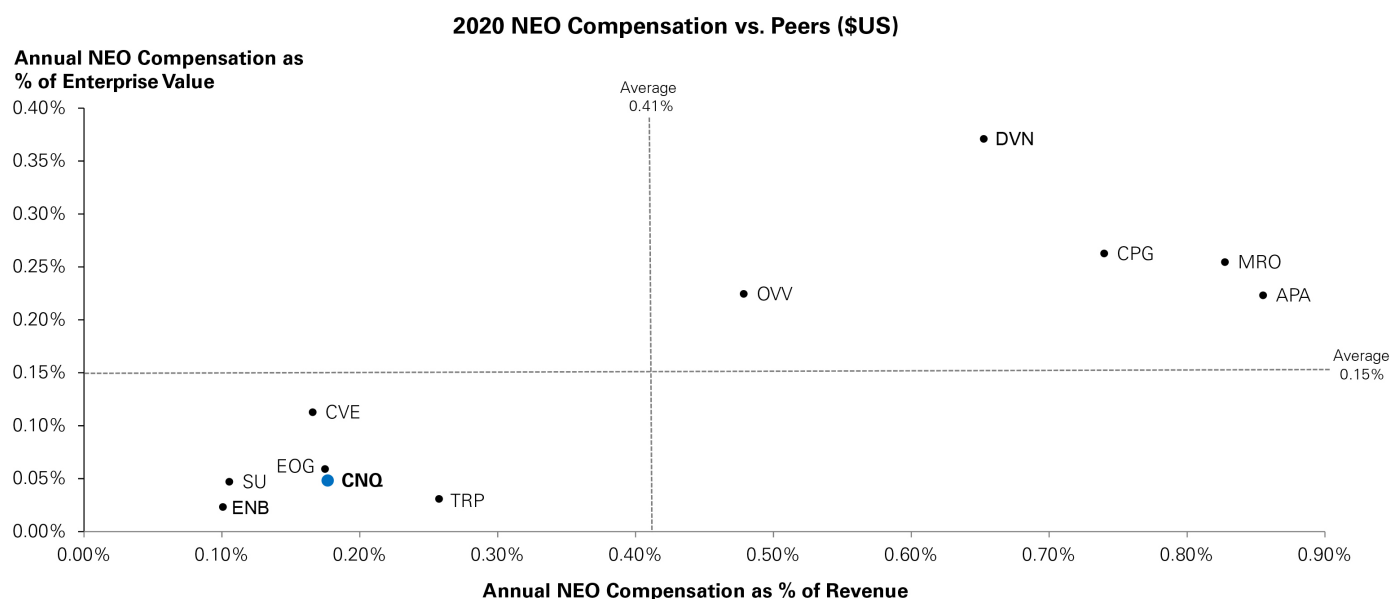
(1) Supplementary Financial Measure. Refer to the "Non-GAAP and Other Financial Measures" section of this Circular.

Note: Source for information above is Bloomberg and public company reports. Amounts in Canadian dollars; translated at average 2021 and year end 2021 exchange rates where required.

In assessing appropriate peers, the Corporation considered the net revenue and enterprise value for 2021 of prospective peer companies as well as, where appropriate, 2021 production. While certain peer companies in the Primary Group are not “oil and natural gas producers”, they represent significant participants in the energy industry generally and compete for industry resources in the markets where the Corporation operates. While there are other companies that are similar in size to the Corporation and operate in the Calgary market, the Corporation does not consider them peers because of the unique nature of the oil and gas industry and the limited competition for resources as a result. Furthermore, including additional “non-producers” reduces the importance of oil and natural gas production and reserves growth as comparative measures in the Corporation’s core industry and impacts metrics used by the Corporation to assess corporate performance and compensation. In reviewing the Primary and Secondary Groups in 2021, the Committee considered the advice provided by Hugessen and determined that, for 2021, the peers were acceptable and appropriate comparative groups for Canadian Natural. The Committee will consider recommendations provided by Hugessen and determine whether additional peers should be considered for future years.

## Comparative Annual NEO Compensation

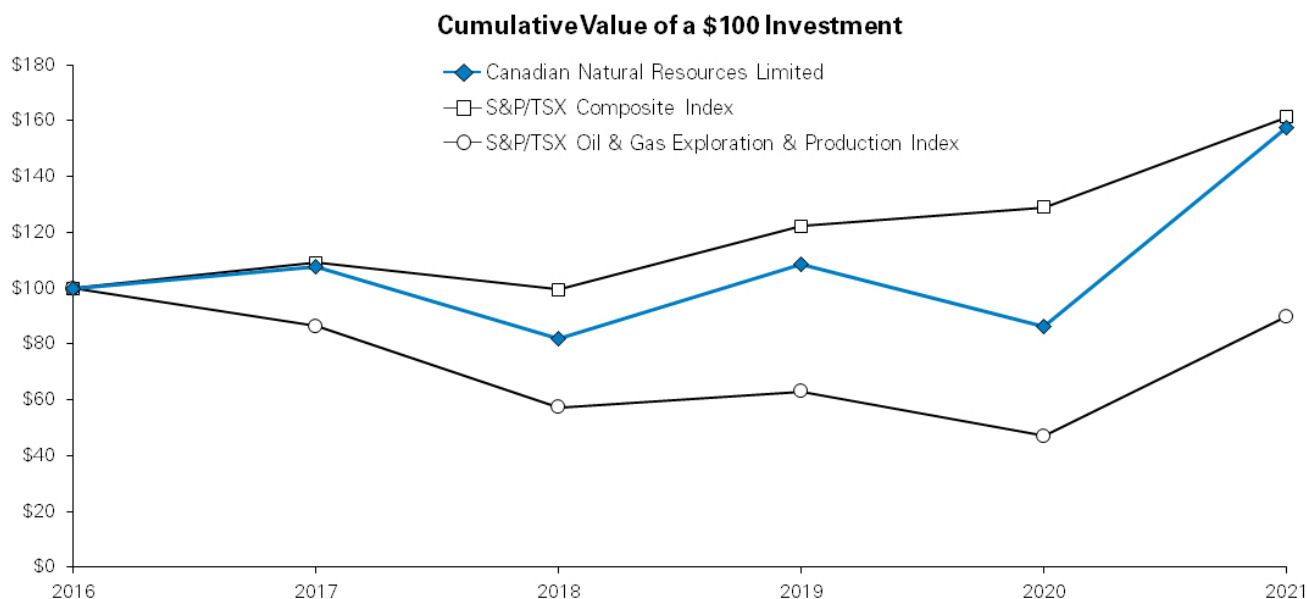
Given the emphasis the Corporation places on variable and at risk pay, being higher relative to its peers, the top quartile performance of the Corporation in respect of TSR and reserves per share growth over a 3 year period (see page 44) demonstrates that the Corporation achieves its compensation objectives while maintaining above average performance. The following demonstrates the relative annual NEO compensation for the Corporation and each of its peer companies in 2020, when considered as a percentage of each company’s enterprise value and revenue (based on public 2020 disclosure).



When evaluating the performance of the Corporation in the context of comparative NEO compensation, the Committee considered the comparative performance of the Primary Group as well as the Secondary Group as a comparable reference points. In particular, NEOs will see the correlation between the Corporation’s actual performance over the preceding three year performance period and the ultimate amount received in respect of the PSUs previously granted.

## Performance Graph

The following performance graph illustrates, over the five year period ended December 31, 2021, the cumulative return to shareholders of an investment in the Common Shares compared to the cumulative total shareholder return on the S&P/TSX Composite Index and the S&P/TSX Oil & Gas Exploration and Production Index, assuming the reinvestment of dividends, where applicable.



December 31	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
<b>Canadian Natural Resources Limited</b>	\$ 100	\$ 108	\$ 82	\$ 109	\$ 86	\$ 158
<b>S&amp;P/TSX Composite Index</b>	\$ 100	\$ 109	\$ 99	\$ 122	\$ 129	\$ 161
<b>S&amp;P/TSX Oil &amp; Gas Exploration &amp; Production Index</b>	\$ 100	\$ 86	\$ 57	\$ 63	\$ 47	\$ 90

Note: Amounts rounded to the nearest dollar.

## COMPENSATION COMMITTEE CONSIDERATIONS

Executive compensation risk is mitigated by linking the STIP and PSUs to the Corporation's annual guidance, performance metrics, alignment to shareholders through Common Share ownership that is reinforced by ownership guidelines, claw-back and anti-hedging policies, succession planning as well as the Committee's use of its members own experience and judgment.

- **Compensation Risk** – The Committee assists the Board in monitoring the risks associated with the Corporation's compensation program and practices on an ongoing basis. The Committee, in reviewing the Corporation's compensation program, considers such risks before approving the program. Compensation practices do not vary between business units or executives, except for the level and mix of pay that is commensurate with the responsibilities of the position. The compensation program of the Corporation consists of:
  - (i) a fixed annual base salary;
  - (ii) a cash bonus, with capped payout, based on the overall performance of the Corporation in meeting specific goals set by the Corporation and the Board;
  - (iii) a PSU plan with a capped performance award multiplier that, for employees other than Management Committee members, vests annually over a 3 year period and, for members of the Corporation's Management Committee, vests 3 years from the grant date; and
  - (iv) Common Share stock options which have five year vesting provisions with the first 20% not vesting until the first anniversary of the grant date and the final 20% having only one month to be exercised before expiry following vesting on the 5th anniversary of grant date.

The Committee has concluded that the Corporation's compensation policies do not create an environment where an executive or any individual is encouraged to take excessive risk but rather encourages and rewards prudent business judgment and appropriate risk assessment over the short and long-term without creating an exposure that is reasonably likely to have a material adverse impact on the Corporation.

- **Corporate Risk** – The Board has overall responsibility for risk oversight with a focus on the most significant risk areas facing the Corporation, including strategic, financial, operational, environmental, cyber and reputational risks. The Board's risk oversight process builds upon Management's risk identification assessment and mitigation processes, which include reviews of long-term strategic and operational planning; executive development and evaluation; code of conduct compliance; regulatory compliance; safety and environmental compliance; financial reporting and controllership; and information technology and security. Management is responsible for the identification of key business risks and the potential impact of those risks on the Corporation, providing for appropriate ongoing oversight of these risks throughout the Corporation and the effective enforcement of appropriate mitigation through policies and procedures, all of which is coordinated through the Corporation's Enterprise Risk Management framework. The Nominating, Governance and Risk Committee assists the Board by reviewing significant enterprise risk exposure not delegated to other Board committees and the steps Management has taken to monitor, mitigate, control and report such exposures.
- **Clawback Policy** – The Corporation's clawback policy provides the Committee with the authority to seek reimbursement of all or any portion of performance based compensation (cash bonus, PSUs and stock options) from any NEO who, in the Committee's determination, is responsible for a material misrepresentation or misconduct resulting in a restatement of the financial results of the Corporation and was improperly paid such performance based compensation in the year in which the financial misstatement occurred.
- **Anti-Hedging Policy** – The Corporation's anti-hedging policy prohibits directors and officers of the Corporation from purchasing any financial instrument that is designed to hedge or offset any decrease in the market value of the Common Shares, including options, prepaid variable forward contracts, equity swaps, collars and units of exchange funds. The policy does not prohibit pledging securities as collateral for loans, nor does it prohibit holding the Corporation's securities in broker margin accounts. Directors and officers confirm, on an annual basis, that they have not entered into or purchased any such instruments.
- **Stock Ownership Guidelines and Common Shares Held by Named Executive Officers** – The Board has adopted Common Share ownership guidelines for directors and officers of the Corporation. Non-management directors are required to acquire and hold, within five (5) years from the date of their appointment to the Board, Common Shares and/or DSUs having a minimum aggregate value equal to three times the annual retainer fee paid to directors in the year. Under the guidelines, an officer has three (3) years from their date of hire, appointment or promotion to their position to acquire and hold the required level of ownership. For officers, Common Share ownership includes Common Shares purchased and held within the Corporation's Stock Savings Plan ("Savings Plan") and any other personal holdings. With the adoption of PSUs for members of the Corporation's Management Committee (in lieu of a Common Share bonus program), the guideline includes the value of PSUs (determined using a performance multiple of 1.00x) in determining Common Share ownership, provided, however, that at least 50% of the threshold target value of equity ownership to be held by an individual must continue to be satisfied through the ownership of Common Shares. The guideline requires Common Share ownership for officers proportionate to the individual's compensation and position as follows:

The Executive Chair, the President, any Chief Operating Officer and the Chief Financial Officer and Senior Vice-President, Finance	4 times base salary
All other Senior Vice-Presidents	2 times base salary
All other Officers	1 times base salary

The minimum ownership thresholds will fluctuate depending on fee or salary changes, as applicable, and the Common Share price. In order to avoid the need to continuously monitor and adjust holdings, the Corporation has adopted, and the Board has approved, guidelines that allow the value of an individual's equity holdings to satisfy the minimum Common Share ownership guidelines to be calculated based on the greater of: (i) the current market value of the Common Shares; (ii) the market value of the Common Shares as at December 31 of the immediately preceding year; or (iii) the acquisition cost of such Common Shares.



Once an individual meets the required threshold, further purchases of Common Shares are not required in the event that the value of the Common Shares held decreases solely by virtue of a decline in the market price of the Common Shares. Where the value of the Common Shares held by a director or officer decreases below the required ownership threshold for any other reason (i.e. salary increase or sale of Common Shares), the individual will be required to increase the value of their investment to the required threshold amount as soon as possible. Where an officer does not satisfy the required ownership threshold, that individual shall be obligated to take immediate steps to comply with the threshold requirement; which includes the use of cash bonus, vested PSU payouts and the Common Share election option to acquire a sufficient number of Common Shares to satisfy the threshold.

Officers are required to confirm annually their Common Share ownership position and that such position is their beneficial and legal ownership position and has not been hedged or otherwise sold. As of the date of this Circular, each officer meets or exceeds the Common Share ownership requirement of the Corporation. The following table sets forth the beneficial ownership of the Common Shares held directly and indirectly by the NEOs and, as at December 31, 2021, the market value thereof:

Name	Number of Common Shares Held	Value of Common Shares Held <sup>(1)</sup>	Ownership Requirements (multiple of base salary)	Value of Share Ownership Requirements To Be Met	Meets Share Ownership Requirements
N. Murray Edwards <sup>(2)</sup>	21,501,591	\$ 1,149,260,039	4 times	\$ 2,290,580	Yes
Tim S. McKay	1,180,395	\$ 63,092,113	4 times	\$ 2,290,580	Yes
Scott G. Stauth	167,907	\$ 8,974,629	4 times	\$ 1,602,740	Yes
Darren M. Fichter	71,794	\$ 3,837,389	4 times	\$ 1,431,185	Yes
Mark A. Stainthorpe	31,842	\$ 1,701,955	4 times	\$ 1,108,740	Yes

(1) The closing price of the Common Shares on the TSX on December 31, 2021 was \$53.45 and on March 16, 2022 was \$74.65. All of the NEOs meet the threshold requirements using either price.

(2) As Mr. N.M. Edwards' annual salary is \$1, his mandatory, required holdings in 2021 was the same as Mr. T.S. McKay, being four times Mr. McKay's annual salary.

- Succession Planning** – The Corporation does not have a chief executive officer but has a Management Committee comprised of eighteen members of the management group including the Executive Chair, the President, the Chief Operating Officers and the Chief Financial Officer and Senior Vice-President, Finance. The Management Committee structure is an effective leadership and accountability driven organizational structure and has kept pace with the expansion and increased complexity of the Corporation's operations. This management structure: (i) limits the ability of any one individual to unduly influence the direction of the Corporation as consensus of other members of the Management Committee must be achieved; (ii) enables the continuation of the strong leadership of the Corporation should any one member of the Management team leave the Corporation; and (iii) enhances Management development in learning key decision making strategy, skills and leadership and secures Management succession.

The Corporation has developed a strong culture of promoting from within. As part of succession planning, Management at least annually reviews each executive position and evaluates the qualification and experience needed to succeed in that position. Each member of the corporate Management Committee evaluates their direct reports and from that evaluation identifies up to 3 possible candidates for succession. Through the evaluation, the strengths of each candidate and required areas of development are identified and a development plan is created to ensure the candidate will be ready to succeed the incumbent. The approximate length of time required before the candidate is ready to assume the role is also a factor in the evaluation. Senior Management presents a recommendation of the executive succession plans, including the detailed succession planning logs completed by Management, to the Compensation Committee for its review, consideration and approval.

- **Retirement** – The Corporation has implemented a matrix on what constitutes “Normal Retirement Age” to better reflect work force demographics. In the event an individual retires from their employment with the Corporation, the following matrix would be applied to the vested and unvested portions of any grants made to the individual in respect of the Corporation’s PSU Program and its Savings Plan. Any unvested stock options held under the SOP are forfeited upon ceasing to be an employee of the Corporation for any reason.

Age at Retirement	Entitlement
<60 years old	Only entitled to vested amounts; no incremental entitlement to unvested amounts
60 years old and <5 years of service	Entitled to vested amounts and 30% of any unvested amounts, as they vest on their regular vesting date
60 years old and 5 years of service	Entitled to vested amounts and 60% of any unvested amounts, as they vest on their regular vesting date
For each year over 60 years old	Entitled to the foregoing, as applicable, and to an incremental 8% of any unvested amounts as they vest on their regular vesting date for each year of age up to 65

In order to receive the post-retirement entitlements described above, an individual would be subject to a non-compete agreement that would remain in place until after the final vesting of any entitlements under the above matrix.

- **Independent Advice** – The Committee has engaged the independent consulting firm Hugessen Consulting Inc. (“Hugessen”) since 2013. Hugessen’s mandate is to support the Committee, developing principles related to disclosure and shareholder engagement, and to advise the Committee on the structure of the Corporation’s executive compensation as well as Management’s compensation recommendations. In carrying out their mandate, Hugessen has had direct access to the Chair of the Committee, the other Committee members and Management, as required.

In 2021, Hugessen considered its review on the Corporation’s executive compensation practices, which focused on the level, mix and design of NEO compensation relative to the Corporation’s peer companies. Hugessen delivered their report to the Committee.

The Corporation paid for Committee consulting services provided as indicated in the table below.

	2021	2020
Executive Compensation Related Fees	\$ 23,617	\$ 146,048
All Other Fees	\$ —	\$ —
Total Fees	\$ 23,617	\$ 146,048

- **Use Of Judgement** - As the Corporation operates in a cyclical industry, at times it needs to adjust its short-term strategies to deal with rapid and unexpected changes. The Committee may apply internal expertise and judgment to assess the performance of the Corporation and its executives in leveraging unexpected opportunities or mitigating unexpected risks while delivering on its goals.

## EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION PAY STRUCTURE

### Named Executive Officers for 2021

The Corporation does not have a chief executive officer but has a corporate Management Committee which, in 2021, included two members who were also directors of the Corporation: the Executive Chair and the President. Directors who serve on the corporate Management Committee do not receive fees related to serving as a director of the Corporation. For the purposes of National Instrument 51-102 – Continuous Disclosure Obligations and the disclosure required thereunder, Mr. T.S. McKay, President of the Corporation, has been designated by the Board to be the Chief Executive Officer. Accordingly, the Corporation has determined that its NEOs should include Mr. T.S. McKay, Mr. M.A. Stainthorpe, the Chief Financial Officer of the Corporation, and the next three highest paid members of the corporate Management Committee.

### Components of Compensation

#### 1. Base Salary

Base salaries for the NEOs are well below the median level for similar positions in crude oil and natural gas companies of comparable size. The Corporation reviews and the Committee approves the level of base salary for all employees and officers including the NEOs in the first quarter of each year making adjustments as necessary to reflect changes in competitive practices, market and overall economic conditions. Relative to practice among its Canadian peers, the Corporation's base salaries are generally around the 25th percentile. On March 18, 2020, in response to the challenges arising in the oil and gas industry in relation to the drop in global crude oil demand triggered by the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the global economy and the further impacts of the breakdown in negotiations between OPEC+ countries regarding production cuts, the President reduced his salary by 20%, with the remaining NEOs reducing their salaries by 15% and other officers reducing their salaries by 10 to 15% as well. Effective April 17, 2021 the rollbacks taken in 2020 were reinstated for all employees and officers, including the NEOs. Furthermore, effective October 30, 2021, the Committee approved a salary increase of 1.25% for all of the officers of the Corporation, including the NEOs.

