

**Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations  
for the three and nine months ended March 31, 2017**



**MELIOR RESOURCES INC.**

**Dated May 30, 2017**

**MELIOR RESOURCES INC.**  
**(“Melior” or the “Corporation”)**

**Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations**  
**For the Three and Nine Months Ended March 31, 2017**  
**(All amounts, except per share amounts and where specified, are in thousands of Canadian Dollars)**

This Management’s Discussion and Analysis (“**MD&A**”) of financial condition and results of operations of Melior Resources Inc. (“**Melior**” or the “**Corporation**”) constitutes management’s review of the Corporation’s financial and operating performance for the three and nine months ended March 31, 2017 and the Corporation’s financial condition and future prospects. Except as otherwise noted, this MD&A is dated May 30, 2017 and should be read in conjunction with the Corporation’s unaudited financial statements and the notes thereto for the three and nine months ended March 31, 2017 and the Corporation’s audited financial statements and the notes thereto and related MD&A for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2016. The Corporation prepares its financial statements in Canadian dollars and all amounts in this MD&A are expressed in Canadian dollars, unless otherwise stated. References in this MD&A to “US\$” are to United States dollars and references to “A\$” are to Australian dollars.

**Forward Looking Information**

Certain statements in this MD&A that are not current or historical factual information may constitute “forward-looking” statements within the meaning of applicable securities laws, regarding, among other things, the beliefs, plans, objectives, strategies, estimates, intentions or expectations of the Corporation, including as they relate to its financial results and the ability to execute on its investing and business strategies. Inherent in these forward-looking statements are known and unknown risks, uncertainties, and other factors which may cause the actual results, performance or achievements of the Corporation to be materially different from any future results, performance or achievements expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. Such statements can often be identified by the use of words such as “may”, “will”, “expect”, “believe”, “plan”, “intend”, “anticipate”, “estimate” and other similar terminology. These statements reflect current expectations regarding future events and performance and speak only as of the date of this MD&A.

Similarly, statements contained in, but not limited to, the sections titled “Overview of the Corporation’s Business”, “Outlook”, “Liquidity and Capital Resources”, “Commitments and Contingencies” and “Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements” of this MD&A, including, but not limited to, the restart of operations at the Goondicum mine, an ilmenite and apatite mine located in Queensland, Australia (the “Goondicum Mine”) and the future of the ilmenite market, dependence on the Goondicum Mine, the ability of the Corporation to meet its capital requirements and to repay the Pala Facility, the anticipated benefits of the PEA, expectations concerning the Corporation’s financial condition, results of operations, business, assets, prices, foreign exchange rates, earnings, market conditions, capital expenditures, risks, availability of regulatory approvals, corporate objectives and plans or goals, are or may be forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements involve significant risks and uncertainties, should not be read as guarantees of future performance or results, and will not necessarily be accurate indications of whether or not such results will be achieved. A number of factors could cause actual results to differ materially from the results discussed in the forward-looking statements including, but not limited to, the factors discussed under “Risk Factors”. Although the forward-looking statements contained in this MD&A are based upon what management of the Corporation believes are reasonable assumptions, the Corporation cannot assure readers that actual results will be consistent with these forward-looking statements.

Investors and others should carefully consider risk factors including, without limitation, those set out under the heading “Risk Factors”, and not place undue reliance on forward-looking statements. The Corporation anticipates that subsequent events and circumstances may cause the Corporation’s views to change. Forward-looking statements are made as of the date of this MD&A and the Corporation assumes no obligation to update or revise any forward looking statements to reflect new events or circumstances, except as required by law.

### **Period Highlights**

- Appointed Mr. Rishi Tibriwal as an independent Director.
- Announced that the Corporation had initiated discussions with prospective strategic partners in concert with efforts to prepare for the possible re-start of operations at the Goondicum Mine on condition that market conditions and outlook remain favorable.
- Market confidence continues to grow:
  - ❖ Nonbinding Letters of Intent executed for ilmenite sales covering the first 5 years of production.
  - ❖ Discussions continuing with several other blue chip customers.
  - ❖ Anticipate converting these to binding off-take contracts in the near future.
- Test work has demonstrated that a proposed conventional ilmenite upgrade circuit (separate from the Browne process) has the ability to improve the quality of Goondicum ilmenite to a tier one quality product capable of being used as a single source sulphate feedstock for most pigment manufacturing plants. This circuit has now been included in the restart planning with the goal of expanding the range of ilmenite pricing at which the Company’s ilmenite can be sold at profitable margins.
- Restart planning continues:
  - ❖ Costing and restart scheduling is being finalised
  - ❖ Suitably experienced and qualified personnel including Project General Manager are now being pursued to be part of the restart.
- Funding continues to be actively sought from a variety of sources

### **Overview of the Corporation’s Business**

On May 15, 2014, the Corporation completed the acquisition of 100% of the issued and outstanding shares of Goondicum Resources Pty Ltd (formerly Belridge Enterprises Pty Ltd). Goondicum Resources is an Australian incorporated company which owns the Goondicum ilmenite and apatite mining and processing facility near the town of Monto in Queensland, Australia.

On August 27, 2014, the Corporation announced that it had commenced the upgrade and restart of the Goondicum Mine which it expected to complete during the quarter ending June 30, 2015. The Goondicum Mine had been in operation several times previously, producing and selling over 60kt of ilmenite.

On April 7, 2015, the Corporation announced the commencement of mineral commissioning of the upgraded and expanded site processing facilities at the Goondicum Mine. Highlights of the

mineral commissioning announcement included:

- mineral commissioning commenced on April 7, 2015, with ramp up to target capacity of approximately 200,000 tonnes per annum continuing into the second half of 2015; and
- site components of the restart project completed on budget and ahead of schedule.

As part of the April 7, 2015 announcement, the Corporation disclosed that the total project (as further described below) at the Goondicum mine was completed on budget and ahead of the planned eight-month construction period. The total cost for the on-site upgrade and expansion of the process plant was A\$7,600 (budgeted expenditure A\$7,740). The project consisted of an upgrade of the existing processing facilities to enhance product quality, increase plant recovery and availability as well as expanding the processing capacity by approximately 50% to 2.8 million tonnes per annum. The Goondicum Mine plant commissioning was expected to continue for up to six months before target production capacity of approximately 17,000 tonnes per month of ilmenite was achieved.

As at June 30, 2015, the Goondicum Mine had produced 15,000 tonnes of ilmenite and 2,000 tonnes of apatite. The plant operated at approximately 50% of its design capacity of ilmenite production, in line with the 6-month ramp-up plan. The first trial cargo of 6,600 tonnes of on-specification product was shipped on June 23, 2015.

Despite the commencement of mineral commissioning at the Goondicum Mine, on August 2, 2015, the Corporation decided that it was in the best interest of its shareholders to suspend production at the Goondicum Mine due to the weak conditions in the ilmenite market.

On August 2, 2015, the Corporation entered into a secured loan agreement (the “**Pala Facility**”) with Pala Investments Ltd. (“**Pala**”) to provide funds for incurred expenditures of the Goondicum Mine during the temporary period of suspension, for support of the anticipated restart of operations in stronger market conditions and for general working capital purposes. On November 17, 2016, the Corporation entered into an amending agreement with Pala to extend the expiry and repayment date of the Pala Facility from October 31, 2017 to October 31, 2022. The loan bears interest at 10% per annum and may not be prepaid prior to October 31, 2017, except upon completion of a liquidity event. The expiry and repayment date of the loan is October 31, 2022; however, Pala may demand settlement within five business days at any time on or after October 24, 2017. As at 31 December 2016, the total amount outstanding under the Pala Facility, including accrued interest, is US\$3,341. See “Commitments and Contingencies”.

During the period of suspended operations at the Goondicum Mine, Melior continued to progress with the permitting of the eastern access road to ensure that when the restart occurs, the Goondicum Mine has the opportunity to reduce haulage costs to the Gladstone port by more than A\$15 per tonne.

On December 5, 2016, the Corporation announced it had received a Preliminary Economic Assessment (“**PEA**”) of the Goondicum Mine. The PEA was independently prepared by TZ Minerals International Pty Ltd in accordance with the guidelines of Canadian National Instrument 43-101 – Standards of Disclosure for Mineral Projects (“**NI 43-101**”). The key assumptions and findings of the PEA are as follows:

*Financial Highlights:*

- an after-tax Project NPV of US\$52.8 million;
- an after-tax Project IRR of 178%;

- an after-tax Project payback period of 1.2 years;
- restart capital costs of US\$5.96 million;
- average annual before tax cash flow of US\$13.9 million and average after tax cash flow of US\$11.2 million;
- average unit operating cash cost of production of US\$111.80 FOB per tonne of product produced;
- sustaining capital over the mine life of US\$11.39 million; and
- TZMI forecast long term prices for sulphate ilmenite and apatite of US\$189/t FOB and US\$119/t Ex works respectively.