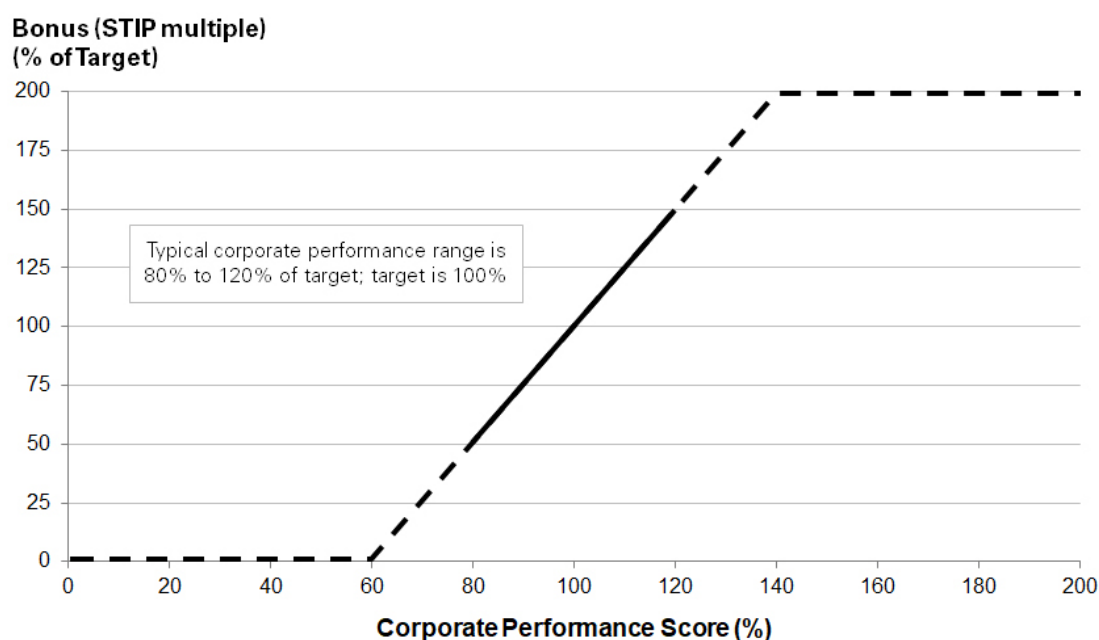
#### 2. Annual Bonus ("STIP")

The Committee believes that incentive or "at risk" compensation motivates individual performance and aligns executive officer performance with the Corporation's objectives and shareholder interests. The cash bonus awarded is based on an individual's performance over the year in contributing to the Corporation meeting its annual operating plans and its operating, financial and environmental and safety goals, as evidenced by overall corporate performance. For the NEOs, individual performance and the resulting STIP awards are based on overall corporate performance. Canadian Natural measures corporate performance across four broad categories, each weighted as follows:

Performance Measure	2021 Metrics Included:	Weighting
Financial	Balance sheet strength, net capital expenditures, ROE, ROACE, adjusted funds flow	25%
Strategic	Allocation of cash flow, COVID-19 response, mid and long-term projects, dividends and share purchases	30%
Operational	Production, operating costs	30%
Safety, Asset Integrity and Environmental	Recordable injury frequency, lost time injury frequency, greenhouse gas emissions, absolute methane emissions, abandonments and reclamations as well as pipeline leaks	15%

In 2021, the Corporation adjusted the weighting attributed to the Financial and the Safety, Asset Integrity and Environmental categories. The Corporation recognized the significance of environmental performance on the overall performance of the Corporation, increasing the Safety, Asset Integrity and Environmental performance measure weighting by 50% (to 15%). This change further aligns executive compensation with the Corporation's performance when measured against sustainability metrics for safety, asset integrity and environmental targets. Specifically, the Corporation's Performance Scorecard shows added specific measures for North America E&P absolute methane emissions (as distinct from GHG emissions) and well abandonment and reclamation activity, while increasing the weighting applied to GHG emissions. Given that environmental performance has a direct impact on the Corporation's financial performance, the financial performance measure was reduced to 25%.

Based on historic performance, in a typical year, Canadian Natural expects the operating range to be within plus or minus 20% of target, which would produce a STIP award and a PSU award between 50% and 150% of the targeted amount. Significant under or over performance may result in bonus and PSU awards that may range as low as 0% (for a corporate performance score below threshold) and as high as 200% of target (for a corporate performance score at or above maximum). This relationship is shown graphically below and demonstrates the impact of significant underperformance on the STIP payout multiple as well as the limitation on that multiple in the event of significant over performance.



The relationship between corporate performance and the STIP payout multiple establishes the link between NEO compensation and the overall performance of the Corporation, as measured against the established performance targets in that year, and serves to align NEO compensation with Shareholders' interests. The actual amount of STIP paid to an NEO depends on their base salary, target incentive and the STIP performance multiplier that is determined by overall corporate performance. NEO total cash compensation (base salary plus cash bonus) is generally targeted to be at or below the 25th percentile of the Primary Group. This is consistent with Canadian Natural's compensation approach – that performance-based equity awards should make up a significant portion of the NEOs' total compensation.

As an example, using the corporate performance assumptions in the following table, the graph above would indicate that a corporate performance rating of 106.0% of target would result in a bonus payout of 115% of target.

Component of performance measurement	Component Weighting	Component Performance Assumptions (% of target)	Weighted Performance
Financial	25.0 %	130.0 %	32.50 %
Strategic	30.0 %	100.0 %	30.00 %
Operational	30.0 %	95.0 %	28.50 %
Safety, Asset Integrity and Environmental	15.0 %	100.0 %	15.00 %
Total	100.0 %		106.00 %

In this example, a Senior Vice-President with a base salary of \$400,000 and a target bonus of 70% of salary based on the STIP plan would receive a STIP payout determined as follows:

$$\$400,000 \times 70\% \times 115\% = \$322,000$$

### 3. Long-Term Incentive Plans

#### A. Performance Share Unit

The performance share program provides a grant of Common Shares or units based on the most recent year's corporate performance using the same corporate performance measures used in the STIP determination with the deferred vesting of such awards. As a result, the plan provides an employee with an immediate link to short term performance, an alignment with long-term shareholder interests and enables the retention of employees and officers without the dilutive aspects of issuing Common Shares from treasury or granting stock options. Because the grant of Common Shares or units is a function of an employee's STIP award, the Corporation's performance has a magnified influence on annual compensation.

For NEOs, PSU awards are based on corporate performance. At or below the minimum level of corporate performance, no PSUs will be awarded. Above the maximum level of corporate performance, PSU awards are capped. A PSU grant has the same expected corporate performance range and related performance award multiplier as the STIP. However, PSU vesting for the Corporation's Management Committee (which includes the NEOs) (collectively, "Senior Management"), will be based on corporate performance over the subsequent three year period rather than solely through the passage of time. As a result, there is greater alignment with shareholders as the benefit received gets enhanced or diminished based on the Corporation's performance over that 3 year period. The table below summarizes the characteristics of the PSU plan.

Who Participates	All employees and officers of the Corporation, including Senior Management. Directors are not eligible to receive PSUs unless they provide ongoing day-to-day management services to the Corporation.
Form of award	For employees and officers, other than Senior Management, Common Shares are acquired through purchases on the TSX. For Senior Management, a cash award is converted into PSUs using the Fair Market Value of the Common Shares as at December 31 of the most recently completed financial year end.
Target Award Amount	For Named Executive Officers, the awards vary from 3.0 to 4.0 times the STIP award.
Performance Measures to Determine Award Size	The size of the award varies depending upon the corporate performance for the most recent year as measured by the performance scorecard used to determine the STIP payout, establishing a direct link between Corporate performance and grant size. Awards may be nil when corporate performance in a given year is below a threshold level. Future realized values at the time of vesting will reflect the then current stock price and the reinvestment of amounts calculated as dividends and attributed to the PSUs over the vesting period.
Dividends	For employees and officers, other than Senior Management, dividends are paid on outstanding, unvested, Common Shares. For Senior Management, amounts calculated as dividends payable on Common Shares are attributed to the PSUs, which are then reinvested into additional PSUs. These additional PSUs vest on the same date as the underlying PSU grant to which the dividends are attributed.
Performance Measures to Determine Vesting	For employees and officers, other than Senior Management, awards vest equally over a three year period and have a value based upon the then current value of such Common Shares. If the employee leaves the employment of the Corporation for any reason other than retirement at Normal Retirement Age, the unvested Common Shares are forfeited by the employee. For Senior Management, PSUs will vest after three years based on a weighted average of the Corporation's performance on its relative reserves growth per share (1/3) and its relative total shareholder return (2/3) over the three year period, both of which are compared against the identified industry peers. If an individual leaves the employment of the Corporation for any reason other than retirement at Normal Retirement Age, the unvested PSUs are forfeited by the individual.
Payout	For employees and officers, other than Senior Management, payout is in Common Shares of the Corporation. The Common Shares purchased under the PSU Plan are restricted shares, as they can only be paid out in kind at vesting. For Senior Management, PSUs will be paid out in cash. A multiplier of 0% to 200% will be applied to the value of the PSUs at the time of vesting based on the Corporation's performance against the indicated measures over the three calendar years prior to the vest date. The value of the PSUs is determined by multiplying the number of PSUs vesting by the Fair Market Value as of the Valuation Date. The payout table is set out below.

#### Relative Performance Percentile

#### Payout Multiple

< 20%	0
20 - 39.9%	0.50x
40 - 49.9%	0.75x
50 - 59.9%	1.00x
60 - 79.9%	1.50x
80 - 100%	2.00x

## B. Stock Option Plan

The Committee believes that, to remain competitive in the crude oil and natural gas industry, it is important that the Corporation has a stock option plan available to maintain parity with compensation levels within the industry. The granting of reasonable levels of stock options should be used as part of the overall compensation package and provides a long-term incentive for all employees and officers to ensure they are aligned with shareholders and are striving to maximize shareholder value. The Board believes that the established policy of awarding stock options meets the Corporation's business objectives. The maximum number of Common Shares issuable under the SOP is 7% of the Common Shares issued and outstanding from time to time (for more information on the SOP, see pages 17 and 51).

The table below summarizes the characteristics of the SOP:

Form of Award	Option on Common Shares of the Corporation
Participants	Employees and officers of the Corporation. Directors are not eligible to receive stock options unless they provide ongoing day-to-day management services to the Corporation.
Exercise Price	The exercise price cannot be lower than market value at the time of granting the stock options.
Vesting	Annually at 20% per annum over five years commencing one year (for options granted on the basis of prior year performance) or two years (for options granted to new employees) after granting.
Term	For annual prior year based options, 5 years with expiry date being 30 days after last vesting.
Payout	The option plan facilitates holders of stock options to receive on exercise of the stock options one Common Share for each stock option exercised. The holder of stock options may elect to receive a cash payment of the difference between the market price of the Common Shares on the TSX and the exercise price of the options in lieu of Common Shares. This reduces the amount of dilution in the Corporation as no additional Common Shares are issued if the cash election is made by the option holder. The Corporation reports as an expense the cost associated with granting stock options.
Termination	<p>For all employees including NEOs, unvested stock options are forfeited at the date of resignation, retirement, termination without cause, or termination with cause. Upon death, unvested options are cancelled, subject to the Compensation Committee's direction to accelerate vesting. Vested options outstanding as at resignation, retirement, termination without cause or termination with cause must be exercised within 30 days from effective date or notice date. Vested options outstanding as at date of death must be exercised within three to twelve months from date of death.</p> <p>In the event of a change of control, if an NEO is terminated without cause as a result of the change of control event or within 24 months thereof, any unvested options would vest and be exercised within 30 days of such termination.</p>
Restrictions	No one person can hold stock options pursuant to the option plan of more than 5% of the outstanding Common Shares nor is it possible for directors and officers, as a group to hold options amounting to 10% of the outstanding Common Shares.
Re-Pricing Policy	The Corporation has a policy not to re-price options.

In determining the number of options to be awarded, the Committee considers the grant date value determined by the Black-Scholes-Merton methodology (value reported in the Option-based Awards column of the Summary Compensation Table), published peer group data, corporate performance, individual performance, and other applicable factors. To assist in determining reasonable levels of stock options awarded to the NEOs, the Corporation uses published data of the peer companies as a guideline. In the aggregate, the number of options granted to the NEOs in 2021 represents 14.7% of all the options awarded to the Corporation's employees in 2021. The SOP and the unallocated stock options pursuant thereto are subject to the approval of the shareholders at the Meeting. A resolution approving unallocated stock options under the SOP is submitted for approval by shareholders every three years, as required by the rules of the TSX, and shareholders are being asked to approve such a resolution at this Meeting.

## C. Stock Savings Plan

The Corporation has established a Savings Plan for all permanent employees. Under the Savings Plan, employees may elect to contribute up to 10% of their gross annual salary and the Corporation contributes one and one-half times the contribution of the employee. Provided the employee does not leave the employment of the Corporation for any reason prior to the vesting dates, the Corporation's portion of the contributions vests as follows:

- For employees with less than five years of continuous participation in the Savings Plan, over a two-year period.
- For employees who have five years of continuous participation in the Savings Plan, on January 1 of each year.
- Upon retirement, if Normal Retirement Age (as defined at page 30) is reached.

The Savings Plan provides additional Common Share ownership in the Corporation by its executive officers and employees. The Common Shares are purchased on the TSX.

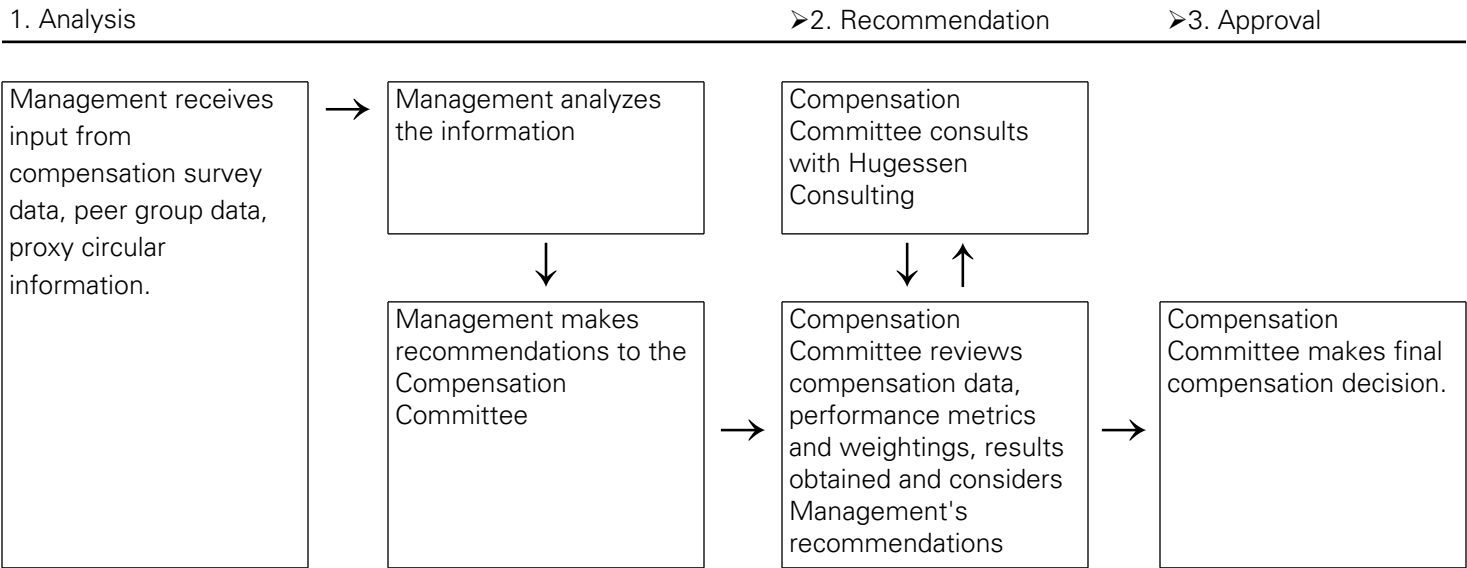
DETERMINING COMPENSATION

Compensation levels of the Corporation’s employees and executive officers are reviewed annually by the Committee following performance reviews. The Committee continually considers the relative merits of the Corporation’s compensation practice. The approach provides the necessary flexibility to appropriately incentivize the Management team in managing the business of the Corporation through the cyclical nature of the crude oil and natural gas industry, yet, base a part of their “at risk” bonus payments on meeting specified established targets relating to financial results, strategic development of long life, low decline assets, operations (production volumes and cost) and, safety, asset integrity and environmental risk management performance. This methodology is evaluated annually to ensure executive compensation is linked with the performance of the Corporation.

In arriving at the compensation levels paid by the Corporation to its executive officers, the Committee takes into account a number of factors including the expertise and experience of the individual, the overall performance of the Corporation, and, an evaluation of peer-company market data and performance. In addition, the Committee also periodically discuss with Hugessen, the external independent compensation consultants to the Committee, a review of:

- (i) processes used to develop executive compensation industry surveys to yield meaningful analysis of compensation practices;
- (ii) compensation trends within the Corporation’s geographic area;
- (iii) common practices used by companies to compensate employees;
- (iv) other trends in compensation practices for incentivizing and compensating employees; and
- (v) other emerging corporate governance practices in executive compensation.

DECISION MAKING PROCESS



## 2021 COMPENSATION DECISIONS

Mr. N.M. Edwards, Executive Chairman, is a director and a member of the corporate Management Committee and a significant shareholder of the Corporation. He is paid an annual cash salary of \$1 (one dollar) by the Corporation and does not participate in the Savings Plan. However, he is compensated relative to other Named Executive Officers with compensation comprised of bonus, PSUs and stock options, all of which are based upon the performance of the Corporation. In order to eliminate the undue influence an individual's variability in term, experience and compensation as President might have on Mr. Edwards' compensation, the Committee utilizes a notional base salary for the role of President in the calculation of Mr. Edwards' bonus, PSUs and stock options while maintaining the functional relationship between the two positions. In 2021, the Committee utilized a notional base salary for the role of President of \$770,000. In March 2020, the Committee approved a salary reduction program for all employees, including the Named Executive Officers, in response to the ongoing challenges in the Canadian oil and natural gas industry brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic. In April of 2021, as a result of improved commodity prices and continued confidence in the Corporation's ability to deliver on its four pillar capital allocation strategy, the Committee approved the reinstatement of salary reductions taken in 2020. Furthermore, in November 2021, the Committee approved a base salary increase ranging from 1.25% for all executives, including the Named Executive Officers, in order to reflect the increased cost of living associated with increased inflation. Given the emphasis the Corporation places on performance based compensation, the actual pay level for NEOs in 2021 increased by 21.6% when compared to 2020 levels.

### 2021 Target Pay Levels and Mix

The following table shows the target pay levels and compensation mix for the NEOs based on the incentive plan designs described above.

	<b>Executive Chairman N.M. Edwards</b>	<b>President and CEO T.S. McKay</b>	<b>COO, Oil Sands S.G. Stauth</b>	<b>COO, E&amp;P D.M. Fichter</b>	<b>CFO and SVP, Finance M.A. Stainthorpe</b>
Annual Base salary <sup>(1)</sup>	\$ 1	\$ 616,600	\$ 424,500	\$ 379,100	\$ 293,700
Target STIP Cash Bonus (% of based salary)	— <sup>(2)</sup>	120%	70%	70%	70%
Target STIP Cash Bonus	\$ 1,247,400	\$ 739,920	\$ 297,150	\$ 265,370	\$ 205,590
Target Total Cash Compensation	\$ 1,247,401	\$ 1,356,520	\$ 721,655	\$ 644,470	\$ 499,290
Performance Share Unit (% of bonus)	400%	333%	300%	300%	300%
Option-based LTIP (% of salary)	— <sup>(2)</sup>	525%	300%	300%	300%
Target Total Direct Compensation	\$ 11,694,376	\$ 7,060,046	\$ 2,886,605	\$ 2,577,880	\$ 1,997,160

(1) These amounts reflect 2021 base salary as at December 31, 2021.

(2) Executive Chair STIP cash bonus and stock option based LTIP awards are based upon 135% of the STIP cash bonus and option based LTIP awards calculated on the basis of a notional base salary for the President's role. See above for more information.

### 2021 Performance Scorecard

The Corporation established its 2021 performance targets as part of its 2021 budget, which was released on December 9, 2020. The resulting performance measures are assigned weightings as indicated in the scorecard below and the resultant overall score is utilized by the Compensation Committee to determine the performance bonus for the NEOs, and the other members of the Corporation's Management Committee and the Corporation's employees generally. For 2021, the Compensation Committee incorporated shareholder feedback related to the Corporation's environmental performance and long-term environmental goals and as such increased the weighting of Safety, Asset Integrity and Environmental performance measure by 50% to a weighting of 15%, while reducing the Financial performance measure to 25%. The increase in the Safety, Asset Integrity and Environmental weighting includes the addition of targets for North American E&P absolute methane emissions as well as abandonment and reclamation activity. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Compensation Committee always retains the ability to apply discretion to the performance bonus awards made by the Corporation.

The following table shows the 2021 actuals and compares those to both the 2021 targets and 2020 actual results to assess performance.



	Performance Metrics	2020 Actual <sup>(1)</sup>	2021 Target <sup>(2)</sup>	2021 Result	Assessment of Performance	Performance Bonus Allocation
<b>Financial (25%)</b>	<b>Balance Sheet strength:</b>					45%
	– Debt to Book Capitalization <sup>(3)</sup>	40%	37% - 38%	27%	Outperformed	
	– Debt/adjusted EBITDA <sup>(4)</sup>	3.6x	2.2x - 2.6x	0.9x	Outperformed	
	<b>Net Capital Expenditures (\$MM)<sup>(5)</sup></b>	\$2,678	\$3,010 - 3,400	\$3,451	Performed <sup>(6)</sup>	
	<b>After Tax Returns:</b>					
	– on ave. common shareholders' equity <sup>(4)</sup>	(1.3%)	Improve over 2020	22.2%	Outperformed	
	– on average capital employed <sup>(7)</sup>	0.2%	Improve over 2020	15.6%	Outperformed	
<b>Strategic Capital Allocation (30%)</b>	<b>Adjusted funds flow<sup>(8)</sup> (\$MM)</b>	\$5,200	\$7,240 - 7,615	\$13,733	Outperformed	55%
	– per common share <sup>(7)</sup> (\$)	\$4.40	\$6.10 - 6.40	\$11.63	Outperformed	
	Deleverage Balance Sheet (\$MM) <sup>(9)</sup>	~\$79	Execute	~\$8,744	Outperformed	
	COVID-19 Response	No Impact to Production	Execute	No Impact to Production	Performed	
	Opportunistic Acquisition/(Disposition)	Painted Pony	Execute	Horizon NCI Sasol Storm	Outperformed	
	Returns to Shareholders					
	– Dividends (\$MM)	\$1,950	Increase	\$2,170	Outperformed	
<b>Operations (30%)</b>	– Dividends per common share <sup>(10)</sup>	\$1.70	Increase	\$2.00	Outperformed	33% <sup>(12)</sup>
	– Common Share Purchases (\$MM)	\$271	Execute	\$1,581	Outperformed	
	Total BOE Production (MBOE/d)	1,153	1,190 - 1,260	1,235	Performed	
<b>Safety, Asset Integrity and Environmental (15%)</b>	Total BOE Operating Cost (\$/BOE) <sup>(11)</sup>	\$11.81	\$10.50 - 12.50	\$11.62	Performed	17%
	Recordable Injury Frequency (per 200,000 hours worked)	0.21	Improvement from prior period	0.22	Underperformed	
	Total LTI frequency (per 200,000 hours worked)	0.027	Improvement from prior period	0.020	Outperformed	
	GHG emissions intensity (tonnes/BOE)	0.050	Improvement from prior period	0.046	Performed	
	Absolute Methane Emissions <sup>(13)</sup> (MMTCO <sub>2</sub> e)	3.31	Improvement from prior period	2.68	Outperformed	
	number of wells abandoned	1,065	3,000	3,079	Outperformed	
	number of Reclamation Certificates submitted	1,050	1,000	898	Underperformed	
	Pipeline Leaks <sup>(14)</sup> (number of leaks /1,000KM of pipeline)	1.23	1.11 - 1.35	1.17	Performed	
<b>Total Corporate Performance Score</b>						<b>150%</b>

(1) 2020 actual amounts exclude the amounts relating to the Painted Pony acquisition.

(2) Notwithstanding 2020 results, the targets established for 2021 reflect the budget announcement on December 9, 2020 and the then current market conditions.

(3) Capital Management Measure. Refer to the "Non-GAAP and Other Financial Measures" section of the Company's MD&A, dated March 2, 2022.

(4) Non-GAAP Financial Ratio. Refer to the "Non-GAAP and Other Financial Measures" section of this Circular.

(5) Net Capital Expenditures (refer the "Non-GAAP and Other Financial Measures" section of the Company's MD&A, dated March 2, 2022) less net property acquisitions of \$1,425 million, midstream and refining costs of \$9 million and head office costs of \$23 million (See the Net Capital Expenditures table in the Company's MD&A, dated March 2, 2022 for details).

(6) Strategic capital investments.

(7) Non-GAAP Financial Ratio. Refer to the "Non-GAAP and Other Financial Measures" section of the Company's MD&A, dated March 2, 2022.

(8) Non-GAAP Financial Measure. Refer to the "Non-GAAP and Other Financial Measures" section of the Company's MD&A, dated March 2, 2022.

(9) Reduction in 2021 ending long-term debt, net, before net property acquisition costs of ~\$1,425 million from 2020 levels.

(10) Dividends declared.

(11) Total BOE operating costs exclude energy costs in order to reduce the impacts of abnormally high or low energy input costs on assessed performance. Calculated as production expense divided by respective sales volumes. Natural gas and natural gas liquids production volumes approximate sales volumes.

(12) Although the "Operations" rating is in the "Performed" range across the Corporation, the operational performance of the different business units varied and resulted in a score above "Performed".

(13) Absolute methane emissions reflect North America Exploration and Production only.

(14) Targeted range reflects +/- 10% of the prior period metric.

Note: A barrel of oil equivalent ("BOE") is derived by converting six thousand cubic feet of natural gas to one barrel of crude oil (6 Mcf:1bbl). This conversion may be misleading, particularly if used in isolation, since the 6 Mcf:1bbl ratio is based on an energy equivalency conversion method primarily applicable at the burner tip and does not represent a value equivalency at the wellhead. In comparing the value ratio using current crude oil prices relative to natural gas prices, the 6 Mcf:1bbl conversion ratio may be misleading as an indication of value.

## Key 2021 Corporate Results

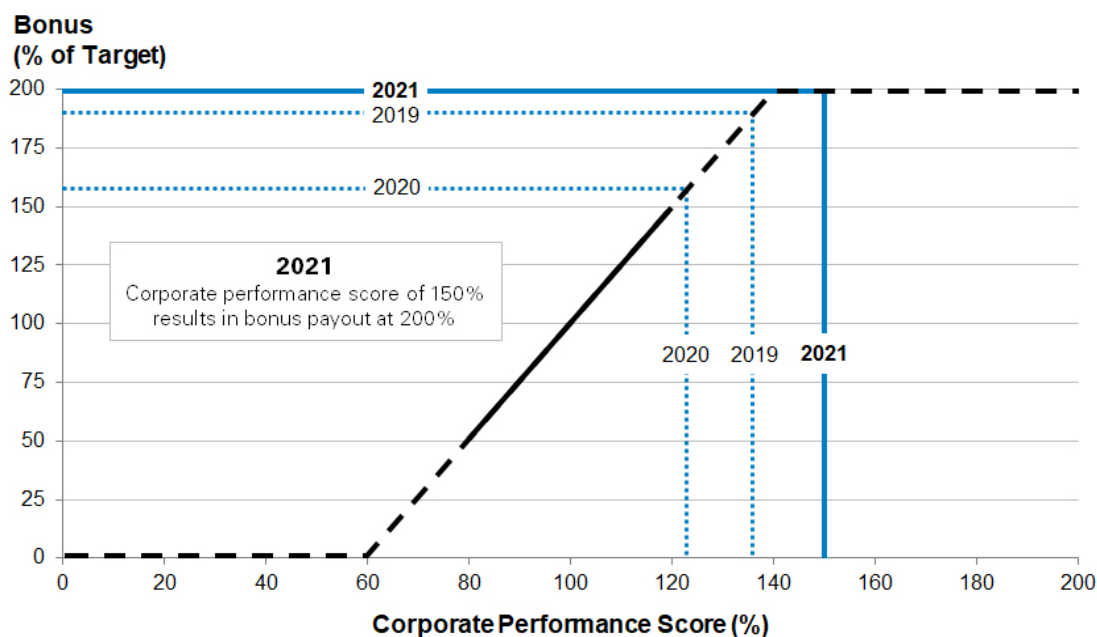
As shown in the scorecard, Canadian Natural exhibited top tier strategic performance in 2021 through execution on the Corporation's four pillar capital allocation strategy and continued focus on effective and efficient operations. Through its sustained commitment to continuous improvement, Canadian Natural's Corporate Performance Scorecard produced a score of 150% of target in 2021. Throughout 2021, the Corporation demonstrated the strategic advantage of its diverse and balanced asset base and the Corporation's ability to create value for its shareholders. The Corporation was disciplined in 2021 and despite the on-going challenges of COVID-19, the Corporation, had a very strong year operationally and financially. As a result, the Corporation was able to deliver on its four pillar capital allocation strategy of improving its balance sheet strength, creating real returns for shareholders through its dividend and Common Share repurchase programs, as well as executing on opportunistic acquisitions and investing in resource value growth.

The key results for 2021 were:

- Delivered strong performance and demonstrated the flexibility and strength of its unique assets, achieving record production of 1,235 MBOE/d with a disciplined capital program of approximately \$3.5 billion, before net property acquisitions.
- Increased returns to shareholders with two increases to the dividend for a combined 38% increase to \$2.35 per Common Share annually and executed on the Corporation's enhanced free cash flow allocations policy delivering approximately \$1.6 billion of share repurchases under its normal course issuer bid program.
- Deleveraged balance sheet and reduced net debt by approximately \$8.7 billion before net acquisition costs.
  - Debt to adjusted EBITDA and Debt to Book Capitalization ratios outperformed 2021 targets.
- Generated top tier returns on average common shareholders' equity and average capital employed of 22.2% and 15.6% respectively.
- Executed on opportunistic acquisitions of natural gas and NGL assets in the Montney formation and strategically acquired a 5% net carried interest on an existing oil sands lease at Horizon.
- Effective and efficient operations resulted in 2021 operating costs of \$11.62/BOE, which is comparable to 2020 levels.
- With continued focus on its core value of safety, the Corporation outperformed its target for loss time incidents.
- The Corporation's continuous improvement culture delivered reductions in GHG emissions intensity from 2020 levels, including reductions of absolute emissions of approximately 19% in North American E&P.
- In recognition of its ongoing environmental stewardship commitment, the Corporation abandoned more than 3,000 wells in western Canada in 2021, up from 1,065 wells in 2020, while submitting approximately 900 reclamation certificate applications.

## 2021 STIP Award

As set out above, the Corporation's 2021 performance is significantly better than the typical corporate performance range, highlighting the 2021 performance results reflected in the Performance Scorecard. As reflected by the Performance Scorecard results, the Committee was of the view that the Corporation's performance was exceptional as Management continued to adapt and guide the Corporation throughout the year. NEO Compensation in 2021 reflects this exceptional performance. The following graph shows the relationship between the Corporate Performance Score of 150% and the actual STIP and PSU bonus multiplier of 200% for 2021 as well the Corporate Performance Score and resulting STIP and PSU multipliers for 2019 and 2020. As the Corporate Performance Score changes with the Corporation's performance in a given year, the corresponding bonus multiplier increases or decreases accordingly. This functional relationship establishes the link between Corporate performance and NEO compensation and, given that the STIP and PSU comprise significant components of NEO compensation (see page 32), the interests of the shareholders in achieving or exceeding Corporate performance targets align with the compensation received by the NEOs.



Based on the foregoing, calculated STIP target awards for each of the NEOs are shown in the following table. The Committee relied upon the results of the Performance Scorecard for the compensation paid to all NEOs, making a nominal adjustment to the STIP payment to Mr. Stauth. The Committee continued to recognize the contribution of Mr. Stainthorpe in 2021 as he continued to grow and develop into his role as Chief Financial Officer and Senior Vice-President, Finance, throughout the year and approved a higher than target cash bonus. Furthermore, Mr. Fichter saw his STIP payment impacted by the underperformance of the Corporation's international division. These adjustments are shown in the table under the heading "2021 Actual Pay Levels and Mix" on page 41.

Name	Base Salary <sup>(1)</sup>	Target Incentive (% of base salary)	STIP Performance Multiplier (% of target)	Calculated 2021 STIP Cash Bonus Award
N. Murray Edwards	\$ 1	— <sup>(2)</sup>	200.0%	\$ 2,494,800
Tim S. McKay	616,600	120%	200.0%	1,479,840
Scott G. Stauth	424,500	70%	200.0%	594,300
Darren M. Fichter	379,100	70%	200.0%	530,740
Mark A. Stainthorpe	\$ 293,700	70%	200.0%	\$ 411,180

(1) Base salary reflects the actual 2021 base salary for each of the NEOs as at December 31, 2021.

(2) Mr. N.M. Edwards' STIP cash bonus is equal to 135% of the STIP cash bonus calculated based upon a notional base salary for the President's role. See page 36 for more information.

## 2021 Performance Share Unit Award

Corporate performance results in a calculated STIP award of 200% of target awards which, in turn, forms the basis for the calculated PSU awards to the NEOs, as shown in the following table. The Committee did not deviate from the PSU multiple applied to the actual STIP awards under the PSU Plan for any of the NEOs. As a result, and as shown in the table under the heading "2021 Actual Pay Levels and Mix" on page 41, the actual PSU value awarded to each of Messrs. S.G. Stauth, D.M. Fichter and M.A. Stainthorpe reflects their actual STIP award (as discussed above) and is different from the amount indicated in the table below.

Name	Base Salary <sup>(1)</sup>	Target STIP Cash Bonus (% of base salary)	STIP Performance Multiplier (% of target)	PSU as a Multiple of STIP Cash Bonus	Calculated 2021 PSU Award
N. Murray Edwards	\$ 1	— <sup>(2)</sup>	200.0%	4.00x \$	9,979,200
Tim S. McKay	616,600	120%	200.0%	3.33x	4,927,867
Scott G. Stauth	424,500	70%	200.0%	3.00x	1,782,900
Darren M. Fichter	379,100	70%	200.0%	3.00x	1,592,220
Mark A. Stainthorpe	\$ 293,700	70%	200.0%	3.00x \$	1,233,540

(1) Base salary reflects the actual 2021 base salary for each of the NEOs as at December 31, 2021.

(2) Mr. N.M. Edwards' STIP cash bonus is equal to 135% of the STIP cash bonus calculated based upon a notional base salary for the President's role. See page 36 for more information.

## 2021 Stock Option Award and 2021 LTIP Share Election

Canadian Natural develops the stock option grant levels from the peer group data, the target pay position, the pay mix and 2021 corporate performance.

### Option valuation and grant calculations

Canadian Natural estimated the value of stock options during 2019 - 2021 using the Black-Scholes-Merton model.

Year	Stock Price	Option Value	Expected Life (years)	Dividend Yield	Forfeiture Rate	Volatility	Risk Free Rate
2021	\$ 73.83	\$ 15.48	4.2	4.1%	5.0%	35.0%	1.9%
	\$ 64.15	\$ 13.63	4.2	3.7%	5.0%	34.8%	1.6%
2020	\$ 40.12	\$ 6.84	4.3	4.7%	4.7%	33.0%	0.8%
	\$ 29.60	\$ 4.75	4.3	5.7%	4.7%	33.0%	0.3%
2019	\$ 20.76	\$ 1.57	4.4	8.2%	0.0%	26.5%	0.6%
	\$ 38.71	\$ 6.10	4.4	3.9%	0.0%	26.4%	1.4%

The Corporation has an election process whereby 100% of the stock option awards are allotted to a NEO, with 50% of that allotment granted at that time. The NEO can elect to receive the remaining 50% of the allotment as either stock options or Common Shares. If the NEO elects to receive Common Shares in lieu of the remaining options, such options would not be granted. The number of Common Shares a NEO would receive in lieu of the options is determined by multiplying a discounted Black-Scholes-Merton value for the stock option by the number of stock options allotted (not granted) to the NEO. The resulting total is then used to buy Common Shares on the TSX, which results in the Common Share election having an anti-dilutive effect on the outstanding Common Shares. The Common Shares purchased are not immediately available to the NEO but, rather, vest equally to the NEO over three years every November provided that the NEO remains with the Corporation at time of vesting.

For 2021, Messrs. McKay and Fichter elected to receive their 50% allotment of stock option awards, being 125,000 and 43,750, respectively, as Common Shares. To determine the value they would receive for the purchase of Common Shares, the value per option was determined to be \$5.00, a discounted value to the Black-Scholes Merton value of \$13.63 per option as at the date of the initial grant, which was then multiplied by the number of options.

The actual aggregate value of the stock options granted to those individuals electing to receive their allotted stock options was higher than the allotted stock option value due to a higher Black-Scholes-Merton value at the time they were granted. The table below shows the target and actual value of the stock options and, as applicable, the resulting Common Share election for each of the NEOs in 2021.

Name	Base Salary	Target Incentive (% of base salary)	Target 2021 Stock Option/Share Election Award Value	Actual Allocated Option Award Value	Actual Award Value Elected to be Taken in Common Shares (see 2021 LTIP Share Election Above)	Total Actual Aggregate Stock Option/Share Election Award Value	2021 Number of Stock Options	2021 Number of Common Shares Elected to Receive <sup>(2)</sup>
N. Murray Edwards	\$ 1	— <sup>(1)</sup>	\$ 5,457,375	\$ 3,407,500	\$ —	\$ 3,638,750	250,000	N/A
Tim S. McKay	616,600	525 %	3,237,150	3,407,500	625,000	2,328,750	125,000	—
Scott G. Stauth	424,500	300 %	1,273,500	1,192,625	—	1,273,563	87,500	N/A
Darren M. Fichter	379,100	300 %	1,137,300	1,192,625	218,750	815,063	43,750	—
Mark A. Stainthorpe	\$ 293,700	300 %	\$ 881,100	\$ 1,192,625	\$ —	\$ 1,273,563	87,500	N/A

(1) Mr. N.M. Edwards' Target Stock Option Award is equal to 135% of the Target Stock Option Award calculated based upon a notional base salary for the President's role. See page 36 for more information.

(2) The Common Shares to be purchased for the 2021 Common Share election had not been purchased as of March 16, 2022.

## 2021 Actual Pay Levels and Mix

The following table shows the actual pay levels for the NEOs based on the 2021 performance incentive plan designs and the Common Share election described above.

	Executive Chairman N.M. Edwards	President and CEO T.S. McKay	COO, Oil Sands S.G. Stauth	COO, E&P D.M. Fichter	CFO, and SVP Finance M.A. Stainthorpe
Base salary <sup>(1)</sup>	\$ 1	\$ 616,600	\$ 424,500	\$ 379,100	\$ 293,700
STIP Cash Bonus (% of salary)	— <sup>(2)</sup>	240%	140%	125%	157%
STIP Cash Bonus (\$)	\$ 2,494,800	\$ 1,479,840	\$ 595,000	\$ 475,000	\$ 460,000
Total Cash Compensation	\$ 2,494,801	\$ 2,096,440	\$ 1,019,500	\$ 854,100	\$ 753,700
Performance Share Unit (% of bonus)	400%	333%	300%	300%	300%
Performance Share Units (\$)	\$ 9,979,200	\$ 4,927,867	\$ 1,785,000	\$ 1,425,000	\$ 1,380,000
Option/Election-based LTIP (% of salary)	— <sup>(2)</sup>	378%	300%	215%	434%
Option/Election-based LTIP (\$)	\$ 3,638,750	\$ 2,328,750	\$ 1,273,563	\$ 815,063	\$ 1,273,563
Total Direct Compensation	\$ 16,112,751	\$ 9,343,057	\$ 4,078,063	\$ 3,094,163	\$ 3,407,263
All other compensation	\$ —	\$ 118,031	\$ 84,952	\$ 77,340	\$ 60,965
Total Compensation	\$ 16,112,751	\$ 9,461,088	\$ 4,163,015	\$ 3,171,503	\$ 3,468,228

(1) Base salary reflects the actual 2021 base salary for each of the NEOs as at December 31, 2021.

(2) Mr. N.M. Edwards' STIP cash bonus is equal to 135% of the STIP cash bonus calculated based upon the notional base salary for the President's role. Mr. Edwards' Option/Election LTIP award is calculated based upon the notional base salary for the President's role. See page 36 for more information.

The table below illustrates the actual total direct compensation pay mix (as a percentage of Total Direct Compensation ("TDC")) among the NEOs for 2021.

	<b>Executive Chairman N.M. Edwards</b>	<b>President and CEO T.S. McKay</b>	<b>COO, Oil Sands S.G. Stauth</b>	<b>COO, E&amp;P D.M. Fichter</b>	<b>CFO and SVP, Finance M.A. Stainthorpe</b>
Base salary	—%	7%	10%	12%	9%
STIP Cash Bonus	15%	16%	15%	15%	14%
Performance Share Unit	62%	52%	44%	46%	41%
Option-based LTIP	23%	25%	31%	27%	36%

### **Link between 2021 Corporate Performance and 2021 Named Executive Officer Compensation**

During 2021, Canadian Natural performed at a level that produced an aggregate corporate performance score of 150% of target based on the Committee's assessment of corporate performance. This performance score results in a payout of 200% of target for the STIP and PSU. The score reflects strong fiscal and operational performance through continued focus on effective and efficient operations and strategic execution, while maintaining our core values for safety, asset integrity and the environment. In 2021, NEO Compensation represented 0.05% of the Corporation's enterprise value and 0.12% of its net revenue. Furthermore, as noted above, the TDC for NEOs is significantly weighted towards equity derived compensation, linking executive compensation to shareholder value.

Having considered these results, except for the nominal adjustments discussed above, the Compensation Committee did not apply any discretion to adjust the bonus award amount for the NEOs including the President. The Compensation Committee awarded the President a commensurate level of compensation including a bonus of \$1,479,840 and a PSU award of \$4,927,867. The Committee also awarded 250,000 stock options after considering both size of the award and its estimated expected value. Altogether the President's base salary, bonus, PSU and stock option award and all other compensation, result in total compensation for the President of \$9,461,088. Canadian Natural believes this is consistent with compensation for comparable performance among Canada's larger exploration and production companies for the President role.

### **Alignment of Corporate Performance and President's Compensation Over Time**

Compensation at Canadian Natural is structured to encourage Common Share ownership and an alignment to the long-term interests of shareholders. The table below shows the alignment of corporate performance with the President's compensation over time and also shows:

- the value of awarded compensation (i.e., base salary, STIP awards, PSUs that have vested and paid out, and exercised option gains); and
- realizable compensation (i.e., the in-the-money value of vested and unvested PSUs and stock options that have not yet paid out or been exercised).

The table also compares:

- the grant date value of total direct compensation awarded to the President relative to the actual value received from his compensation commencing in 2018; and
- the value of \$100 compensation awarded in relation to the value of \$100 invested in the Common Share at the beginning of the periods indicated.

The table reaffirms the alignment between the design of the incentive programs and Canadian Natural's relative total shareholder return.