*Operating Metrics:*

- Average annual ilmenite production of 181,000 tonnes with peak production of 228,000 tonnes
- Average annual apatite production of 31,000 tonnes with peak production of 41,000 tonnes
- A mine life of 9 years using a high-grade mine plan
- Total resource processed over the LOM of 22 million tonnes at an average ilmenite and apatite grade of 9.7% and 1.8% respectively

On December 20, 2016, the Corporation closed a private placement, offering 60,000,000 Common Shares at a price of \$0.03 per Common Share for total gross proceeds of \$1.8 million. The Offering was undertaken to provide a platform for the Corporation to find an appropriate partner for the Goondicum Mine and to continue to assess the potential of its unique Browne Metallurgical Process, which looks to upgrade ilmenite to a higher TiO<sub>2</sub> concentration.

On February 13, 2017, the Corporation announced a strengthening of the board of directors of the Corporation (the “Board”) with the appointment of Mr. Rishi Tibriwal, a financial executive with 20 years of experience, as an independent Director. The Board now consists of four Directors, including Charles Entrekin, Martyn Buttenshaw, Mark McCauley and Rishi Tibriwal. On February 13, 2017, the Corporation also announced the recommencement of remuneration of the non-executive members of the Board, as well as the issuance of options to the executive management of the Corporation under the employee stock option plan,

## **Outlook**

### Goondicum Mine

The Corporation is focused on the Goondicum ilmenite and apatite mine located in Queensland Australia. Operations at the Goondicum Mine were suspended on August 2, 2015 due to unfavourable market conditions and depressed ilmenite prices. Conditions in the titanium feedstock industry continued to worsen through the second half of 2015 and into 2016. By mid-2016 indications started to point to a prospective recovery. Over the past nine months, conditions in the titanium feedstock industry, including the price of ilmenite, have continued to improve.

Information gathered by management, including dialogue directly with customers in Asian

markets, indicates that pricing achieved for ilmenite over the last six months, if sustained, would warrant a restart of production at the Goondicum Mine.

Consistent with its strategy for the re-start of production, the Corporation initiated discussions with several prospective strategic groups. The Corporation is committed to ensuring that all options for value-adding, cooperative arrangements are being explored. The objective of any such engagement is to enhance the financial, technical, and marketing strengths of the project to ensure any restart is robust and financially sustainable, and will be successful in all market scenarios going forward.

The Corporation anticipates that if a decision is made to restart the mine, it will take up to six months of pre-commissioning time to finalize site preparations and recruit and train approximately 50 personnel, the majority of which could be sourced locally.

In concert with a potential re-start process, the Corporation expects to complete a program to upgrade a proportion of the Inferred and Indicated Resources to Measured status. Production would be expected to commence after the pre-commissioning period and build up to a life-of-mine average of over 180ktpa of ilmenite and 40ktpa of apatite over a twelve month period.

At full production, it is anticipated that project operating costs would be approximately \$28 million per annum, most of which would be spent in Queensland, Australia.

#### Browne Process Technology Program

The Corporation has continued with its process technology program which is assessing the prospective potential of the Corporation's Browne Metallurgical Process, a unique process which looks to upgrade ilmenite to a materially higher TiO<sub>2</sub> concentration. Early stage results from benchtop testing have been encouraging, but development has been constrained by the Corporation's financial position and focus on the potential restart of the Goondicum Mine.

## Selected Financial Information

Years ending June 30

	<b>IFRS</b> <b>(in \$ thousands)</b>		
	<b>2016</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>
Revenue from continuing operations	-	-	-
(Loss) from continuing operations	(19,634)	(2,935)	(3,201)
Earnings (loss) from discontinued operations	-	-	-
Net income (loss) for year	(19,634)	(2,935)	(3,201)
Basic earnings (loss) per share (\$) <sup>(1)</sup> :			
Continuing operations	(0.093)	(0.014)	(0.018)
Discontinued operations	-	-	-
Total assets	13,085	27,934	29,697
Total short term obligations	5,200	4,114	1,914
Total long term obligations	853	867	722

1. Basic and dilutive loss per share is calculated by dividing the net loss by the weighted average number of shares in issue during the year. As a result of consolidated net losses the potential effect of exercising stock options and, as applicable, warrants has not been included in the calculation of loss per share because to do so would be anti-dilutive.