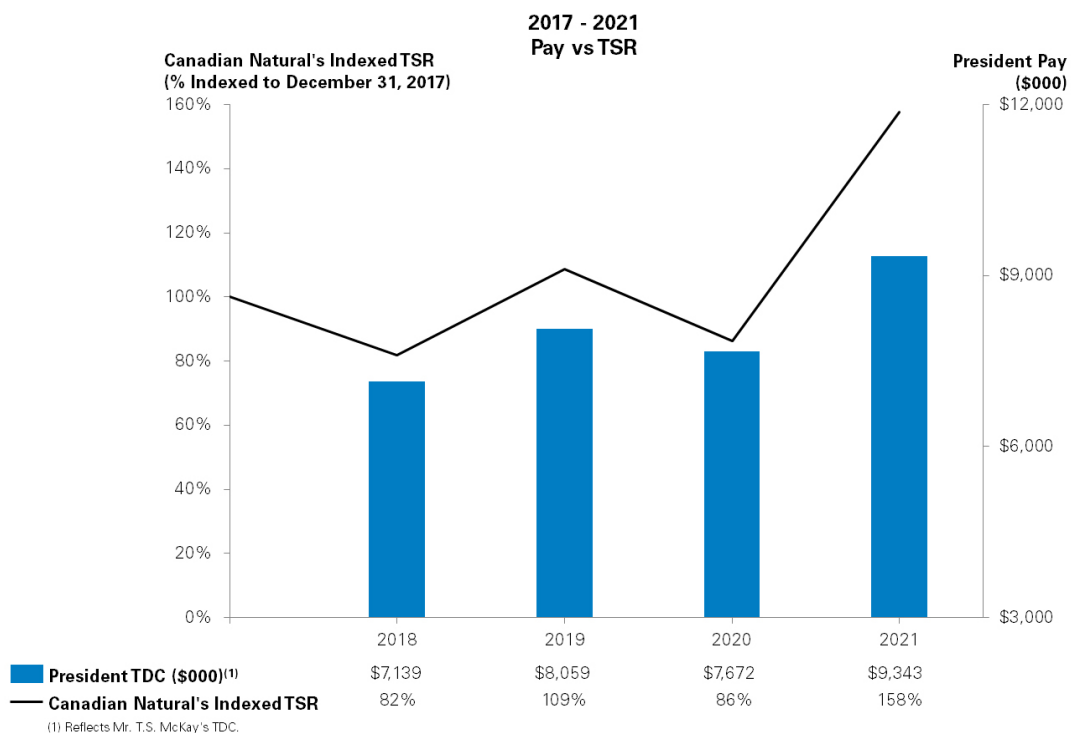
Year	Total Direct Compensation Awarded <sup>(1)</sup>	Actual Total Direct Compensation Value at Dec 31, 2021	Value of \$100		
			Period	President's Pay <sup>(2)</sup>	Shareholder <sup>(3)</sup>
2018	\$ 7,139,388	\$ 13,579,909	12/31/2018 to 12/31/2021	\$ 190	\$ 193
2019	8,058,763	17,894,224	12/31/2019 to 12/31/2021	222	145
2020	\$ 7,672,470	\$ 16,698,452	12/31/2020 to 12/31/2021	\$ 218	\$ 183

(1) Includes base salary, STIP, and grant date value of PSUs and stock options awarded at year end based on performance during the year.

(2) Represents the actual value for each \$100 awarded to T.S. McKay for 2018 - 2020.

(3) Represents the cumulative value of a \$100 investment in Common Shares made on the first trading day of the period indicated, assuming dividend reinvestment.

The chart below outlines the President's awarded compensation level and the Corporation's total shareholder return between 2017 and 2021. In general, changes in the pay levels are consistent with changes in annual TSR of the Corporation. This trend is consistent with our compensation philosophy – that pay and performance should be closely linked.



## Total Shareholder Return and Reserves per Share Growth

	3 Year TSR (C\$) <sup>(1)</sup>	3 Year Reserves Growth <sup>(2)</sup>
<b>Canadian Natural Resources Limited</b>	<b>93 %</b>	<b>34 %</b>
<b>Primary Group<sup>(3)</sup></b>		
Peer 1	68 %	(29)%
Peer 2	67 %	(26)%
Peer 3	43 %	n/a
Peer 4	42 %	n/a
Peer 5	(6)%	(1)%
<b>Secondary Group<sup>(4)</sup></b>		
Peer 6	108 %	(37)%
Peer 7	19 %	34 %
Peer 8	11 %	(7)%
Peer 9	5 %	27 %
Peer 10	1 %	(24)%
<b>Summary Statistics</b>		
P75	61 %	6 %
Median	30 %	(16)%
P25	6 %	(27)%
S&P TSX Oil and Gas Exploration & Production Index	57 %	n/a

(1) Information per Bloomberg.

(2) Three year reserves growth per weighted average diluted shares outstanding reflects total proved reserves (before royalties) determined in accordance with NI51-101 for the Primary Group and net total proved reserves (after royalties) determined in accordance with SEC regulation S-X for the Secondary Group. Sourced from company reports.

(3) Primary Group includes Cenovus Energy Inc., Crescent Point Energy Corp., Enbridge Inc., Suncor Energy Inc. and TC Energy Corporation.

(4) Secondary Group includes Apache Corp., Devon Energy Corporation, EOG Resources Inc., Marathon Oil Corporation and Ovintiv Inc..

Note: Primary and Secondary Group data in table sorted descending on 3 year TSR.

The PSUs awarded to Senior Management in 2019 vest in April 2022 based upon the payout mechanism described on page 33. The Corporation's three year relative performance against its peer group measured in the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile in respect of 3 year TSR (based on outperforming 9 of 10 peers with a 3 year TSR of 93%) and in the 87<sup>th</sup> percentile in respect of 3 year reserves per share growth (based on outperforming 7 of 8 peers with 3 year reserves per share growth of 34%).

Based upon the performance achieved by the Corporation over the three year period 2019 - 2021 inclusive, the payout multiple to be applied in respect of this vesting is 2.00x, as shown in the calculation below:

$$\text{PSU payout multiple} = (\text{TSR payout multiple} \times 0.66) + (\text{Reserves/share payout multiple} \times 0.34)$$

$$\text{PSU payout multiple for PSUs paying out in 2022} = (2.00 \times 0.66) + (2.00 \times 0.34) = 2.00$$



## EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

The following table sets forth all direct and indirect remuneration for services in all capacities to the Corporation and its subsidiaries for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2019, 2020, and 2021 in respect of each NEO.

### Summary Compensation Table

Name and Principal Position	Year	Salary	Option Based Awards <sup>(1)</sup>	Non-Equity Incentive Plan Compensation		All Other Compensation <sup>(4)</sup>	Total Compensation
				Annual Incentive Plans <sup>(2)</sup>	Long-term Incentive Plans <sup>(3)</sup>		
N. Murray Edwards Executive Chair Age 62 Years of service 33	2021	\$ 1	\$ 3,638,750	\$ 2,494,800	\$ 9,979,200	\$ —	\$ 16,112,751
	2020	\$ 1	\$ 4,636,000	\$ 1,786,050	\$ 7,144,200	\$ —	\$ 13,566,251
	2019	\$ 1	\$ 2,047,500	\$ 2,154,600	\$ 8,618,400	\$ —	\$ 12,819,901
Tim S. McKay President and CEO Age 60 Years of service 31	2021	\$ 616,600	\$ 2,328,750	\$ 1,479,840	\$ 4,927,867	\$ 118,031	\$ 9,461,088
	2020	\$ 519,940	\$ 2,897,500	\$ 982,686	\$ 3,272,344	\$ 105,749	\$ 7,778,219
	2019	\$ 608,940	\$ 1,438,125	\$ 1,388,383	\$ 4,623,315	\$ 116,204	\$ 8,174,967
Scott G. Stauth Chief Operating Officer, Oil Sands Age 56 Years of Service 25	2021	\$ 424,500	\$ 1,273,563	\$ 595,000	\$ 1,785,000	\$ 84,952	\$ 4,163,015
	2020	\$ 373,269	\$ 1,014,125	\$ 412,000	\$ 1,236,000	\$ 78,443	\$ 3,113,837
	2019	\$ 419,220	\$ 517,725	\$ 555,000	\$ 1,526,250	\$ 82,862	\$ 3,101,057
Darren M. Fichter Chief Operating Officer, E&P Age 51 Years of Service 26	2021	\$ 379,100	\$ 815,063	\$ 475,000	\$ 1,425,000	\$ 77,340	\$ 3,171,503
	2020	\$ 333,307	\$ 1,014,125	\$ 367,000	\$ 1,101,000	\$ 70,841	\$ 2,886,273
	2019	\$ 374,340	\$ 517,725	\$ 500,000	\$ 1,375,000	\$ 53,227	\$ 2,820,292
Mark A. Stainthorpe Chief Financial Officer and Senior Vice-President, Finance Age 44 Years of service 19	2021	\$ 293,700	\$ 1,273,563	\$ 460,000	\$ 1,380,000	\$ 60,965	\$ 3,468,228
	2020	\$ 247,442	\$ 1,014,125	\$ 300,000	\$ 900,000	\$ 54,345	\$ 2,515,912
	2019	\$ 235,231	\$ 517,725	\$ 300,000	\$ 825,000	\$ 49,639	\$ 1,927,595
Total Aggregate NEO Compensation	2021	\$ 1,713,901	\$ —	\$ 5,504,640	\$ 19,497,067	\$ 341,288	\$ 36,376,585
	2020	\$ 1,473,959	\$ 10,575,875	\$ 3,847,736	\$ 13,653,544	\$ 309,378	\$ 29,860,492
	2019	\$ 1,637,732	\$ 5,038,800	\$ 4,897,983	\$ 16,967,965	\$ 301,932	\$ 28,844,412

(1) The grant date fair value is determined using Black-Scholes- Merton pricing model of options granted in the year. The Corporation chose this methodology because it is recognized as the most common methodology used for valuing options and performing value comparisons. The options on date of grant have no intrinsic value as the strike price is the closing price of the Common Shares on the TSX on the day preceding the grant. The NEOs do not receive any value for these options until options are vested and exercised under the terms of the stock option plan, provided the price of the Common Shares on the TSX is higher than the strike price of the options at time of exercise. The Black-Scholes-Merton assumptions used by the Corporation are reported on page 40. If the NEO elected to receive 50% of their stock option award as Common Shares, the dollar value equal to the price of the Common Shares purchased on the TSX is included.

(2) The amount shown as Annual Incentive Plans is the cash bonus award to each of the NEOs for personal and corporate performance during the year.

(3) PSU Plan awards are in the form of a cash payment calculated as a multiple of the cash bonus for the purpose of purchasing PSUs that mirror the Common Shares on behalf of the NEO. The PSUs vest approximately three years from the date of grant and any dividends declared payable on the Common Shares are also calculated on the same basis for PSUs and are attributed to the unvested PSUs and reinvested in additional PSUs, which vest on the same date as the underlying grant. If the NEO leaves the employment of the Corporation for any reason before Normal Retirement Age, the unvested PSUs are forfeited by the NEO under the terms of the plan.

(4) All Other Compensation is comprised of the aggregate value of perquisites and benefits and the unvested portion in each year of the Corporation's contribution to the Savings Plan for each NEO who is a participant in the plan. The Corporation's contribution to the Savings Plan for each NEO who is a participant in the plan vests on January 1 each year. The unvested portion of the Corporation's contribution as at December 31, 2021 for each NEO who is a participant in the plan and which vested January 1, 2022 is as follows: T.S. McKay, \$108,155; S.G. Stauth, \$75,917; D.M. Fichter, \$67,790, and M.A. Stainthorpe, \$52,517. The value in aggregate of perquisites and benefits which is comprised only of health, life insurance premiums and parking for each NEO is less than \$50,000 and is less or worth less than 10% of total salary for 2021.

The table below illustrates the number of PSUs granted to each of the NEOs and the price at which such PSUs were granted.

<b>Named Executive Officer</b>	<b>PSUs granted year end 2021 at a Price of \$52.32</b>	<b>PSUs granted year end 2020 at a Price of \$31.23</b>	<b>PSUs granted year end 2019 at a Price of \$39.43</b>
N. Murray Edwards	190,748	228,797	218,583
Tim S. McKay	94,194	104,799	117,258
Scott G. Stauth	34,119	39,584	38,709
Darren M. Fichter	27,238	35,260	34,872
Mark A. Stainthorpe	26,378	28,823	20,924
<b>Total PSUs Granted to NEOs</b>	<b>372,677</b>	<b>437,263</b>	<b>526,313</b>

In addition, the NEOs who elected, in any of 2019, 2020 and 2021, to receive 50% of their stock option award as Common Shares are indicated in the following table.

<b>Named Executive Officer</b>	<b>Value of 2021 Share Election<sup>(1)</sup></b>	<b>Shares Purchased for 2020 Share Election at an Average Purchase Price of \$38.93</b>	<b>Shares Purchased for 2019 Share Election at an Average Purchase Price of \$15.50</b>
N. Murray Edwards	\$ —	—	43,549
Tim S. McKay	\$ 625,000	—	—
Darren M. Fichter	\$ 218,750	—	—

(1) The Common Shares to be purchased for the 2021 Common Share election had not been purchased as of March 16, 2022.

## Incentive Plan Awards

The following table lists (i) the number of securities underlying unexercised options granted to each of the NEOs and the net benefit of the in-the-money options; and (ii) the number of unvested PSUs granted to each of the NEOs and the net benefit thereof, both as at December 31, 2021. The number of securities underlying unexercised options listed in the table below includes unvested options and PSUs. The value of those unvested options and PSUs could not be realized by the NEO as at December 31, 2021. The Corporation does not have a treasury-based Common Share award program.

Name	Option Based Awards				Share-based Awards		
	Number of Securities Underlying Unexercised Options	Option Exercise Price(\$)	Option Expiration Date	Value of Unexercised In-the-money Options(\$) <sup>(1)</sup>	Number of PSUs that have not Vested	Vesting Date	Value of Unvested PSUs(\$) <sup>(1)(2)(3)(4)</sup>
N. Murray Edwards	225,000	44.16	January 6, 2023	2,090,250	198,207	April 1, 2022	21,188,328
	225,000	45.05	January 6, 2023	1,890,000	237,615	April 1, 2023	12,700,521
	225,000	35.27	March 1, 2024	4,090,500	236,201	April 1, 2024	12,624,943
	225,000	37.09	March 1, 2024	3,681,000	190,748	April 1, 2025	10,195,481
	225,000	38.71	February 28, 2025	3,316,500			
	400,000	29.32	February 27, 2026	9,652,000			
	400,000	40.12	February 27, 2026	5,332,000			
	125,000	64.15	February 26, 2027	—			
	125,000	73.83	February 26, 2027	—			
Tim S. McKay	95,000	44.16	January 6, 2023	882,550	101,856	April 1, 2022	10,888,406
	95,000	45.05	January 6, 2023	798,000	127,468	April 1, 2023	6,813,165
	110,000	39.29	March 7, 2024	1,887,600	108,190	April 1, 2024	5,782,756
	187,500	35.27	March 1, 2024	3,408,750	94,003	April 1, 2025	5,024,460
	187,500	37.09	March 1, 2024	3,067,500			
	187,500	38.71	February 28, 2025	2,763,750			
	187,500	20.76	February 28, 2025	6,129,375			
	250,000	29.32	February 27, 2026	6,032,500			
	250,000	40.12	February 27, 2026	3,332,500			
	125,000	64.15	February 26, 2027	—			
Scott G. Stauth	47,500	44.16	January 6, 2023	441,275	34,489	April 1, 2022	3,686,874
	47,500	45.05	January 6, 2023	399,000	42,080	April 1, 2023	2,249,176
	67,500	35.27	March 1, 2024	1,227,150	40,865	April 1, 2024	2,184,234
	67,500	37.09	March 1, 2024	1,104,300	34,119	April 1, 2025	1,823,661
	67,500	38.71	February 28, 2025	994,950			
	54,000	20.76	February 28, 2025	1,765,260			
	87,500	29.32	February 27, 2026	2,111,375			
	87,500	40.12	February 27, 2026	1,166,375			
	43,750	64.15	February 26, 2027	—			
	43,750	73.83	February 26, 2027	—			
Darren M. Fichter	47,500	44.16	January 6, 2023	441,275	30,863	April 1, 2022	3,299,254
	47,500	45.05	January 6, 2023	399,000	37,910	April 1, 2023	2,026,290
	54,000	35.27	March 1, 2024	981,720	36,401	April 1, 2024	1,945,633
	67,500	38.71	February 28, 2025	1,104,300	27,238	April 1, 2025	1,455,871
	54,000	20.76	February 28, 2025	1,765,260			
	87,500	29.32	February 27, 2026	2,111,375			
	87,500	40.12	February 27, 2026	1,166,375			
	43,750	64.15	February 26, 2027	—			

Name	Option Based Awards				Share-based Awards		
	Number of Securities Underlying Unexercised Options	Option Exercise Price(\$)	Option Expiration Date	Value of Unexercised In-the-money Options(\$) <sup>(1)</sup>	Number of PSUs that have not Vested	Vesting Date	Value of Unvested PSUs(\$) <sup>(1)(2)(3)(4)</sup>
Mark A. Stainthorpe <sup>(5)</sup>	5,875	44.16	January 6, 2023	54,579	22,740	April 1, 2023	1,215,773
	5,875	45.05	January 6, 2023	49,350	29,756	April 1, 2024	1,590,458
	15,000	35.27	March 1, 2024	272,700	26,378	April 1, 2025	1,409,904
	15,000	37.09	March 1, 2024	245,400			
	67,500	38.71	February 28, 2025	1,104,300			
	67,500	20.76	February 28, 2025	1,628,775			
	87,500	29.32	February 27, 2026	2,111,375			
	87,500	40.12	February 27, 2026	1,166,375			
	43,750	64.15	February 26, 2027	—			
	43,750	73.83	February 26, 2027	—			

(1) The closing price of the Common Shares on the TSX on December 31, 2021 was \$53.45.

(2) The number of PSUs includes PSUs accumulated since the date of grant through the reinvestment into PSUs of amounts calculated as dividends payable on Common Shares, which are then attributed to the PSUs. These additional PSUs vest on the same date as the underlying PSU grant.

(3) The value of the PSUs vesting on April 1, 2022 is calculated as at December 31, 2021 based upon a performance payout multiple of 2.00x, meaning that the Corporation's actual performance was in the top range of peer performance over the 3 year performance period prior to vesting (see page 44 for details).

(4) The value of the PSUs vesting on April 1, 2023, April 1, 2024 and April 1, 2025 are calculated as at December 31, 2021 based upon a performance payout multiple of 1.00x, meaning that the Corporation's performance matched that of its peer group over the 3 year performance period prior to vesting. The Corporation's actual performance cannot be determined as the comparative performance period for each grant has not ended. The information on page 44 provides comparative peer performance over the 3 year period for both TSR and reserves per share growth and is indicative of better than average performance.

(5) For 2018, Mr. M.A. Stainthorpe received share bonus instead of PSUs as he was not a member of the Corporation's Management Committee at that time. As a result, Mr. Stainthorpe does not have any granted share based awards prior to 2019.

#### Incentive plan awards – value vested or earned during the year

Name	Option-based Awards – Value vested during the year <sup>(1)</sup>		Share-based Awards – Value vested during the year <sup>(2)</sup>		Non-equity incentive plan compensation – Value earned during the year <sup>(3)</sup>
N, Murray Edwards	\$	3,432,900	\$	13,574,135	\$ 816,101
Tim S. McKay		3,132,835		5,052,483	2,600
Scott G. Stauth		1,224,230		1,515,745	1,860
Darren M. Fichter		1,014,845		1,212,596	100,214
Mark A. Stainthorpe <sup>(4)</sup>	\$	739,148	\$	—	\$ 62,169

(1) This is the aggregate net benefit the NEO would have received before tax had the NEO exercised the option on date of vesting based on the closing price of the Common Shares on the TSX on the day prior to vesting.

(2) The Corporation does not have a treasury based Common Share award program. PSU awards only vest 3 years following the date of grant such that PSU awards made in respect of 2017 compensation vested on April 1, 2021 using a performance payout multiple of 2.00x and a price of \$31.23, and, as a result, these values are included.

(3) If a NEO elected to receive 50% of their stock option award as Common Shares in previous years, the Common Shares purchased vest equally over three years and the dollar value of the Common Shares that vested during the year is included. The aggregate benefit to the NEO is based on the closing price of the Common Shares on the TSX the day prior to vesting.

(4) PSU awards made to Mr. M.A. Stainthorpe prior to March 29, 2019 are in the form of a cash payment deposited into the Savings Plan for the purpose of purchasing Common Shares on the TSX, on behalf of the NEO, which vest over a three year period pursuant to the Employee Share Bonus program. The Common Shares purchased vest equally over three years and the dollar value of the Common Shares that vested during the year is included. The aggregate benefit to Mr. Stainthorpe is based on the closing price of the Common Shares on the TSX on the day prior to vesting.

#### Pension Plan Benefits

The Corporation does not provide a pension plan for its NEOs.

## Termination and Change of Control Benefits

The Corporation has not entered into any employment service contracts or change of control agreements with the NEOs. Depending on the conditions of termination, salary and benefit programs are affected as follows:

Resignation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– All salary and benefit programs cease as at effective date of resignation.</li><li>– Annual cash and PSUs are no longer paid.</li><li>– Unvested options outstanding as at effective date of resignation are forfeited.</li><li>– Vested options outstanding as at effective date of resignation must be exercised within 30 days from effective date of resignation.</li><li>– Unvested portion of Common Shares in the Savings Plan and PSUs as at effective date of resignation is forfeited.</li><li>– Unvested portion of Common Shares in the savings plan purchased through the Common Share election is forfeited unless Normal Retirement Age is reached.</li></ul>
Retirement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– All salary and benefit programs cease as at effective date of retirement.</li><li>– Annual cash and PSUs are no longer paid.</li><li>– Unvested options outstanding as at effective date of retirement are forfeited.</li><li>– Vested options outstanding as at effective date of retirement must be exercised within 30 days from effective date of retirement.</li><li>– Unvested portion of Common Shares in the Savings Plan and PSUs vest if Normal Retirement Age (as described in the matrix set out on page 30) is reached or are otherwise forfeited.</li><li>– Unvested portion of Common Shares in the savings plan purchased through the Common Share election is forfeited.</li></ul>
Death	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– All salary and benefit programs cease as at date of death except for payout of any applicable insurance benefits.</li><li>– Annual cash and PSUs are not paid.</li><li>– Unvested options outstanding at date of death are cancelled unless vesting is accelerated pursuant to the terms of the option plan.</li><li>– Vested options outstanding as at date of death must be exercised within three to twelve months from date of death.</li><li>– Unvested portion of Common Shares in Savings Plan and PSUs vest at date of death except for those Common Shares purchased through the Common Share election, which are forfeited.</li></ul>
Termination without cause	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– All salary and benefit programs cease on effective date of termination.</li><li>– Annual cash and PSUs are no longer paid.</li><li>– Unvested options outstanding on Notice Date of termination are forfeited.</li><li>– Vested options outstanding on Notice Date of termination must be exercised within 30 days from Notice Date as defined in the stock option plan.</li><li>– Unvested portion of Common Shares in Savings Plan and PSUs are forfeited unless individual reaches Normal Retirement Age (as described in the matrix set out on page 30).</li><li>– Severance provided on an individual basis reflecting service, experience and salary level.</li><li>– Unvested portion of Common Shares in the savings plan purchased through the Common Share election is forfeited.</li><li>– Upon a change of control event, all unvested stock options, unvested savings plan Common Shares and unvested PSUs, vest immediately provided that the individual is terminated without cause as a result of the change of control or within a 24 month period from the change of control event.</li></ul>
Termination for cause	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– All salary and benefit programs cease on effective date of termination.</li><li>– Annual cash and PSUs are no longer paid.</li><li>– Unvested options outstanding as at Notice Date of termination are forfeited.</li><li>– Vested options outstanding as at Notice Date of termination must be exercised within 30 days from effective date of Notice Date.</li><li>– Unvested portion of shares in Savings Plan and PSUs are forfeited unless individual reaches Normal Retirement Age (as described in the matrix set out on page 30).</li><li>– Unvested portion of Common Shares in the savings plan purchased through the Common Share election is forfeited.</li></ul>

The Corporation has not entered into any employment agreements or change of control agreements with any of its executives. Pursuant to the terms of the SOP and the Savings Plan, all unvested options and all unvested Common Shares upon change of control of the Corporation immediately vest provided that the NEO is terminated upon change of control or within 24 months thereof. In addition, NEOs would be entitled to severance in respect of base salary and cash bonus based upon their length of service, experience and salary level. The following table outlines the estimated incremental payments (not including any payments on account of normal termination) the NEOs would have received had a change of control, as defined in the respective plan, occurred effective December 31, 2021 and they had been terminated immediately as a result thereof.

<b>Name</b>	<b>Base Salary<sup>(1)</sup></b>	<b>Cash Bonus<sup>(1)</sup></b>	<b>Performance Share Unit<sup>(2)</sup></b>	<b>Accelerated Option Vesting<sup>(3)</sup></b>	<b>Accelerated PSU Vesting<sup>(3)(4)</sup></b>	<b>Share Election Accelerated Vesting<sup>(3)(5)</sup></b>
N. Murray Edwards	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 9,979,200	\$ 30,052,250	\$ 46,513,792	\$ 777,430
Tim S. McKay	—	—	4,957,867	28,302,525	23,484,327	625,000
Scott G. Stauth	—	—	1,785,000	9,209,685	8,120,284	—
Darren M. Fichter	—	—	1,425,000	7,969,305	7,271,177	218,750
Mark A. Stainthorpe	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 1,380,000	\$ 6,632,854	\$ 2,806,231	\$ —

(1) Severance provided on an individual basis reflecting service, experience and salary level.

(2) This is the actual dollar value of the PSU awards for 2021 performance.

(3) The closing price of the Corporation's Common Shares on the TSX on December 31, 2021 was \$53.45.

(4) This reflects the dollar value of the PSUs granted on the basis of 2018, 2019 and 2020 performance plus any dividends attributed thereto as at December 31, 2021, assuming a 2.00x performance payout multiple for the 2018 grant and a 1.00x performance payout multiple for 2019 and 2020 grants (see payout matrix on page 33) for the PSUs.

(5) For Common Shares, this is the dollar value of the unvested Common Shares as received in lieu of stock options under the option election program at December 31, 2021. For those individuals who elected to receive Common Shares in lieu of stock options for 2021, this amount includes the dollar value of that election. The Common Shares in respect of the 2021 election have not been acquired as of March 16, 2022.

## Equity Compensation Plan Information

The Corporation has a long-standing policy of awarding stock options to its Service Providers (as defined under the SOP) as part of the employee's compensation package intended to provide parity with compensation levels within the industry. Independent directors are not eligible to receive options under the SOP. Details regarding the SOP can be found under the heading "Stock Option Plan", commencing at page 17.

The SOP, as amended, is considered an evergreen plan, since the Common Shares covered by stock options which have been exercised shall be available for subsequent grants under the SOP. When stock options have been granted pursuant to the SOP, Common Shares that are reserved for issuance under outstanding stock options are referred to as allocated stock options. The Corporation has additional Common Shares that may be reserved for issuance pursuant to future grants of stock options under the SOP but, as they are not subject to current stock option grants, they are referred to as unallocated stock options. As the SOP is a security based compensation arrangement which does not have a fixed maximum number of securities issuable, all unallocated stock options under the SOP must be approved by a majority of the Corporation's directors and by the Corporation's security holders every three years in accordance with Section 613(a) of the TSX Company Manual. Accordingly, the SOP, and all unallocated stock options thereunder were most recently ratified, confirmed and approved by the Board and by the Shareholders on May 9, 2019. Provided the resolution as outlined at page 19 is approved by the shareholders at this Meeting, the Corporation will be authorized to continue to grant stock options under the SOP until May 5, 2025 and will be required to seek approval for any unallocated stock options under the SOP again on or before May 5, 2025. The average number of options outstanding under the SOP has been at approximately 3.8% of the outstanding Common Shares since the shareholders approved the changes in the SOP to a "rolling 7%" plan on May 9, 2019.

<b>Plan Category</b>	<b>Number of Securities to be Issued Upon Exercise of Outstanding Options at December 31, 2021</b>	<b>Weighted-average Exercise Price of Outstanding Options at December 31, 2021</b>	<b>Securities Remaining available For Future Issuance Under Equity Compensation Plans at December 31, 2021</b>	<b>Total Number of Securities Issuable Upon Exercise of Options at December 31, 2021</b>
Equity compensation plans approved by security holders	38,327,585	\$ 35.88	45,403,290	81,827,833
Equity compensation plans not approved by security holders	—	\$ —	—	—
<b>Total</b>	<b>38,327,585</b>	<b>\$ 35.88</b>	<b>45,403,290</b>	<b>81,827,833</b>
Percent of Outstanding Shares	3.3%	N/A	3.7%	7.0%

The annual burn rate under the SOP for the fiscal years ended 2019, 2020 and 2021 was 1.4%, 1.0% and 1.1% respectively. The annual burn rate is calculated as: (x) the total number of stock options granted under the SOP during the year; divided by: (y) the weighted average number of Common Shares outstanding for the year.

The current number of Common Shares issued and outstanding as at March 16, 2022 is 1,162,541,463. As at March 16, 2022, the number of Common Shares issuable pursuant to the SOP approved by the shareholders and reflecting a maximum of 7% of the then current issued and outstanding Common Shares is:

	<b>Number of Securities</b>	<b>Percent of Outstanding Common Shares</b>
To be issued upon exercise of outstanding options	37,497,423	3.2%
Available for future issuance	43,880,479	3.8%
<b>Total number of securities issuable</b>	<b>81,377,902</b>	<b>7.0%</b>

## Indebtedness of Executive Officers and Directors

The Corporation does not as a general practice extend loans to its directors, executive officers or any of their associates or affiliates. No directors and executive officers or any of their associates or affiliates is indebted to the Corporation or its subsidiaries.

## Interests of Informed Persons in Material Transactions

The Management of the Corporation is not aware of any material interest, direct or indirect, of any director or officer of the Corporation or its subsidiaries, any proposed director of the Corporation, any person beneficially owning, or controlling or directing, directly or indirectly, more than 10% of the Corporation's voting securities, or any associate or affiliate of any such person in any transaction since the commencement of the most recently completed financial year of the Corporation or in any proposed transaction which, in either case, has materially affected or would materially affect the Corporation or its subsidiaries.

## Non-GAAP and Other Financial Measures

This Circular includes references to non-GAAP and other financial measures as defined in National Instrument 52-112 – Non-GAAP and Other Financial Measures Disclosure. These financial measures are used by the Company to evaluate its financial performance, financial position or cash flow and include non-GAAP financial measures, non-GAAP ratios, total of segments measures, capital management measures, and supplementary financial measures. These financial measures are not defined by IFRS and therefore are referred to as non-GAAP and other financial measures. The non-GAAP and other financial measures used by the Company may not be comparable to similar measures presented by other companies, and should not be considered an alternative to or more meaningful than the most directly comparable financial measure presented in the Company's financial statements, as applicable, as an indication of the Company's performance. Descriptions of the Company's non-GAAP and other financial measures included in this Circular, and reconciliations to the most directly comparable GAAP measure, as applicable, are provided below as well as in the "Non-GAAP and Other Financial Measures" section of the Company's MD&A for the year ended December 31, 2021, dated March 2, 2022.

### Free Cash Flow

Free cash flow is a non-GAAP financial measure that represents cash flows from operating activities, as determined in accordance with IFRS, as presented in the Company's consolidated Statements of Cash Flows, adjusted for the net change in non-cash working capital from operating activities, abandonment, certain movements in other long-term assets, less net capital expenditures before net property acquisitions and dividends on Common Shares. The Company considers free cash flow a key measure in demonstrating the Company's ability to generate cash flow to fund future growth through capital investment, pay returns to shareholders, and to repay debt.

(\$ millions)		2021	2020
Adjusted funds flow <sup>(1)</sup>	\$	13,733	\$ 5,200
Less: Net Capital Expenditures <sup>(1)</sup>		4,908	3,206
Net Property Acquisitions <sup>(2)</sup>		(1,425)	(505)
Dividends on Common Shares		2,170	1,950
Free Cash Flow	\$	8,080	\$ 549

(1) Refer to the descriptions and reconciliations to the most directly comparable GAAP measure, as applicable, provided in the "Non-GAAP and Other Financial Measures" section of the Company's MD&A, dated March 2, 2022.

(2) Amount includes net exploration and evaluation asset dispositions and net property acquisitions and the acquisition of a 5% net carried interest on an existing oil sands lease in the second quarter of 2021 per the Company's MD&A.



## Net Capital Expenditures, Excluding Acquisitions

Net capital expenditures is a non-GAAP financial measure. The Company considers net capital expenditures a key measure in evaluating its performance, as it provides an understanding of the Company's capital spending activities in comparison to the Company's annual capital budget. A reconciliation of net capital expenditures, excluding acquisitions is presented below.

(\$ millions)		2021	2020
Net Capital Expenditures <sup>(1)</sup>	\$	4,908	\$ 3,206
Less: Net Property Acquisitions <sup>(2)</sup>		(1,425)	(505)
Net Capital Expenditures, excluding acquisitions	\$	3,483	\$ 2,701

(1) Refer to the descriptions and reconciliations to the most directly comparable GAAP measure, as applicable, provided in the "Non-GAAP and Other Financial Measures" section of the Company's MD&A, dated March 2, 2022.

(2) Amount includes net exploration and evaluation asset dispositions and net property acquisitions and the acquisition of a 5% net carried interest on an existing oil sands lease in the second quarter of 2021 per the Company's MD&A.

## Total Shareholder Return

Total Shareholder Return ("TSR") is a supplementary financial measure, expressed as a percentage, that represents the total return on investment generated for the Company's shareholders as a result of common share price performance and the reinvestment of dividends over the related period. The Company considers TSR a key measure of the financial performance of the Company and the benefits generated for the Company's shareholders.

## Reserves per Share Growth

Reserves per share growth is a supplementary financial measure, expressed as a percentage, that represents the Company's working interest (before royalties) total proved reserves (as determined in accordance with National Instrument 51-101) divided by the weighted average diluted shares outstanding for the related period. The Company considers reserves per share growth a key measure in evaluating its performance, as it provides the Company's shareholders an understanding of the sustainability of its assets and potential for future cash flows.

## Total Enterprise Value

Enterprise value as defined by the Company is a supplementary financial measure calculated as the sum of the current and long-term debt less cash and cash equivalents and the Company's market capitalization at a point in time. Market capitalization is a supplementary financial measure calculated as the outstanding common shares multiplied by the share price at a given point in time. The Company considers total enterprise value a key measure of evaluating the Company's performance relative to other companies in the sector with similar capital structures, and, as a key measure of overall corporate health.

## After-Tax Return on Average Common Shareholders' Equity

After-tax return on average common shareholders' equity as defined by the Company is a non-GAAP ratio. The ratio is calculated as net earnings (loss) for the twelve month trailing period: as a percentage of average common shareholders' equity for the twelve months trailing period. The Company considers after-tax return on average common shareholders' equity a key ratio in evaluating the Company's profitability in relation to shareholders' equity. A reconciliation of the after-tax return on average common shareholders' equity is presented below.

(\$ millions, except ratios)		2021	2020
Net earnings (loss), 12 months trailing	\$	7,664	\$ (435)
Average common shareholders' equity, 12 months trailing <sup>(1)</sup>	\$	34,458	\$ 33,026
After-tax return on average common shareholders' equity		22.2%	(1.3)%

(1) For the purposes of this non-GAAP financial ratio, the measurement of average common shareholders' equity is determined as the average of the opening and period end values for the 12 month trailing period for each of the periods presented.

## Debt to Adjusted Earnings Before Interest, Taxes, Depreciation & Amortization ("EBITDA")

Debt to adjusted EBITDA as defined by the Company is a non-GAAP financial ratio. The ratio is calculated as the sum of current and long-term debt as a percentage of adjusted EBITDA. Adjusted EBITDA is calculated as net earnings (loss), excluding the impact of interest expense; income tax; depletion, depreciation and amortization; share-based compensation; unrealized risk management; unrealized foreign exchange; and, asset retirement obligation accretion. The Company considers this ratio a key measure in evaluating the Company's ability to repay long-term debt with pre-tax earnings generated from its core operations, excluding the impact of non-cash and non-operational items.

(\$ millions, except ratios)		2021	2020
Long-term debt <sup>(1)</sup>	\$	14,694	\$ 21,453
Net earnings (loss)	\$	7,664	\$ (435)
Add: Interest and other financing expense		711	756
Income taxes <sup>(2)</sup>		2,247	(438)
Depletion, depreciation and amortization		5,724	6,046
EBITDA	\$	16,346	\$ 5,929
Add: Share based compensation		514	(82)
Unrealized risk management activities loss (gain)		19	(39)
Unrealized foreign exchange gain		(205)	(116)
Asset retirement obligation accretion		185	205
Adjusted EBITDA	\$	16,859	\$ 5,897
Debt to adjusted EBITDA		0.9x	3.6x

(1) Includes the current and long-term portions of long-term debt.

(2) Includes current and deferred income taxes as detailed in note 13 to the Company's audited consolidated financial statements, dated March 2, 2022.

## Additional Information

Financial information is provided in the Corporation's annual and quarterly financial statements and annual and quarterly Management's Discussion and Analysis ("MD&A"). The Corporation is a reporting issuer under the securities acts of all provinces of Canada and a reporting "foreign private issuer" under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, in the United States ("US") and complies with the requirement to file annual and quarterly financial statements, annual and quarterly MD&A, as well as its Management Information Circular and Annual Information Form ("AIF") with the various securities commissions in such provinces and with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") in the US. The Corporation's most recent AIF, audited financial statements, MD&A, quarterly financial statements and quarterly MD&A subsequent to the audited financial statements and Management Information Circular may be viewed on the Corporation's website at: [www.cnrl.com](http://www.cnrl.com) and on SEDAR at: [www.sedar.com](http://www.sedar.com) under the name Canadian Natural Resources Limited. The Corporation's filings with the SEC, including its annual financial statements, annual MD&A and AIF on its annual report on Form 40-F, can be accessed on EDGAR at: [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov).

Printed copies of the Corporation's financial statements and MD&A, AIF, Form 40-F, Management Information Circular, corporate governance guidelines, committee charters or ethics policy can also be obtained from the Corporation free of charge by contacting:

Canadian Natural Resources Limited  
2100, 855 - 2nd Street S. W.  
Calgary, Alberta T2P 4J8  
Attention: Corporate Secretary

## Approval of Circular

The contents and sending of this Information Circular has been approved in substance by the Board of Directors of the Corporation.

**DATED** at Calgary, Alberta, this 16th day of March 2022.

### **III. Schedules to the Information Circular**

#### **Schedule “A” To Information Circular Dated March 16, 2022**

##### **CANADIAN NATURAL RESOURCES LIMITED (the “Corporation”)**

##### **STATEMENT OF CORPORATE GOVERNANCE PRACTICES OF THE CORPORATION**

The Board of Directors (the “Board”) continually evaluates the corporate governance policies, practices and procedures of the Corporation. Regulatory changes and trends relating to corporate governance are continually monitored by the Board and the Board will take the appropriate action accordingly. The following describes the Corporation’s corporate governance practices which are in compliance with all corporate governance requirements established under National Instrument 58-101, National Policy 58-201 and the New York Stock Exchange (“NYSE”) Listing Standards applicable to foreign private issuers.

##### **Director Independence**

The Board has a policy that a majority of the Board must qualify as independent directors. Since the date of the last Information Circular, the Board has undertaken a review of its standing committee memberships to ensure the Audit, the Compensation and the Nominating, Governance and Risk Committees are constituted exclusively with independent directors pursuant to the independence standards established under National Instrument 58-101 and within the meaning of section 1.4 (and section 1.5 with respect to the Audit Committee) of National Instrument 52-110 and the NYSE Listing Standards. As well, the Board ensured the Health, Safety, Asset Integrity and Environmental Committee and the Reserves Committees are constituted with a majority of independent directors and chaired by an independent director.

For a director to be independent, the Nominating, Governance and Risk Committee and the Board must affirmatively determine such independence, taking into account any applicable regulatory requirements and such other factors as the Nominating, Governance and Risk Committee and Board may deem appropriate; provided, however, that there shall be a three (3) year period during which the following individuals shall not be deemed independent: (i) former employees of the Corporation, or of its independent auditor; (ii) former employees of any company whose compensation committee includes or included in that time an officer of the Corporation; and (iii) an immediate family member of the individuals specified in (i) and (ii) above. In addition, a director whose immediate family member is or was an executive of the Corporation or a current employee of any company whose compensation committee includes an officer of the Corporation will not be considered independent. The Nominating, Governance and Risk Committee and the Board review annually the relationship that each director has with the Corporation (either directly; or, as a partner, shareholder or officer of an organization that has a relationship with the Corporation). Following this review, only those Directors whom the Board and the Nominating, Governance and Risk Committee affirmatively determine have no direct or indirect material relationship with the Corporation by taking into account the above mentioned factors, any applicable regulatory requirements and such other factors as the Nominating, Governance and Risk Committee and Board may deem appropriate, will be considered independent directors.

Nine of the 12 director nominees proposed by management for election are independent as determined by the Nominating, Governance and Risk Committee and the Board and pursuant to the independence standards established under section 1.2(1) of National Instrument 58-101 and within the meaning of section 1.4 of National Instrument 52-110 and the NYSE Listing Standards. Ms. C.M. Best, Dr. M.E. Cannon, Ms. D.L. Farrell, Messrs. C.L. Fong, G.D. Giffin, W.A. Gobert, F.J. McKenna, and D.A. Tuer and Ms. A.M. Verschuren have all been affirmatively determined as having no material relationship with the Corporation and to be independent. Mr. S.W. Laut retired from his role as Executive Vice-Chairman on May 5, 2020 and, in accordance with foregoing regulations, the Nominating, Governance and Risk Committee and the Board have determined that Mr. Laut is a non-independent, non-management director. Mr. Laut will qualify as an independent director on May 5, 2023. The two remaining Directors, Messrs. N.M. Edwards and T.S. McKay who, as part of the Senior Management Committee of the Corporation, have been determined by the Nominating, Governance and Risk Committee and the Board to be non-independent.

The following table illustrates the independent status of each director nominee. The proposed nominees consist of 9 nominees out of 12 (75%) being independent.

	<b>Independent Relationship</b>	<b>Non-Independent</b>	<b>Management</b>	<b>Reason for Non-independent Status</b>
Catherine M. Best	•			
Dr. M. Elizabeth Cannon	•			
N. Murray Edwards			•	Member of Corporate Management Committee
Dawn L. Farrell	•			
Christopher L. Fong	•			
Ambassador Gordon D. Giffin (Lead Independent Director)	•			
Wilfred A. Gobert	•			
Steve W. Laut		•		Former Member of Corporate Management Committee (within 3 years)
Tim S. McKay			•	Member of Corporate Management Committee
Honourable Frank J. McKenna	•			
David A. Tuer	•			
Annette M. Verschuren	•			

The Board functions independently of management and appoints the Chair. The Executive Chair is considered non-independent. In 2021, the Board re-appointed Ambassador Gordon D. Giffin, Chair of the Nominating, Governance and Risk Committee, as Lead Independent Director.

### **Lead Independent Director**

The Lead Independent Director ensures that the Board is able to function independent of management. The Lead Independent Director also chairs periodic meetings of the independent directors including the in-camera meetings held at each Board meeting and reports to the Board as appropriate. In addition and among other things, the Lead Independent Director serves as principal liaison between the independent directors and the Executive Chair. The Lead Independent Director is elected annually by a vote of the independent directors in conjunction with the Corporation's Annual General Meeting of Shareholders.

### **Other Issuer Directorships**

The Board has not adopted a policy limiting the number of other issuer boards a Director may join. Directors are expected to inform the Executive Chair and the Chair of the Nominating, Governance and Risk Committee in advance of accepting an outside directorship. Directorships of other issuers held by the director nominees are reported in this Information Circular in the table under "Election of Directors" beginning on page 7.