	<b>Three months ended</b> <b>March 31</b>		<b>Nine months ended</b> <b>March 31</b>	
<b>(\$ thousands, except per share data)</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2016</b>
Revenue from continuing operations	-	-	-	-
(Loss) income from continuing operations	(841)	(938)	(2,986)	(2,919)
Income from discontinued operations	-	-	-	-
Net (loss) income for period	(841)	(938)	(2,986)	(2,919)
Basic (loss) income per share (\$):				
Continuing operations	(0.003)	(0.004)	(0.0013)	(0.014)
Discontinued operations	-	-	-	-

### Results of continuing operations for the three and nine months ended March 31, 2017 compared to the three and nine months ended March 31, 2016.

The Corporation reported a loss from continuing operations of \$841 and \$2,986 for the three and nine months ended March 31, 2017, respectively (2016 - loss of \$938 and \$2,919, respectively).

The decrease in net loss from continuing operations of \$97 for the three ended March 31, 2017 was principally due to a \$166 reduction in depreciation due to the impairment in property plant and equipment during the financial year 2016. The increase in net loss from continuing operations of

\$67 for the nine months ended March 31, 2017 was primarily due to increased financing costs on borrowings.

### **Administrative Expenses**

General and administrative expenses were \$556 and \$2,120 for the three and nine months ended March 31, 2017, respectively (2016 - \$471 and \$1,747). General and administrative expenses relate primarily to salary and wages, consulting, professional and administration expenses for the continuing operations of the Corporation and the Goondicum Mine.

General and administrative expenses for the three months ended March 31, 2017 increased by \$85 (\$373 for the nine months ended March 31, 2017) as compared to the corresponding in the prior year. The increase in expenses is a result of professional fees incurred from capital raising activities, commissioning of the independent Goondicum Preliminary Economic Assessment, and the development of the Browne Metallurgical Process.

### **Interest Income and Interest Expense**

Interest income earned on cash and deposits during the three and nine months ended March 31, 2017 amounted to \$12 and \$26, respectively (2016 - \$10 and \$44) and was related to the interest earned on the Corporation's cash and cash equivalent balances. The decrease in interest income was directly related to lower cash and deposit balances during the nine month period.

Total interest expense incurred during the three and nine months ended March 31, 2017 amounted to \$117 and \$126 (2016 - \$126 and \$313). The increase in the finance expense is a result of the Corporation receiving an additional US\$775 in advances against the Pala loan facility.

### **Foreign Exchange Gains/Losses**

Foreign currency exchange rates affected the Corporation's monetary assets and liabilities denominated in currencies other than Canadian dollars. During the three and nine months ended March 31, 2017 the Corporation recorded a net foreign exchange gain of \$7 and \$7 respectively. (2016 - 1 loss and 26 loss).

As at March 31, 2017, the Corporation held only a nominal amount of cash denominated in US dollars and had \$4,415 of US dollar denominated liabilities.

As at March 31, 2017, Goondicum Resources had \$11,581 in Australian dollar denominated assets and \$1,748 in Australian dollar denominated liabilities on its balance sheet.

### **Share Based Compensation**

The Corporation granted stock options during the three and nine months ended March 31, 2017 of 11,500,000 (2016 - nil) with an exercise price of \$0.06 and an expiry date of February 10, 2020.

### **Net Profit/Loss**

As a result of the factors noted above, the Corporation recorded a net loss of \$841 or \$0.003 per share for the three months ended March 31, 2017 as compared to a net loss of \$938 or \$0.004 per share for the three months ended March 31, 2016. Net losses were \$2,986 or \$0.013 per share for the nine months ended March 31, 2017 as compared to a net loss of \$2,919 or \$0.014 per share for the nine months ended March 31, 2016.