### **Executive Sessions of Board and Committee Meetings**

Prior to the termination of each Board meeting, the non-management directors meet in an executive session chaired by the Lead Director without the presence of management to discuss whatever topics are appropriate. Additional executive sessions may be scheduled from time to time as determined by a majority of the non-management directors in consultation with the Executive Chair and Lead Independent Director. In addition, at each meeting of a Board committee, each committee schedules an executive session without the presence of management. The Audit Committee also meets in-camera, without management present, with the internal auditors of the Corporation and the Corporation's independent auditors at each meeting the internal auditors and the independent auditors are in attendance. The independent members of the Reserves Committee also meet in-camera, without management present, with the Corporation's independent qualified reserves evaluators at each meeting the independent reserves evaluators attend.

The attendance rate in 2021 for all Board and Board committee meetings held during the year was 100%. For more detailed information regarding the number of Board and Board committee meetings held during 2021 and the attendance of each director at these meetings, refer to the table under "Election of Directors" beginning on page 7.

## **Board and Committee Mandate**

The Board has developed corporate governance guidelines to assist the Board in meeting its responsibilities and they reflect the Board's commitment to monitor the effectiveness of policy and decision making at both the Board and management level, with a view to enhancing long-term shareholder value. The role and responsibilities of the Chair and each Chair of the Board committees is determined through the mandates of the Board and the mandate of each Board committee. The Corporation does not have a designated CEO position. This role is delegated by the Board to the Corporate Management Committee of the Corporation which is comprised of eighteen (18) members of the senior management group including the Chair of the Board and the President. The Corporate Management Committee shares the responsibilities normally associated with a CEO position. The Corporation's corporate governance guidelines state that the Board is responsible for the stewardship of the Corporation and overseeing the business and affairs of the Corporation; any responsibility that is not delegated to senior management or a Board committee remains with the full Board. In addition, the Board in conjunction with senior management determines the limits of management's responsibilities and establishes annual corporate objectives which management is responsible for meeting.

The Board's mandate is set out as Schedule "B" to this Information Circular which outlines in detail the responsibilities of the Board.

## **Audit Committee**

Each member of the Audit Committee is independent. The Audit Committee's primary duties and responsibilities as stated in its charter include to:

- a) ensure that the Corporation's management has implemented a system of internal controls over financial reporting and monitors its effectiveness;
- b) monitor and oversee the integrity of the Corporation's financial statements, financial reporting processes and systems of internal controls regarding financial, accounting and compliance with regulatory and statutory requirements as they relate to financial statements, taxation matters and disclosure of material facts;
- c) review the Corporation's financial statements, management discussion and analysis and annual and interim earnings before the release of this information by press release or distribution to the shareholders;
- d) select and recommend to the Board for appointment by the shareholders, the Corporation's independent auditors, pre-approve all audit and non-audit services to be provided to the Corporation or its subsidiary entities by the Corporation's independent auditors consistent with all applicable laws, and establish the fees and other compensation to be paid to the independent auditors and oversee the work of the independent auditor, including resolution of disagreements with management;
- e) monitor the independence, qualifications and performance of the Corporation's independent auditors;
- f) oversee the audit of the Corporation's financial statements;
- g) monitor the performance of the internal audit function;
- h) establish procedures for the receipt, retention, response to and treatment of complaints, including confidential, anonymous submissions by the Corporation's employees, regarding accounting, internal controls or auditing matters;
- i) provide an avenue of communication among the independent auditors, management, the internal audit function and the Board; and
- j) review and approve the Corporation's hiring policies regarding partners, employees and former partners and employees of present and former external auditors.

## **Audit Committee Financial Expert**

All of the members of the Corporation's Audit Committee are financially literate. Ms. C.M. Best, who is Chair of the Audit Committee, Ms. D.L. Farrell and Mr. W.A. Gobert each qualify as an "audit committee financial expert" under the rules issued by the SEC pursuant to the requirements of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.

The Corporation's Annual Information Form contains additional information on the Audit Committee and its members under the section entitled "Audit Committee Information" which includes a full copy of the Audit Committee Charter.

## **Compensation Committee**

The Board has constituted the Compensation Committee as a standing committee of the Board to review and approve the Corporation's compensation philosophy and programs for executive officers and employees and to approve and evaluate all compensation of executive officers including salaries, bonuses and equity compensation plans.

In arriving at the compensation levels paid by the Corporation to its executive officers, the Compensation Committee takes into account a number of factors, including:

- the expertise and experience of the individual;
- the overall performance of the Corporation; and
- an evaluation of peer-company market data.

In addition, the Compensation Committee also periodically discuss with external independent compensation consultants:

- (i) processes used to develop executive compensation industry surveys to yield meaningful analysis of compensation practices;
- (ii) compensation trends within the Corporation's geographic area;
- (iii) common practices used by companies to compensate employees;
- (iv) other trends in compensation practices for incentivizing and compensating employees; and
- (v) other emerging "best practices" in executive compensation.

The Compensation Committee is comprised entirely of independent directors. The Compensation Committee's primary duties and responsibilities as stated in its charter include to:

- a) review and approve the Corporation's compensation philosophy and programs for executive officers and employees of the Corporation that (i) supports the Corporation's overall business strategy and objectives; (ii) attracts and retains key executives and employees; (iii) links compensation with business objectives, organizational performance and long-term shareholder interest; and (iv) provides competitive compensation opportunities;
- b) selection and retention of compensation consultants and approval of their fees and services to be provided;
- c) consider the implications of the risks associated with the Corporation's compensation policies and practices as they relate to executive compensation;
- d) approve and evaluate all compensation of executive officers including salaries, bonuses, and equity compensation plans;
- e) review the Corporation's senior management and the steps being taken to assure the succession of qualified senior management at the Corporation through monitoring the Corporation's management resources, structure, succession planning, development and selection process as well as the performance of key executives;
- f) review the Corporation's Amended, Compiled and Restated Employee Stock Option Plan, the Employee Stock Purchase Plan under which Common Shares may be acquired by directors, executive officers and employees of the Corporation, and the Corporation's pension plans, which were acquired at the time of (i) the acquisition of Anadarko Canada Corporation and whose only members are former employees of Anadarko Canada Corporation and its predecessor companies; and (ii) the acquisition by Sukunka Natural Resources Inc., a subsidiary of the Corporation, of the Pine River Gas Plant and associated infrastructure and whose only members are former employees of Westcoast Energy Inc., the former owner of the Plant and infrastructure. The Compensation Committee will also review the administration of all equity plans the Corporation may establish;
- g) review management's Compensation Discussion and Analysis of executive compensation for inclusion in the Information Circular of the Corporation; and
- h) periodically review and recommend to the Board appropriate compensation for the Lead Independent Director of the Board.

## **Health, Safety, Asset Integrity and Environmental Committee**

The Health, Safety, Asset Integrity and Environmental Committee is comprised of a majority of independent directors and is chaired by an independent director. The Health, Safety, Asset Integrity and Environmental Committee's primary duties and responsibilities as stated in its charter include to:

- a) generally ensure that the management of the Corporation has designed and implemented effective health and safety, asset integrity and environmental (which, for greater clarity, includes greenhouse gas emissions) risk programs, controls and reporting systems and reporting to the Board in respect thereof;

- b) generally ensure that the management of the Corporation has designed and implemented an effective voluntary employee wellness program that is available to all employees and which promotes and encourages healthy living choices by employees;
- c) monitor the Corporation's performance in the areas of health and safety, asset integrity and environmental stewardship and its compliance with the regulatory requirements in the jurisdictions in which it operates;
- d) review quarterly the key performance indicators for health and safety, asset integrity and environmental performance against goals, objectives and targets in those areas and on a periodic basis, actions and initiatives undertaken to mitigate related risk;
- e) assess the impact of proposed or enacted laws and regulations related to health and safety, asset integrity and environment in those jurisdictions where the Corporation operates; and
- f) review management's commitment, overall plans and strategies in the areas of corporate citizenship, ethics, social responsibility (including climate change) and community affairs to ensure they are in line with the Corporation's goals and image.

### Nominating, Governance and Risk Committee

The Board has constituted the Nominating, Governance and Risk Committee to annually conduct a self-assessment of the Board's performance, an assessment of Board members and its committees, (with each committee assessing its members), and to recommend to the Board, nominees for appointment of new directors to fill vacancies or meet additional needs of the Board. Through the Board evaluation process and ongoing monitoring of the needs of the Corporation, desired expertise, diversity and skill sets are identified and individuals that possess the required experience and skills are contacted by the Chair of the Nominating, Governance and Risk Committee. Prospective new director nominees are interviewed by the Chair of the Nominating, Governance and Risk Committee and the Chair of the Board and considered by the entire Nominating, Governance and Risk Committee for recommendation to the Board as potential nominee directors.

The matrix below illustrates the mix of experience, knowledge and understanding possessed by the nominees to the Board in categories that are relevant to the Corporation that enable the Board to better carry out its fiduciary responsibilities.

	Best	Cannon	Edwards	Farrell	Fong	Giffin	Gobert	Laut	McKay	McKenna	Tuer	Verschuren	Total
Accounting/ Finance	●		●	●	●		●			●		●	7
Carbon Policy & Emissions		●	●	●	●	●		●		●		●	8
Exec Leadership/ Compensation	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	12
Economics/ Business	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	12
Engineering/ Technical		●			●			●	●		●		5
Governance	●	●	●	●		●	●			●	●	●	9
Government/ Regulatory	●	●	●	●		●	●	●	●	●	●	●	11
Health, Safety & Environment	●	●	●	●	●		●	●	●		●	●	10
International Business			●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●		●	9
Law			●			●				●			3
Oil & Gas	●		●		●		●	●	●		●		7
Risk Management	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	12

The Nominating, Governance and Risk Committee also reviews periodically the adequacy and structure of directors' compensation and makes recommendations to the Board designed to ensure the directors' compensation realistically reflects the responsibilities, time commitments and risks of the directors.

The Nominating, Governance and Risk Committee is composed entirely of independent directors. The Nominating, Governance and Risk Committee's primary duties and responsibilities as stated in its charter include to:

- a) provide assistance to the Board and the Chair of the Board in the area of review and consideration of developments in corporate governance practices;
- b) recommend to the Board a set of corporate governance principles and procedures applicable to and employed by the Corporation;
- c) provide assistance to the Board and the Chair of the Board in the area of Nominating, Governance and Risk Committee selection and rotation practices;
- d) provide assistance to the Board and the Chair of the Board in the area of evaluation of the overall effectiveness of the Board and management;
- e) annually evaluate the performance of each Director;
- f) identify individuals qualified to become Board members with the Chair of the Board and recommend to the Board, director nominees for the next Annual Meeting of shareholders;
- g) review and recommend periodically to the Board, the Corporation's compensation for directors of the Corporation;
- h) ensures the Corporation's management has implemented and maintains an effective enterprise risk management program;
- i) review significant enterprise risk exposures not delegated to other Board committees and steps management has taken to monitor, control and report such exposures;
- j) review annually the Corporation's Code of Integrity, Business Ethics and Conduct policy; and
- k) review annually the Corporation's Board of Directors Corporate Governance Guidelines.

### **Reserves Committee**

The Reserves Committee is comprised of a majority of independent directors and is chaired by an independent director. The Reserves Committee's primary duties and responsibilities as stated in its charter include to:

- a) generally assume responsibility for assisting the Board in respect of annual independent and/or internal review of the Corporation's petroleum and natural gas reserves;
- b) appoint the independent qualified evaluating engineers and approve their remuneration;
- c) report to the Board on the Corporation's petroleum and natural gas reserves; and
- d) if appropriate, recommend to the Board for acceptance and inclusion of the contents of the annual independent report on the Corporation's petroleum and natural gas reserves and the filing of same with the regulatory authorities.

### **Director Orientation**

The Corporation has an orientation program whereby new members of the Board are provided background information about the Corporation's business, current issues, and corporate strategies. They also receive a Director's Manual which contains the Information Circular, annual report, press releases, Annual Information Form and Form 40-F. They receive a copy of the Corporation's Code of Integrity, Business Ethics and Conduct, Human Rights Statement, Board and Board committee mandates and other information about the Board, its committees, director's duties and responsibilities. They meet with key operations personnel and receive specific information on the business and ongoing operations of the Corporation, corporate structure, management structure, financial position of the Corporation, business risks, employee compensation, business conduct philosophies, culture of the Corporation and corporate governance practices. As well, any director has unrestricted direct access to any member of senior management and their staff at any time.

### **Director Education**

The Corporation provides ongoing continuous education programs integrated into and forming part of its quarterly scheduled Board meetings through key business area presentations, business updates and operations site visits as appropriate. The objective of these sessions is to provide directors with insight into the Corporation, its people, its business activities, and the matters being dealt with by the Corporation on a day to day basis while, at the same time, allowing the Board to interact with individuals beyond the Corporation's senior management. By integrating these sessions into regularly



scheduled Board meetings, Director attendance at these education sessions is tied to attendance at each meeting and the content of the training can, where appropriate, be directed to matters that are before the Board at that time.

Since the implementation of COVID-19 protocols in March 2020, Board meetings have been held through a virtual, online, video conferencing platform (Zoom). As a result of the modified format, detailed presentations on the following matters were provided to the Board in that virtual format: (i) an overview of the Corporation's marketing department, including a discussion on commodity pricing, the Corporation's marketing arrangements and the status of various pipeline projects; (ii) an overview of the process used by the Corporation in its succession planning for senior management and throughout the Corporation, including a discussion on the use of the succession planning process to address recent management retirements; (iii) a discussion on the Corporation's Mission Statement and Safety Excellence meetings, which are held with employees (field and office) on an annual basis and allow senior management to engage directly with the staff; (iv) an overview of the Corporation's International operations, including significant activities and anticipated trends; (v) an introduction and discussion around the "Oil Sands Pathways to Net Zero" initiative and the collaborative approach being taken by key industry and government stakeholders in taking positive steps to reduce GHG initiatives; (vi) an overview of the future growth potential available to the Corporation in conventional oil and natural gas in Canada and Internationally, thermal oil development opportunities and oil sands mining growth and expansion opportunities; and (vii) an overview of the Corporation's financial position as well as its position vis-a-vis Canadian and global peers, including the status of its credit ratings, debt levels and the creation of value for its stakeholders. As noted above, all directors were present at each of the Board meetings where these presentations were made and engaged directly with presenters as well as having an opportunity to discuss these presentations in-camera, without management being present. Management addressed any questions the directors may have had either in the course of the presentation or as a follow up item at a subsequent meeting.

In addition to the foregoing, each Director is expected to participate in continuing education programs to maintain any professional designation that they may have and which would have been considered in their nomination as a Director. Currently, seven of the Corporation's independent directors indicated that they participate in programs offered by the Institute of Corporate Directors, National Association of Corporate Directors or other similar organizations. Each Director is also expected to participate in programs that would be necessary to maintain a level of expertise in order to perform his or her responsibilities as a director and committee member and to provide ongoing guidance and direction to management.

### **Board and Committee Assessment**

The Nominating, Governance and Risk Committee is responsible for assessing the effectiveness of the Board as a whole, the committees of the Board and the contribution of individual directors. The assessment includes a detailed annual questionnaire that each director must complete. The annual questionnaire covers a range of topics including: individual self-assessment; assessment of board and committee performance and effectiveness; and, an assessment of peer performance at the Board level and at the committee level. An independent management consulting firm is engaged to review and analyze the completed questionnaires and provide to the Nominating, Governance and Risk Committee a presentation and a detailed written report of the responses to the questionnaire and an analysis of those responses. The independent management consultant attends at a meeting of the Nominating, Governance and Risk Committee to present their report, address any questions the Nominating, Governance and Risk Committee may have and make recommendations as appropriate. The written analysis from the consulting firm together with any issues or concerns raised by the questionnaires and during the meeting with the independent management consultant constitutes part of the report to the full Board. The Nominating, Governance and Risk Committee presents the detailed report to the Board and makes recommendations to improve the effectiveness of the Board in light of the results of the performance evaluation.

### **Director Retirement Policy and Board Renewal**

In the interest of Board renewal, the Board has established a mandatory retirement policy for directors. The Board has not adopted term limits for directors as the Board believes that term limits would disadvantage the Corporation by depriving it of the contributions of directors who have developed an understanding of, and insight into, the Corporation. Such directors have also developed knowledge of the oil and natural gas industry, the Corporation's operations and management and whose expertise, breadth of experience, wisdom and leadership continue to benefit the Corporation. Through the Nominating, Governance and Risk Committee, there are annual Board and Director performance assessments, the results of which can also stimulate Board renewal.

The retirement policy is reviewed periodically by the Nominating, Governance and Risk Committee. In 2021, considering the changes taking place in oil and natural gas industry and the Corporation's position as an industry leader, the Nominating, Governance and Risk Committee undertook a detailed review of the Corporation's mandatory retirement policy for its directors as five directors were approaching mandatory retirement in the next three years. While the intent of the policy is to enforce renewal, the Committee identified other Board processes that work to enhance renewal. The Committee also surveyed the retirement policies implemented by other public companies in Canada and the United States to assess whether its policy was consistent with public corporation practice. Given the anticipated rate of change, the

Committee identified the need to maintain the experience that has been developed by the Board and the consistency in decision-making within the current Board. In addition, the average tenure among the independent directors is approximately 10 years, which provides a balance between long serving directors and more recently added directors. Having taken all these factors into consideration, the Committee recommended that the mandatory retirement age for directors be increased to 78 years of age, which remains within the range for public companies in Canada. In March 2022, the Board accepted the recommendation. As a result, under the policy, any Director who has reached the age of 78 cannot stand for re-election to the Board.

In addition, the Board, as permitted by its Articles, may appoint additional members as deemed necessary, of up to 1/3 of the number of directors serving on the Board to a maximum of fifteen. Over the past ten years, four independent and two management directors retired from the Board. Three independent directors and one management director have joined the Board during this time, adding substantial renewal to the Board as well as bringing additional diversity, including gender diversity, and industry, business and managerial experience.

## **Ethics Policy**

The Board has adopted a written code for the directors, officers and employees of the Corporation and contractors entitled The Code of Integrity, Business Ethics and Conduct (the “Code”). The Code applies to all directors, officers and employees as well as others who perform services for or on behalf of the Corporation and is supported by the Board as a whole. It includes such topics as employment standards relating among other things to restrictions on gifts and entertainment and adherence to local laws and regulations in the communities in which we do business, conflicts of interest, communication, the treatment of confidential information, privacy practices, financial integrity, environmental management, health and safety, and, trading in the Corporation’s securities. The Code is designed to ensure that the Corporation’s business is conducted in a consistently legal and ethical manner. Each Director and all employees including each member of senior management are required to abide by the Code.

The Nominating, Governance and Risk Committee reviews the Code annually to ensure it addresses appropriate matters, complies with regulatory requirements and to ensure it keeps pace with evolving business ethics and best practices. The Board must approve any changes to the Code and only after a recommendation to the Board is received from the Nominating, Governance and Risk Committee who has the responsibility to recommend to the Board any amendments it determines is appropriate. Material changes to the Code are communicated to all employees to ensure they are aware of such changes and that they are in compliance with the Code.

Each new employee must also sign an acknowledgement form upon hire, acknowledging that they have received a copy of the Code, have read it, understand it and agree to abide by it. Directors, officers and employees must immediately declare any actual or known potential conflicts of interest that may exist.

Annually, a reminder with a copy of the Code is sent to each director and to all employees reminding them of the importance of adhering to the spirit and intent of the Code and how a copy can be acquired or referenced at any time. In addition, annually, each director and officer must acknowledge in writing the Code and confirm they are familiar with it, understand it and that they are not in breach of any of its principles nor were granted any waivers for compliance with the Code in whole or in part.

Periodic reports are provided to the Board from management directly responsible for compliance related matters on compliance with the Code and on any existing or potential conflicts of interest of directors, officers and employees. The Board, through the Audit Committee Chair, also receives reports of any financial or accounting issues raised through the Corporation’s anonymous toll-free hot-line.

No material change report pertaining to the conduct of any director or executive officer has been required or filed during the most recently completed financial year. To the best of the Board’s knowledge, there has been no departure from the Code in the conduct of any director or executive officer.

Any waivers to the Code must be approved by the Board and appropriately disclosed. No waivers to the Code in whole or in part have been asked for or granted to any director, officer or employee.

Copies of the Code can be obtained free of charge from SEDAR at: [www.sedar.com](http://www.sedar.com) or by contacting the office of the Corporate Secretary at the address indicated under “Additional Information” on page 54.

## **Independent Judgment of Directors**

To ensure independent judgment is exercised by the directors on any transaction they may be considering where another director or executive officer of the Corporation may have a material interest, the director or executive officer with the material interest must declare such material interest and would be excused from that portion of the meeting. After management’s presentation has been made and all questions have been answered to the satisfaction of the disinterested directors, the disinterested directors then have an open and unencumbered discussion on the merits of the transaction and its benefit to the Corporation.

## Diversity

The Board has adopted a Diversity Policy for the Corporation (see page 7) that addresses the identification and nomination of women as Directors of the Corporation. Diversity in all its forms and in sufficient numbers brings a wide range of perspectives to the decision making processes of the Board. It is in the best interests of the Corporation to have a Board whose members are diverse in background and experience in order to provide the necessary guidance, direction and leadership for the good governance of the Corporation. Directors are selected for their ability to exercise independent judgment, experience and expertise and their individual diversity of gender, background, experience and skills is always considered. The Board currently includes four women, which represents 44.4% of the independent director nominees (33.3% overall). This exceeds the Board's target of a Board composition where at least 30% of the independent directors are women. In addition, the Board includes one member that identifies as a member of an ethnic and visible minority. The Board believes that the correct size to optimize efficiency and a collaborative working atmosphere is approximately twelve members. As attrition occurs, the Board is committed to the principle of maintaining and enhancing the diversity of its members.