## Summary of Quarterly Results

	2017			2016			2015	
	(in \$ millions)							
	Q3	Q2	Q1	Q4	Q3	Q2	Q1	Q4
<b>Financial</b>								
(\$millions except per share)								
Revenue from continuing operations	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Earnings/(loss) from continuing operations	(0.8)	(1.3)	(0.8)	(16.7)	(0.09)	(0.9)	(1.0)	(0.6)
Net earnings/(loss)	(0.8)	(1.3)	(0.8)	(16.7)	(0.09)	(0.9)	(1.0)	(0.6)
Earnings/(loss) per share from continuing operations	(0.003)	(0.006)	(0.004)	(0.08)	(0.004)	(0.004)	(0.005)	(0.003)
Net earnings/(loss) per share <sup>(1)</sup>	(0.003)	(0.006)	(0.004)	(0.08)	0.004	(0.004)	(0.005)	(0.003)
Cash (used in) provided by continuing operations	(0.8)	(1.0)	(0.6)	(1.2)	(0.4)	(0.1)	(2.8)	(1.5)
Capital expenditures	(0.0)	(0.0)	(0.0)	(0.5)	(0.0)	(0.2)	(2.0)	(2.5)
Cash and cash equivalents net of short-term debt	(5.1)	(4.6)	(5.4)	(4.6)	(3.3)	(3.1)	(3.1)	(0.5)

- (1) Basic and dilutive loss per share is calculated by dividing the net loss by the weighted average number of shares in issue during the year. As a result of consolidated net losses the potential effect of exercising stock options and, as applicable, warrants has not been included in the calculation of loss per share because to do so would be anti-dilutive.

## Liquidity and Capital Resources

The continuing operations cash and cash equivalents balance as at March 31, 2017 was \$924 compared to \$466 as at June 30, 2016.

The \$458 increase in cash balances as at March 31, 2017 as compared to June 30, 2016 reflects receipts of \$1,800 from a private share placement and a \$1,041 drawdown against the Pala Facility, offset by \$2,383 in payments made to suppliers, employees, other general and administrative expenses, lease repayments and less interest and disposal proceeds received.

Melior is currently reviewing its options with respect to ensuring that it has sufficient capital to meet its obligations as they come due and to facilitate a restart of its Goondicum Mine. As previously announced, the Corporation is actively pursuing potential strategic partners and is continuing to investigate financing opportunities.

## Commitments and Contingencies

As at March 31, 2017, \$6,038 of the Corporation's obligations were current and due within the year. The balance of the secured loan with Pala was \$4,415 at March 31, 2017 with repayment due October 31, 2022, however, Pala may demand settlement within five business days at any time on or after October 24, 2017.

The Corporation's non-current obligations of \$916 as at March 31, 2017 were comprised primarily of a decommissioning liability which is secured by a term deposit, and long term finance lease obligations.

As at March 31, 2017, the Corporation did not have sufficient cash or funds available under the Pala Facility to meet its current commitments. There is a significant risk that if the Corporation is unable to find alternative sources of financing, it will be unable to meet its commitments as they become due. These material uncertainties may cast significant doubt upon the Corporation's ability to continue as a going concern. See "Risk Factors – Financing Instruments and Associated Risks – Additional Capital Requirements and Repayment of the Loan from Pala".

On November 17, 2016, the Corporation entered into an amending agreement with Pala, which included an obligation to pay Pala a make whole amount of US\$2,000 in the event of the occurrence of certain liquidity events. The liquidity events include:

- i. a direct or indirect sale of 25% or more of the shares of Goondicum or Melior Australia or interests in or assets comprising 25% or more of the fair market value of the Goondicum Property and Assets, including in each case through transactions involving one or more holding companies; or
- ii. the acquisition of 50% or more of the voting shares of the Corporation by a person other than Pala or its affiliates.

## **Debt**

The Corporation had \$4,415 (2016 – 2,816) of secured loan and \$12 (2016 - \$35) of finance lease debt outstanding as at March 31, 2017.

## **Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements**

Up to 38,087,971 Common Shares may become issuable to the Goondicum Resources' shareholders as earn-out consideration if certain conditions are met as described in the Melior press release dated March 31, 2014. The Corporation has no further off-balance sheet arrangements.

## **Related-Party Transactions**

Pala Investments Holding Limited is a significant shareholder of AMR and owns either directly or indirectly 131,194,866 or approximately 48.3% of the Common Shares. As such, AMR is a "related party" of the Corporation for the purposes of Multilateral Instrument 61-101 – *Protection of Minority Security Holders in Special Transactions* ("MI 61-101") and the Corporation's investment in AMR constituted a "related party transaction" within the meaning of MI 61-101. Further details with respect to the AMR share purchase transaction can be found in Melior's annual information form for the year ended June 30, 2014.

See also "Overview of the Corporation's Business" for a description of the Pala Facility which facility constitutes a "related party transaction" within the meaning of MI 61-101.

## **Litigation**

In March 2005 Adobe Ventures Inc. (“**Adobe**”) (the predecessor entity to Coalcorp Inc. (“**Coalcorp**”) and Melior) entered into an agreement (the “**Advisory Agreement**”) with Rothschild pursuant to which Rothschild agreed to provide Adobe with financial advisory services in connection with its proposed acquisition of all of the share capital of Carbones Colombianos de Cerrejon SA (“**Carbones**”). In September 2005, Adobe withdrew from the Advisory Agreement and, shortly thereafter, acquired Andean Coal Corporation B.V.I., which had previously acquired the right to purchase the entire capital of Carbones. On July 3, 2006 Rothschild filed a notice of claim in the Court of Milan claiming payment against Coalcorp in the amount of €436,811.00 plus interest and expenses. Coalcorp was initially successful in defending the claim but following an appeal by Rothschild, on September 6, 2016 the Court of Appeal of Milan released its decision in favour of Rothschild and ordered Melior to pay Rothschild damages of €436,811 plus interest and expenses. On November 4, 2016 the Corporation entered into a settlement agreement to pay Rothschild €571,827 (\$844,016) via instalments in accordance with the following schedule:

- €75,000 (\$110,700) by November 4, 2016;
- €100,000 (\$147,600) within February 28, 2017;
- €100,000 (\$147,600) within April 30, 2017;
- €296,827 (\$438,117) within June 30, 2017.

The Corporation has paid Rothschild €275,000 (\$389,840) as satisfaction of the first three instalments.

## **Risk Factors**

### **Business Risk Factors:**

The Corporation is exposed to a number of risks and uncertainties. Such risks could materially affect the Corporation’s future results and could cause actual events to differ materially from those described in forward-looking statements relating to the Corporation. The risks described herein, or in documents incorporated by reference herein, may not be the only risks facing the Corporation. Additional risks not currently known or not currently considered to be material may also have an adverse impact on the Corporation’s business.

### Restart of Operations at the Goondicum Mine and the Ilmenite Market

On August 2, 2015, the Corporation suspended operations at the Goondicum Mine. Re-start of the Goondicum Mine is dependent on a number of factors that are beyond the control of the Corporation, including sustained improvements in the global ilmenite market and securing a strategic partner to assist with the re-start. There can be no assurance that the improvement in the ilmenite market will be sufficient for operations at the Goondicum Mine to be restarted.

In addition, the Corporation depends on the third parties with whom it works, including the management and labour force of its supply chain, for the supply of construction materials and equipment. There can be no assurance that the required construction supplies will be readily available and delivered on time to the construction site. Such supplies may be sourced from additional third parties, which may be affected by factors beyond the Corporation’s control. Additionally, changes to government regulations, contractual and/or union disputes, labour stoppages, workplace accidents, availability of supplies, materials, tools and equipment, delay in

shipment of materials and unseasonable weather patterns and conditions may hinder the restart timeline and progress.

It is possible that issues with the design, specifications and/or physical location of the facilities of the Goondicum Mine may arise during the restart process due to unforeseen engineering, physical, geological and/or economic circumstances.

Government and building code regulations may change requiring substantial revision to the design plan and specifications for the Goondicum Mine. The resolution of these issues may require the additional assistance and cost of experts, additional financing, a change to the construction plan, design, specifications, layouts and/or locations. Any such changes will delay the overall restart of the Goondicum Mine and will increase (possibly significantly) the costs associated therewith. Since the Goondicum Mine will not earn income before restart, longer construction times translate directly into higher overall project costs. Further, the delay, cost and alterations required may potentially adversely affect the timeline and the expected output.