In addition to diversity in Board composition, the Corporation encourages the advancement of women. As part of the overall management succession plans of the Corporation and in following its mission statement to develop people, all employees have the benefit of having access to the same continuing education and career development opportunities offered through the Corporation. Appointments by the Board to the executive level are determined on merit, performance, management skills, expertise and experience of the individual that is relevant to the area of responsibility that they will be assuming. Currently, the Corporation has seventy-one (71) women (18% of all managers) in manager positions including one female Senior Vice-President and five female Vice-Presidents (10% of all officers); two of whom are members of the senior management team of nineteen, and approximately an additional four hundred nineteen (419) women who are in supervisory and/or technical roles. While the Corporation does not specifically track the number of employees that identify as ethnic or visible minorities, such individuals fulfill roles in all administrative, professional and managerial levels within the organization.

## The New York Stock Exchange Corporate Governance Listing Standards

The Corporation, as a "foreign private issuer" (as such term is defined in Rule 3b-4 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 as amended (the "Exchange Act")) listed on the NYSE in the United States, may rely on home jurisdiction listing standards for compliance with the NYSE Corporate Governance Listing Standards but must comply with the following NYSE rules: (i) the requirement (Section 303A.06) for the audit committee to meet the requirements of Rule 10A-3 of the Exchange Act; (ii) the requirement (Section 303A.11) for the Corporation to disclose in its annual report or on its website any significant differences between its corporate governance practices and the NYSE listing standards applicable to U.S. domestic companies; (iii) the requirement (Section 303A.12(b)) for the Corporation's CEO to promptly notify in writing the NYSE after any executive officer becomes aware of any non-compliance with the applicable provisions of NYSE Corporate Governance Listing Standards; and (iv) the requirement (Section 303A.12(c)) for the Corporation to submit an executed Annual Written Affirmation affirming the Corporation's compliance with audit committee requirements of Rule 10A-3 of the Exchange Act or, as may be required from time to time, an Interim Written Affirmation to the NYSE in the event of certain changes to the Audit Committee membership or member's independence, and that the Corporation has provided its statement of significant corporate governance differences as required to be included in its annual report to shareholders or on its website.

As required by the NYSE, a statement of the significant differences between the Corporation's current corporate governance practices and those currently required for U.S. domestic companies listed on the NYSE is included in the Corporation's annual report to shareholders.

# **Schedule “B” To Information Circular Dated March 16, 2022**

## **CANADIAN NATURAL RESOURCES LIMITED (the “Corporation”) BOARD OF DIRECTORS CORPORATE GOVERNANCE GUIDELINES**

The Board of Directors (the “Board”) of the Corporation has adopted the following Corporate Governance Guidelines (the “Guidelines”) to assist the Board in meeting its responsibilities. These Guidelines reflect the Board’s commitment to monitor the effectiveness of policy and decision making both at the Board and management level, with a view to enhancing long-term shareholder value. The Board requires the directors, officers and employees of the Corporation to comply with all legal and regulatory requirements and encourages them to adhere to the highest ethical standards in the performance of their duties.

Directors must perform their duties, keeping in mind their fiduciary duty to the Corporation. That duty includes the obligation to ensure that the Corporation’s disclosures contain accurate information that fairly presents the Corporation and its operations to shareholders and the public in conformity with applicable laws, rules and regulations.

### **BOARD RESPONSIBILITIES**

The Board is responsible for the stewardship of the Corporation and overseeing the business and affairs of the Corporation. In executing this role, the Board shall oversee the conduct, direction and results of the business. In turn, management is mandated to conduct the day-to-day business and affairs of the Corporation and is responsible for implementing the Board’s strategies, goals and directions. The Board and its members shall at all times act in the best interest of the Corporation and its actions shall reflect its responsibility of establishing proper business practices and high ethical standards expected of the Corporation.

In discharging the Board’s stewardship obligations, the Board assumes responsibility for the following matters:

1. monitor the effectiveness of management policies and decisions including the creation and execution of its strategies;
2. review, and, where appropriate, approve the Corporation’s major financial objectives, plans and actions;
3. with the assistance of its standing committees, the identification of the principal risks of the Corporation’s business and ensuring the implementation of appropriate policies and systems to manage these risks;
4. succession planning; including appointing, training and monitoring senior management;
5. a communication and disclosure policy for the Corporation; and
6. the integrity of the Corporation’s internal control and management information systems.

### **COMPOSITION ON THE BOARD**

#### **Criteria for Board of Directors**

The Nominating, Governance and Risk Committee comprised entirely of Directors who qualify as independent directors under the requirements of the regulatory bodies to which the Corporation is subject (“Independent Directors”), is responsible for identifying, screening and recommending director nominations for appointment as members of the Board. The Board, however, will ultimately be responsible for nominating for appointment new directors and for the selection of its Chair.

The Board requires that a majority of the Board qualify as Independent Directors. Nominees for director are selected on the basis of, among other things, broad perspective, integrity, independence of judgment, experience, expertise, diversity in background, experience and skills, ability to make independent analytical inquiries, understanding of the Corporation’s business environment and willingness to devote adequate time and effort to Board responsibilities and such other factors as it deems appropriate given the current needs of the Board and Corporation, to maintain a balance of diversity, knowledge, experience, background and capabilities.

#### **Diversity**

The Directors believe it is to the best interests of the Corporation to have a Board whose members are diverse in background and experience and can bring a broad perspective to the decision making process for the good governance, guidance, direction and leadership of the Corporation. The Nominating, Governance and Risk Committee reviews and assesses the Board composition and performance annually and recommends the appointment of new Directors. Directors are selected for their ability to exercise independent judgment, experience, expertise and for the diversity of gender, background, experience and skills each individual candidate possesses. As indicated in the Diversity Policy adopted by the

Corporation (see page 7), a Board composition where 30% of its independent directors are women reflects appropriate gender diversity when the other factors relevant to Board effectiveness are considered.

### **Election of Directors by Shareholders**

Election of director nominees by shareholders in an uncontested election shall be by majority vote. A director nominee who receives in an uncontested election, a greater number of votes withheld than votes cast in favour of the election of the director nominee, shall forthwith submit to the Board, his or her resignation, to take effect upon acceptance by the Board. The Board shall exercise discretion in considering the resignation of the director nominee and if it is deemed to be in the best interests of the Corporation and the shareholders and, absent any extenuating circumstances deemed by the Board to exist, the Board shall accept such resignation within 90 days of having received the resignation of the director nominee. In the considering any such resignation, the resigning Director shall not participate in the relevant Board meeting. The Corporation shall promptly issue a news release regarding the election of Directors and the Board's decision on any such resignation.

### **Independence**

As stated previously, the Board shall be comprised of a majority of Independent Directors. For a director to be independent, the Nominating, Governance and Risk Committee and the Board must affirmatively determine that an individual is independent, and to have no material relationship with the Corporation other than as a director, taking into account any applicable regulatory requirements and such other factors as the Nominating, Governance and Risk Committee and Board may deem appropriate; provided, however, that there shall be a three (3) year period during which they shall not be deemed independent, for the following individuals; (i) former employees of the Corporation, or of its independent auditor; (ii) former employees of any company whose compensation committee includes an officer of the Corporation; and (iii) immediate family members of the individuals specified in (i) and (ii) above. The Nominating, Governance and Risk Committee and the Board will review annually the relationship that each director has with the Corporation (either directly; or as a partner, shareholder or officer of an organization that has a relationship with the Corporation). Following this review, only those Directors who the Board and the Nominating, Governance and Risk Committee affirmatively determine meet any applicable regulatory independence requirements and have no material relationship with the Corporation will be considered Independent Directors. The basis for any determination that a relationship is not material will be published in the Corporation's Information Circular.

Directors have an obligation to inform the Board of any material changes in their circumstances or relationships that may impact their designation by the Board as "independent".

### **Size of the Board**

The Articles of the Corporation provide that the Board will have not less than three (3) or more than fifteen (15) members. The Board will fix the exact number of directors at any time after considering the recommendation of the Nominating, Governance and Risk Committee. The size of the Board should enable its members to effectively and responsibly discharge their responsibilities to the Corporation.

### **Lead Independent Director**

The Independent Directors shall designate one Independent Director to serve in the capacity of Lead Independent Director for the purposes outlined in the terms of reference for the Lead Independent Director or for other responsibilities that the Independent Directors might designate from time to time.

### **Other Company Directorships**

The Corporation does not have a policy limiting the number of other company boards of directors upon which a Director may sit. The Nominating, Governance and Risk Committee shall consider the number of other company boards or comparable governing bodies on which a prospective nominee is a member.

Directors are expected to advise the Chair of the Board and the Chair of the Nominating, Governance and Risk Committee in advance of accepting any other company directorships or any assignment to the audit committee or compensation committee of the board of directors of any other company. The Corporation has determined that, where Directors seek to become directors for other oil and gas exploration and production companies, the potential for any conflicts of interest caused by such directorships shall be considered by and, if acceptable, approved by the Nominating, Governance and Risk Committee. When the Nominating, Governance and Risk Committee is considering potential nominees, the potential benefits to, and impacts on, the Board and the Corporation of such directorships shall be considered as part of the evaluation process.

While the Corporation does not restrict the number of public company boards that a Director may serve on, each Director is expected to limit their other company board memberships to a number which permits them, given their individual

circumstances, to devote sufficient time and energy to fulfill their responsibilities to the Corporation and to carry out their duties as a Director of the Corporation effectively.

### **Term Limits**

The Board does not favour the concept of mandatory term limits. The Board believes term limits have the disadvantage of losing the contribution of Directors who have been able to develop, over a period of time, increasing insight into the Corporation and its operations and thereby provide an increasing contribution to the Board as a whole.

### **Retirement Policy**

Under the Board's retirement policy Directors will not stand for re-election after reaching the age of 78. The Nominating, Governance and Risk Committee has the responsibility to evaluate annually the effectiveness of each Director.

### **Director Responsibilities**

Each Director shall have the responsibility to exercise his or her business judgment in good faith and in a manner that he or she reasonably believes to be in the best interests of the Corporation. A Director is expected to spend the time and effort necessary to properly discharge such Director's responsibilities. Accordingly, a Director is expected to regularly attend a minimum of 75% of all meetings of the Board and committees on which such Director sits (except for any extenuating circumstances) and to review in advance the meeting materials.

### **Director Orientation**

New members of the Board shall be provided an orientation which includes background information about the Corporation's business, current issues, corporate strategies, general information about the Board and committees and Director's duties and responsibilities and meetings with key operations personnel. Each Director is expected to participate in continuing educational programs in order to maintain the necessary level of expertise to perform his or her responsibilities as a Director.

### **Board Meetings**

The Board has five (5) regularly scheduled meetings each year appropriately scheduled for the Board to meet its responsibilities. In addition, unscheduled Board meetings may be called upon proper notice being given at any time to address specific needs of the Corporation. One half (or where one half of the Directors is not a whole number, the whole number which is closest to and less than one half) of the Directors then in office constitutes a quorum for Board of Directors meetings.

The Chair of the Board will establish the agenda for each Board meeting. Any member of the Board may request that an item be included on the agenda and at any Board meeting raise subjects that are not on the agenda for that meeting.

At the invitation of the Board, members of senior management and independent advisors recommended by the Chair or the President attend Board meetings or portions thereof for the purpose of participating in discussions thereby providing certain expertise and/or insight into items that may be open for discussion. The Corporate Secretary attends all Board meetings except where there is a specific reason for the Corporate Secretary to be excluded.

Materials for the review, discussion, and/or action of the Board are, to the extent practicable, to be distributed sufficiently in advance of meetings, thereby allowing time for review prior to the meeting. It is recognized that in certain circumstances written materials may not be available in advance of the meeting.

Immediately following the termination of each Board meeting, the Independent Directors shall meet in executive session without the presence of management to discuss whatever topics they believe are appropriate. These meetings will be chaired by the Lead Director. Additional executive sessions may be scheduled from time to time as determined by a majority of the Independent Directors in consultation with the Chair of the Board and the Lead Director.

### **Board Committees**

The Board has established five (5) standing committees to assist the Board in fulfilling its mandate:

1. Audit Committee;
2. Compensation Committee;
3. Nominating, Governance and Risk Committee;
4. Reserves Committee; and
5. Health, Safety, Asset Integrity and Environmental Committee.

The purpose and responsibilities for each of these committees are outlined in committee charters adopted by the Board.

The Audit Committee, the Compensation Committee and the Nominating, Governance and Risk Committee shall each be comprised entirely of Independent Directors. The Reserves Committee and the Health, Safety, Asset Integrity and Environmental Committee shall be comprised of a majority of Independent Directors. The Chair of each of the Reserves Committee and the Health, Safety, Asset Integrity and Environmental Committee shall be an Independent Director.

Appointment of directors to standing committees shall be the responsibility of the Board, having received the recommendation of the Nominating, Governance and Risk Committee, based upon consultations with the members of the Board and the Chair.

The Board may constitute additional standing committees or special committees with special mandates as may be required or appropriate from time to time.

The Chair of each committee will determine the agenda, frequency and length of the committee meetings consistent with any requirements set forth in the committee's charter.

### **Board Evaluation**

The Nominating, Governance and Risk Committee will sponsor an annual self-assessment of the Board's performance, Directors' performance as well as the performance of each committee of the Board, the results of which will be discussed with the full Board and each committee. In preparing these assessments, the Nominating, Governance and Risk Committee, circulates to each Director a questionnaire through which each Director can provide input. The Nominating, Governance and Risk Committee will also utilize the results of this self-evaluation process in assessing and determining the characteristics and critical skills required of prospective candidates for appointment to the Board and making recommendations to the Board with respect to assignments of Board members to various committees.

### **Director Compensation**

Senior management of the Corporation shall report periodically to the Nominating, Governance and Risk Committee on the status of the Corporation's Directors' compensation practices in relation to the other companies of comparable size and within the industry. The Corporation believes in a mix of both cash and stock based compensation. The Nominating, Governance and Risk Committee will recommend any changes in Director compensation to the Board for approval.

Director's fees are the only compensation an Audit Committee member may receive from the Corporation.

### **Share Ownership**

Directors are required to acquire and hold Common Shares of the Corporation equal to a minimum aggregate market value of three times the annual retainer fee paid to directors within five (5) years from the date of their appointment as a director of the Corporation. Directors are required to confirm annually for the Corporation's Information Circular their share ownership position and that such position is their beneficial and legal ownership position and has not been hedged or otherwise sold.

The Board has also established share ownership guidelines for officers of the Corporation, which must be achieved within three (3) years of their appointment. Share ownership guidelines are based on a multiple of base salary; for the Executive Chair, President, any Chief Operating Officer and the Chief Financial Officer and Senior Vice-President, Finance, four (4) times base salary; for any Executive Vice-Presidents and Senior Vice-Presidents, two (2) times base salary; and for all other officers, one (1) time base salary. The details of these requirements can be found on page 28.

### **Evaluation of Senior Management**

Senior management is responsible for the day to day operation of the Corporation. Operations are to be conducted in a manner, which reflects the standards established by the Board, and with the goal of implementing and fulfilling the policies, strategies and goals established by the Board. The Board shall determine the specific or general terms and levels of authority for senior management as it may consider advisable from time to time.

The Corporation does not have a CEO designation. This role is delegated by the Board to the senior management of the Corporation including the Chair of the Board, Executive Vice-Chair, and the President. The Board establishes annual corporate objectives which senior management is responsible for meeting and assesses senior management's performance annually. This evaluation is based upon objective criteria previously authorized by the Board including consideration of the performance of the business of the Corporation, accomplishment of short and long-term strategic objectives, material business accomplishments and development of management. The evaluation is used by the Compensation Committee, as part of a formal process of considering compensation of senior management with reference to the performance in meeting the corporate objectives.

The President reports to the Compensation Committee annually with respect to senior management succession issues and the status of the Corporation's ongoing program for management development. The Corporation encourages the advancement of women within the organization and recognizes that it is in the best interests of the Corporation in having a management team that is diverse in background and experience and can bring a broad perspective to the decision making process. As part of the overall management succession plans of the Corporation and in following its mission statement to develop people, all employees have the benefit of having access to the same continuing education and career development opportunities offered through the Corporation. Appointments by the Board to the executive level are determined on merit, performance, management skills, expertise and experience of the individual that is relevant to the area of responsibility that they will be assuming.

### **Director Access to Management, Employees and Advisors**

Each Director may consult with any manager or employee of the Corporation or with any independent advisor to the Corporation at any time.

In appropriate circumstances, the committees of the Board are authorized to engage independent advisors as may be necessary in the circumstances.

In discharging his or her obligations, an individual director may engage outside advisors, at the expense of the Corporation, in appropriate circumstances.

### **Public Communications**

Management speaks for the Corporation and is responsible for communications with the shareholders, press, analysts, regulators, and other constituencies. From time to time members of the Board may be requested to communicate with one or more of those constituencies. It is anticipated that such communication will be coordinated with the Corporation's Management Committee.

### **Communication with the Board**

The Chair speaks on behalf of the Board. However, any shareholder or interested party who wishes to communicate directly with the Board, the Lead Independent Director or any specific director may do so by directing any correspondence to their attention, as applicable, using the following address:

c/o Corporate Secretary  
Canadian Natural Resources Limited  
#2100, 855 – 2nd St. S.W.  
Calgary, Alberta T2P 4J8

The Corporate Secretary will forward the communication to the director to whom it is addressed and, depending on the subject matter, refer the inquiry to the appropriate corporate department, the Lead Independent Director or the Board Chair. In addition, if it is a matter that does not appear to require direct attention by the Board or an individual director, the correspondence may be directed to the appropriate corporate department. All correspondence will be reviewed and addressed through a direct response or, if more appropriate, through specific shareholder engagement sessions. Finally, the Corporate Secretary may determine that correspondence that is primarily commercial in nature or that relates to an improper or irrelevant topic should not be forwarded.

### **Code of Integrity, Business Ethics and Conduct**

The Nominating, Governance and Risk Committee will periodically assess the Corporation's Code of Integrity, Business Ethics and Conduct policies to ensure it addresses appropriate topics and complies with the appropriate regulatory bodies' regulations and recommend any appropriate changes to the Board for approval. The Board must approve any waiver of the Code for any member of senior management or Directors. Any waiver must be disclosed in accordance with relevant regulatory requirements.

### **Modifications to Corporate Governance Guidelines**

The Nominating, Governance and Risk Committee will annually review these Corporate Governance Guidelines and recommend any appropriate changes to the Board for approval.



# Schedule "C" To Information Circular Dated March 16, 2022

## CANADIAN NATURAL RESOURCES LIMITED (the "Corporation") AMENDED COMPILED AND RESTATED STOCK OPTION PLAN

### PART 1 - INTRODUCTION

#### 1.01 Purpose

The purpose of the Plan is to `secure for the Corporation and its shareholders the benefits of incentives inherent in share ownership by, inter alia, the directors, management, employees and service providers of the Corporation who, in the judgement of the Board, will be largely responsible for its future growth and success. It is generally recognized that a stock option plan of the nature provided for herein aids in retaining and encouraging directors, management, employees and others of exceptional ability because of the opportunity offered them to acquire an interest in the Corporation.

#### 1.02 Definitions

Whenever used herein, the following words and expressions shall have the following meanings, namely:

- a) "Bargaining Agent" means a Trade Union that acts on behalf of employees in collective bargaining or as a party to a Collective Agreement with an employer or an Employers' Organization, whether or not the Bargaining Agent is a certified bargaining agent;
- b) "Blackout Period" means that period of time as may be determined by the Corporation during which Service Providers, amongst others, are prohibited from trading, or otherwise dealing, in the Corporation's securities (including the exercise of Options), pursuant to the Corporation's Trading and Black-Out Policy for Employees and Insiders as amended from time to time.
- c) "Board" means the board of directors of the Corporation, as it may be constituted from time to time;
- d) "Board of Inland Revenue" means the 'Board' as defined in S832(1) of the Taxes Act;
- e) "Cash Payment" means the amount that shall be paid by the Corporation to an Optionee, on the exercise of an Option(s) that is not a UK Approved Option, together with the election of the Optionee to receive a cash payment in lieu of Shares, which amount shall be equal to the number of Option(s) exercised multiplied by the excess of: (i) the closing market price per Share on the Exchange on the last trading day immediately preceding the date of exercise of the Option(s); over (ii) the exercise price of the Option(s) less any taxes due and payable to any taxing authority at time of exercise of the Option(s). In the event that no trades of the Shares have taken place on the Exchange on the last trading day immediately preceding the date of exercise of the Option(s), the Board may, in its sole discretion, select as the closing market price per Share the weighted average trading price of the Shares on the Exchange over the last five trading days on which the Shares traded on the Exchange;
- f) "Collective Agreement" means an agreement in writing between an employer or an Employer's Organization and a Bargaining Agent containing terms and conditions of employment, and may include one or more documents containing one or more agreements;
- g) "Control" has the meaning given to that expression by S840 of the Taxes Act;
- h) "Corporation" means Canadian Natural Resources Limited, a corporation incorporated under the laws of the Province of Alberta;
- i) "Employers' Organization" means an organization of employers that acts on behalf of an employer or employers and has as one of its objects the regulation of relations between employers and employees, whether or not the organization is a registered employers' organization;
- j) "Exchange" means the Toronto Stock Exchange;
- k) "Insider" of the Corporation means:
  - i) an insider as defined in the Securities Act (Ontario), other than a person who falls within that definition solely by virtue of being a director or senior officer of a subsidiary of the Corporation; and
  - ii) an associate (as such term is defined in the Securities Act (Ontario)) of any person who is an Insider by virtue of subparagraph (i);
- l) "Market Value" means in relation to any Share on any day the market value of that Share determined in accordance with the provisions of Part VIII of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 and agreed in advance with the Inland Revenue Shares Valuation Division;

- m) "Option" means an option granted under the terms of the Stock Option Plan;
- n) "Option Period" means the period during which an Option that has become exercisable may be exercised in accordance with the Stock Option Plan;
- o) "Optionee" means a Service Provider to whom an Option has been granted under the terms of the Stock Option Plan;
- p) "Participant" means, in respect of the Plan, a Service Provider who elects to participate in the Plan;
- q) "Schedule 9" means Schedule 9 of the Taxes Act;
- r) "Service Provider" means:
  - i) an employee who is subject to a contract of employment, other than a Collective Agreement, with the Corporation or any of its subsidiaries;
  - ii) an Insider of the Corporation or any of its subsidiaries; and
  - iii) any other person or company engaged to provide ongoing management or consulting services for the Corporation or for any entity controlled by the Corporation;
- s) "Share" or "Shares" means a Common Share or the Common Shares of the Corporation from time to time authorized by the charter documents of the Corporation, and for the purposes of a UK Approved Option means unrestricted Common Shares of the Corporation that satisfy the conditions of paragraphs 10 to 14 inclusive of Schedule 9 of the Taxes Act;
- t) "Stock Option Certificate" means a certificate entered into pursuant to Section 2.04 hereof;
- u) "Stock Option Plan" or "Plan" means the plan established and operated pursuant to Part 2 hereof;
- v) "Sterling Equivalent" means the pounds sterling amount derived by converting Canadian dollars to pounds sterling by reference to the noon rate of the Royal Bank of Canada on the date of conversion, or the nearest business day prior to conversion;
- w) "Taxes Act" means the (UK) Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988;
- x) "Trade Union" means an organization of employees that has a written constitution, rules or bylaws and has as one of its objects the regulation of relations between employers and employees; and
- y) "UK Approved Option" means any Option granted which is designated by the Board at the time of such grant as being a UK Approved Option and that satisfies the conditions for UK Approved Options set out in Section 2.04.

## **PART 2 - STOCK OPTION PLAN**

### **2.01 Participation**

Options shall be granted only to Service Providers.

### **2.02 Determination of Option Recipients**

The Board shall make all necessary or desirable determinations regarding the granting of Options to Service Providers and may take into consideration the present and potential contributions of a particular Service Provider to the success of the Corporation and any other factors which it may deem proper and relevant.

### **2.03 Price**

The exercise price per Option Share shall be determined from time to time by the Board but, in any event, shall not be lower than the closing market price of the Shares on the Exchange on the last trading day preceding the date of grant. In the event that no trades of the Shares have taken place on the Exchange on any trading day within a five-day period immediately preceding the date of grant, the Board may, in their sole discretion, select as the exercise price per Share the weighted average trading price of the Shares on the Exchange over the last ten trading days on which the Shares traded on the Exchange immediately preceding the date of the grant.

### **2.04 Grant of Options**

The Board may at any time authorize the granting of Options to such Service Providers as it may select for the number of Shares that it shall designate, subject to the provisions of the Stock Option Plan.

For the purposes of determining whether an Option is a UK Approved Option, the following provisions will apply:

- a) a UK Approved Option may only be granted to a Service Provider who is an employee or full time director of CNR International (U.K.) Limited or any company of which CNR International (U.K.) Limited has Control and for these purposes:
  - i) a "director" means any person occupying the position of a director of a body corporate as determined in accordance with the laws of England; and
  - ii) a "full time director" means any director whose terms of employment require him to devote to the duties of his office not less than twenty-five (25) hours per week excluding meal breaks;
- b) UK Approved Options may not be granted to any person at any time when he has within the preceding 12 months had a material interest (as defined in S187(3) of the Taxes Act) in the Corporation or in a company which has Control of the Corporation or which is a member of a consortium which owns the Corporation or any such company is at any relevant time a close company for the purposes of paragraph 8 of Schedule 9;
- c) a UK Approved Option may not in any event be exercised at any time if the Optionee then has, or has within the preceding 12 months had, a material interest in a close company being either the Corporation or a company which has Control of the Corporation or is a member of a consortium which owns such a company;
- d) UK Approved Options may not be granted to any person at any time if that would cause the aggregate Market Value of the Shares which may be acquired by that person pursuant to the exercise of:
  - i) UK Approved Options which have not then been exercised and have not ceased to be exercisable; and
  - ii) rights to acquire Shares obtained under any other plan approved under Schedule 9 to the Taxes Act which has been established by the Corporation or by any associated company (as that term is defined in S416 of the Taxes Act) of the Corporation;

to exceed or further exceed £30,000 or such other amount as may be permitted by paragraph 28(1) of Schedule 9. For the purpose of determining this limit the Market Value of the Shares shall be the Sterling Equivalent as at the last trading day preceding the date of grant of an Option classified as a UK Approved Option;

- e) the exercise price per Share shall not be less than the Market Value of a Share on the date of grant of the relevant UK Approved Option;
- f) in relation to a UK Approved Option, in Section 2.08 the words from "notwithstanding" to the end of Section 2.08 shall be replaced with the words "any UK Approved Option may be exercised in whole or in part by the Optionee provided that any such exercise in such circumstances shall be conditional on:
  - i) the offeror gaining such control of the Corporation; and
  - ii) the Optionee agreeing to tender the Shares received upon such exercise pursuant to the Offer."
- g) in relation to a UK Approved Option, in paragraph (b) of Section 2.09 the words ", subject only to the adjustment required as a result of the said amalgamation, consolidation or merger, as discussed in Section 2.10" shall not apply;
- h) UK Approved Options shall not be assigned, pledged or otherwise transferred; and
- i) no UK Approved Option shall be granted unless and until the relevant parts of this Plan which relate to UK Approved Options have been approved by the Board of Inland Revenue.

Each Option granted to a Service Provider shall be evidenced by a Stock Option Certificate with terms and conditions consistent with the Plan and as approved by the Board (which terms and conditions need not be the same in each case and may be changed from time to time). Until such time as the Board shall otherwise determine, and subject to the provisions of Section 3.08 hereof, the form of Stock Option Certificate adopted for use hereunder shall be that which is attached hereto as Schedule "A".

## **2.05 Terms of Options**

The Option Period shall be of such length as is determined by the Board but in any event shall not exceed six years from the date such Option is granted, and may also be reduced with respect to any such Option as provided in Section 2.07 hereof. In the event the Option Period expires during a Blackout Period or within two business days following the end of a Blackout Period voluntarily imposed by the Corporation during which period Service Providers, amongst others, are prohibited from trading or otherwise dealing in the Corporation's securities, the Option Period shall be extended to the seventh business day following the later of (a) the last day of a Blackout Period; and (b) the date the Option would otherwise expire, if the expiration date would otherwise occur in the time period commencing at the commencement of the Blackout Period to which the Optionee is subject and ending on the second business day subsequent to the Blackout Period.

Options which have been granted will become exercisable at the times and in the amounts set forth in the Stock Option Certificate; provided however, the times at which such Options will become exercisable may be accelerated or postponed in accordance with this Plan, a determination by the Board or the Corporation's policies in effect from time to time, as applicable. Determination by the Board to postpone the date when Options become exercisable will be in relation to an unpaid leave of absence. In the event the postponement results in those Options becoming exercisable after the expiry date of the Options, forfeiture of those Options will occur. In no event shall any postponement operate to extend the Option Period beyond six years except as permitted in this Section 2.05.

Subject to Section 2.07, Options that have become exercisable may be exercised in whole or in part by the Optionee during the Option Period.

## **2.06 Exercise of Options**

### **a) Receipt of Shares or Cash for non-UK Approved Options**

On the exercise of an Option that is not a UK Approved Option, in accordance with the terms hereof, an Optionee shall be entitled to elect to receive either a certificate(s) representing that number of Shares designated by the Option(s) or a Cash Payment in lieu of Shares.

### **b) Payment for Exercise**

The exercise of any UK Approved Option or Option that is not a UK Approved Option, where the Optionee has elected to receive Shares, will be contingent upon receipt by the Corporation of an amount payable by cash or certified cheque equal to the full exercise price. No Optionee or his legal representatives, legatees or distributees will be, or will be deemed to be, a holder of any Shares subject to an Option, unless and until certificates for such Shares are issued to him or them under the terms of the Stock Option Plan.

### **c) Procedure for Exercise of the Option**

The Option may be exercised by notice given in accordance with the policies and procedures of the Corporation as may be adopted from time to time and, if the Option is a UK Approved Option or the Optionee has elected to receive Shares and has not elected to immediately dispose of those Shares through the facilities of the Exchange, by tendering therewith payment for the purchase price of the Shares to be purchased including the amount for any taxes due and payable to any taxing authority, on exercise of the Option, in cash or by certified cheque to the Corporation at Suite 2500, 855 Second Street S.W., Calgary, Alberta, T2P 4J8. Such notice shall state the number of Options being exercised and, in the case of an Option that is not a UK Approved Option, whether the Optionee wishes to receive Shares or a Cash Payment in lieu of Shares. The Option shall be deemed for all purposes to have been exercised to the extent stated in such notice upon delivery of the notice, and, with respect to an election to receive Shares or a UK Approved Option, a tender of payment in full of the exercise price for the Option being exercised, notwithstanding any delay in the issuance and delivery of the certificate(s) for the Shares so purchased or of the Cash Payment to be received, as the case may be. The Corporation shall, within 30 days of the exercise of the Option, either issue the Shares so purchased in the name of the Optionee and deliver the certificate(s) therefore to the Optionee or deliver the Cash Payment in the name of the Optionee, as the case may be. Shares issued pursuant to the exercise of a UK Approved Option shall rank *pari passu* with other Shares of the same class in issue at that date.

## **2.07 Termination Event**

- a) If an Optionee shall die before the expiration of an Option Period, any unexercised Option which has vested at the date of death shall be exercisable, but only by the legal personal representatives (being either the executors of the Optionee's will who have provided evidence to the Board of their appointment as such, or if the Optionee dies intestate the duly appointed administrator(s) of Optionee's estate who have provided evidence to the Board of their appointment as such) of the Optionee. All such vested Options shall be exercisable by the executor(s) within six months of the date of death or in the case of an intestacy, by the administrator(s) within the earlier of three months after their appointment or twelve months after the date of death, notwithstanding the expiration of the Option Period prior to the expiration of such exercise period, and if not exercised, shall thereupon terminate.
- b) If an Optionee (i) becomes subject to a Collective Agreement on a certain date ("CA Date"), (ii) resigns effective as of a certain date ("Effective Resignation Date") or (iii) retires effective as of a certain date ("Effective Retirement Date"), voluntarily or compulsorily under the regulations of the Corporation and/or a contract of employment or for services, any vested Option which has not been exercised at the CA Date, the Effective Resignation Date or the Effective Retirement Date, as applicable (the "Applicable Date") shall be exercisable only for a period of 30 days from such Applicable Date, subject to earlier expiration of the Option Period, and if not exercised, shall thereupon terminate. Any Options which have not vested as of the Applicable Date shall terminate on such Applicable Date, and the Optionee shall thereupon have no interest in, or entitlement to, such terminated Options.

- c) If an Optionee is given written notice of termination by the Corporation, any subsidiary or any entity controlled by the Corporation, whether such termination is for cause or without cause, and with or without adequate notice and irrespective of whether the Optionee is entitled to or receives at that time or in the future, any compensation in respect of such termination, any vested Option which has not been exercised by the date the written notice is provided (the "Notice Date") shall be exercisable for a period of 30 days from the Notice Date, subject to earlier expiration of the Option Period. Any Options which have not vested as of the Notice Date shall terminate on such Notice Date and the Optionee shall thereupon have no interest in, or entitlement to, such terminated Options.

## **2.08 Effect of Takeover Bid**

Subject to paragraph (f) of Section 2.04, if a bona fide offer (the "Offer") for Shares is made to the Optionee or to shareholders of the Corporation generally or to a class of shareholders which includes the Optionee, which Offer, if accepted in whole or part, would result in the offeror exercising control over the Corporation within the meaning of the Securities Act (Ontario), then the Corporation shall, immediately upon receipt of notice of the Offer, notify each Optionee currently holding an Option of the Offer, with full particulars thereof; whereupon, notwithstanding the applicability, if any, of Section 2.05 hereof, such Option may be exercised in whole or in part by the Optionee so as to permit (but only for such purpose) the Optionee to tender the Shares received upon such exercise (the "Optioned Shares") pursuant to the Offer. If:

- a) the Offer is withdrawn by the offeror; or
- b) the Optionee does not tender the Optioned Shares pursuant to the Offer; or
- c) all of the Optioned Shares tendered by the Optionee pursuant to the Offer are not taken up and paid for by the offeror in respect thereof;

then the Optioned Shares or, in the case of subsection (c) above, the Optioned Shares that are not taken up and paid for, shall be returned by the Optionee to the Corporation and reinstated as authorized but unissued Shares and the terms of the Option as set forth in Section 2.05, if applicable, shall again apply to the Option. If any Optioned Shares are returned to the Corporation under this Section, the Corporation shall refund the exercise price to the Optionee for such Optioned Shares. In no event shall the Optionee be entitled to sell the Optioned Shares otherwise than pursuant to the Offer.

## **2.09 Effect of Amalgamation, Consolidation or Merger**

Subject to paragraph (g) of Section 2.04:

- a) Where the Corporation amalgamates, consolidates with or merges with or into another corporation, without effecting a Change of Control, as defined below, any Shares receivable on the exercise of an Option shall be adjusted as if the Participant had exercised his Option immediately prior to the record date applicable to such amalgamation, consolidation or merger, and the Option price shall be adjusted appropriately by the Board and such adjustment shall be binding for all purposes of the Stock Option Plan.
- b) Where the Corporation amalgamates, consolidates with or merges with or into another corporation and such an amalgamation, consolidation or merger causes a Change of Control, as defined below, then the Corporation shall notify each Optionee currently holding an Option with the full particulars thereof; whereupon, notwithstanding the applicability, if any, of Section 2.05 hereof, all of the Options shall vest and become exercisable on the day immediately preceding the Change of Control and the Optionee shall have the right, for a period of ninety (90) days thereafter, to exercise all of the Options remaining unexercised, subject only to the adjustment required as a result of the said amalgamation, consolidation or merger, as discussed in Section 2.10.

For the purposes of this clause, "Change of Control" shall include any circumstances and events whereby Shareholders of the Corporation approve:

- i) an amalgamation, arrangement, merger or other consolidation or combination of the Corporation with another corporation pursuant to which the shareholders of the Corporation immediately thereafter do not own shares of the successor or continuing corporation which would entitle them to cast, in the aggregate, at least 50% votes attaching to all shares in the capital of the successor or continuing corporation;
- ii) an amalgamation, arrangement, merger or other consolidation or combination of the Corporation with another corporation pursuant to which a shareholder, or a group of shareholders acting jointly or in concert with each other, of the Corporation immediately thereafter shall own shares of the successor or continuing corporation which would entitle them to cast 25% or more of the votes attaching to all shares in the capital of the successor or continuing corporation; provided however that such a shareholder, or group of shareholders, do not own shares in the capital of the Corporation immediately preceding the transaction;
- iii) the liquidation, dissolution or winding up of the Corporation; or
- iv) the sale, lease, or other disposition of all or substantially all of the assets of the Corporation.

In the event the Board of Directors decides there has been a Change of Control, the Optionee or his legal representatives will be given written notice by the Corporation of the Change of Control in accordance with the provisions of his Plan and the period set forth in this clause 2.09 will commence on the day notice is given.

## **2.10 Adjustments in Shares Subject to the Stock Option Plan**

If there is any change in the Shares through a consolidation, subdivision or reclassification of Shares, or otherwise, the number of Shares available under the Stock Option Plan, the Shares subject to any Option, and the purchase price thereof or, in the case of an Option that is not a UK Approved Option, the Cash Payment which may be elected with respect thereto shall be adjusted appropriately by the Board and such adjustment shall be effective and binding for all purposes of the Stock Option Plan, provided that for the purposes of a UK Approved Option, no such adjustment shall be made until the prior approval of the Board of Inland Revenue has been obtained for any such adjustment.

## **2.11 Approval**

The terms of the Options granted from time to time hereunder, and the Optionees to whom Options are granted, are subject to the Exchange accepting notice of such terms and proposed Optionees (if such acceptance is required by the Exchange).

# **PART 3 - GENERAL**

## **3.01 Number of Shares**

The aggregate number of Shares reserved for issuance under the Plan, together with any other security-based compensation arrangements of the Corporation, shall be such number of Shares equal to 7% of the total number of issued and outstanding Shares, from time to time (calculated on a non-diluted basis). If any Option or other security granted under this Plan or other security-based compensation arrangements of the Corporation shall expire or terminate for any reason without having been exercised in full, any unpurchased Shares to which such Option or other security relates shall be available for the purposes of the granting of Options under this Plan. In addition, the aggregate number of Shares so available for issuance under the Plan to any one person shall not exceed 5% of the outstanding issue of Shares. The aggregate number of Shares reserved for issuance pursuant to all share based compensation plans including Options granted to Insiders at any time shall not exceed 10% of the outstanding issue of Shares and the aggregate number of Shares issued to Insiders pursuant to all share based compensation plans including Options within any one year period shall not exceed 10% of the outstanding issue of Shares.

## **3.02 Transferability**

All benefits, rights and options accruing to any Participant in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Plan shall not be transferable unless specifically provided herein. During the lifetime of a Participant all benefits, rights and options may only be exercised by the Participant.

## **3.03 Employment**

Nothing contained in the Plan shall confer upon any Participant any right with respect to employment or continuance of employment with the Corporation or interfere in any way with the right of the Corporation to terminate the Participant's employment at any time. Participation in the Plan by a Participant is voluntary and subject to the approval of the Board of Directors.

## **3.04 Record Keeping**

The Corporation shall maintain a register in which shall be recorded:

- a) the name and address of each Participant;
- b) the number of Options granted to a Participant and the number of Options outstanding;
- c) the number of Options granted that have been classified as UK Approved Options and the number of UK Approved Options outstanding.

## **3.05 Necessary Approvals**

The Plan shall be effective only upon the approval of the Exchange and, if required by such Exchange, of the shareholders of the Corporation in the manner prescribed by the Exchange from time to time.

The classification of an Option as a UK Approved Option shall only be effective upon the approval of the Plan by the Board of Inland Revenue.

The obligation of the Corporation to sell and deliver Options or Shares, or to make a Cash Payment in accordance with the Plan is subject to the approval of any governmental or regulatory authority having jurisdiction and/or the Exchange which may be required in connection with the authorization, issuance or sale of such Options or Shares or the making of a Cash Payment by the Corporation. If any Options or Shares cannot be issued to any Participant or any Cash Payment cannot be made for any reason including, without limitation, the failure to obtain such approval, then the obligation of the Corporation to issue such Options or Shares or make such Cash Payment shall terminate and any amount paid to the Corporation to exercise the Option(s) including any amount rendered to the Corporation for taxes that would have been due and payable had the Option(s) been exercised, shall be returned to the Participant.

### **3.06 Administration of the Plan**

The Board is authorized to interpret the Plan from time to time and to adopt, amend and rescind rules and regulations for carrying out the Plan. The interpretation and construction of any provision of the Plan by the Board shall be final and conclusive. Administration of the Plan shall be the responsibility of the appropriate officers of the Corporation and all costs in respect thereof shall be paid by the Corporation.

### **3.07 Income Taxes**

Except in respect of Participants who may receive UK Approved Options, as a condition of and prior to participation in the Plan, a Participant shall authorize the Corporation in written form to withhold from any remuneration otherwise payable to such Participant any amounts required by any taxing authority to be withheld for taxes of any kind as a consequence of such participation in the Plan.

### **3.08 Amendments to the Stock Option Plan and the Stock Option Certificate**

Any amendment to any provision of the Plan or the Stock Option Certificate shall be subject to the approval, if required, of the Exchange or any governmental or regulatory authority having jurisdiction over the securities of the Corporation, and if required by such Exchange, of the shareholders of the Corporation in the manner prescribed by the Exchange from time to time. The Board may at any time, without further action by or approval of the shareholders, amend or modify the Plan and amend or modify the Stock Option Certificate at any time, if and when it is advisable, in the absolute discretion of the Board; provided however, that approval by Shareholders shall be obtained for any amendment which: (a) increases the number of Common Shares issuable pursuant to the Plan; (b) would reduce the exercise price of an outstanding Option, including a cancellation of an Option and re-grant of an Option in conjunction therewith, constituting a reduction of the exercise price of the Option; (c) would extend the term of any Option granted under the Plan beyond the expiration date of the Option; (d) amends the Plan to allow for a maximum term of an Option to be greater than six years except as provided in Section 2.05; (e) expands the authority of the Corporation to permit assignability of Options beyond that contemplated by the Plan; (f) adds to the categories of participants who may be designated for participation in the Plan; and (g) amends the Plan to provide for other types of compensation through equity issuance.

No amendment as it may relate to a UK Approved Option (whether granted or to be granted) shall take effect unless and until the approval of the Board of Inland Revenue has been obtained for such amendment.

### **3.09 Approval of the Board of Inland Revenue**

No additional terms or conditions may be imposed on Options that have been classified as UK Approved Options without the approval of the Board of Inland Revenue, and no such term or condition shall have effect until approved by the Board of Inland Revenue.

### **3.10 No Representation of Warranty**

The Corporation makes no representation or warranty as to the future market value of any Shares issued in accordance with the provisions of the Plan.

### **3.11 Governing Law**

Except as otherwise set forth herein, the Plan shall be governed by the laws of the Province of Alberta excluding any conflicts of law, rule or principle which might refer such construction to the laws of another jurisdiction.

### **3.12 Interpretation**

Words used herein importing the singular number include the plural and vice versa and words importing the masculine gender include the feminine and neuter genders.

### **3.13 Compliance with Applicable Law, etc.**

If any provision of the Plan or any agreement entered into pursuant to the Plan contravenes any law or any order, policy, by-law or regulation of the Exchange or any governmental or regulatory authority having authority over the Corporation or the Plan then such provision shall be deemed to be amended to the extent required to bring such provision into compliance therewith.