#### Dependence on the Goondicum Mine

The Corporation is primarily focused on the development of the Goondicum Mine. The Corporation does not own any significant assets other than the Goondicum Mine, which would be the Corporation's only mineral property and represents the Corporation's only immediate potential for future generation of operating revenues. Unless the Corporation acquires additional property interests, any adverse developments affecting the Goondicum Mine such as, but not limited to, delays in or failure to successfully restart production, obtaining project financing beyond the Corporation's initial investment on commercially suitable terms, hiring suitable personnel and mining contractors, or securing supply agreements on commercially suitable terms, could have a material adverse effect upon the Corporation and would materially and adversely affect the potential mineral resource production, profitability, financial performance and results of operations of the Corporation.

#### Increase in Capital Costs for the Goondicum Mine

There can be no assurance that capital costs for the restart of the Goondicum Mine will not exceed the budgeted amount. A significant increase in the capital costs of the restart of the Goondicum Mine would have a material adverse effect on the Corporation's ability to restart the Goondicum Mine as well as on its financial condition.

#### The Goondicum Mine may not meet its production targets or its cost estimates

The restart of the Goondicum Mine is premised on projected production, capital and operating cost estimates. The Corporation's ability to meet ilmenite production targets is dependent on the successful restart of the mine and expansion of mining operations in the future. Meeting these targets will also depend on the accuracy of predicted factors including capital and operating costs, metallurgical recoveries, resource estimates, future commodity prices, accuracy of applicable technical studies and reports, acquisition of land and surface rights and issuance of necessary permits/approvals. There is no assurance that the mining operations will be expanded or that mining operations will be profitable if expanded. Actual production and costs may vary from the estimates for a variety of reasons such as grade, tonnage, dilution and metallurgical and other characteristics of the ore mined varying from estimates, revisions to mine plans, risks and hazards associated with

mining, adverse weather conditions, unexpected labor shortages or strikes, equipment failures and other interruptions in production capabilities. Production costs may also be affected by increased stripping costs, increases in level of ore impurities, labor costs, raw material costs, inflation and fluctuations in currency exchange rates. Failure to achieve production targets or cost estimates could have a material adverse impact on the Corporation's sales, profitability, cash flow and overall financial condition and performance.

### Exploration and Estimates of Mineral Reserves and Resources

Mineral exploration and development involves a high degree of risk. Success in exploiting mineral resources and reserves is the result of a number of factors, including the level of geographical and technical expertise, the quality of land available for exploration and other factors. The economics of developing mineral properties are affected by many factors including the cost of operations, variations in grade, fluctuation in prices and fluctuation in exchange rates. Failure to meet project delivery timetables and budgets may impact potential performance, delay cash inflows and increase capital costs.

Mineral reserves and resources estimates for projects are based on the interpretation of geological data obtained from drill holes and other sampling techniques and feasibility studies which derive estimates of costs based upon anticipated tonnage and grades to be mined and processed. There are numerous uncertainties inherent in estimating ore reserves and assumptions that are valid at the time of estimation however may change significantly when new information becomes available. Changes in the forecast prices of commodities, exchange rates, production costs or recovery rates may change the economic status of reserves and may, ultimately, result in the reserves being restated.

Melior had previously elected to restart the Goondicum Mine based on management's objectives based on internal analysis and studies of project scope, capital costs and production plans (the "**Internal Analysis**") which details the scope of the project, calculates the required project capital to achieve production targets and shows the anticipated cash cost of production and return on capital. Pursuant to Section 4.2(6) of the Companion Policy to National Instrument 43-101 - *Standards of Disclosure for Mineral Projects* ("**NI 43-101**"), due to this work being undertaken on inferred resources, the Corporation does not disclose project reserves or any associated information pertaining to the project. The Corporation's Internal Analysis in respect of the Goondicum Mine is preliminary in nature, includes inferred mineral resources that are considered too speculative geologically to have the economic considerations applied to them that would enable them to be categorized as mineral reserves and there is no certainty that management's expectations will be realized.

Section 4.2(6) of the Companion Policy to NI 43-101 recognizes that there may be situations where the issuer decides to put a mineral project into production without first establishing mineral reserves. Mineral resources are not mineral reserves and do not have demonstrated economic viability. There is no certainty that all or any part of the mineral resources estimated will be converted into mineral reserve. Historically, such projects have had a much higher risk of economic or technical failure. As the Internal Analysis in respect of the Goondicum Mine has been largely based around inferred resources, Melior acknowledges that this could result in increased uncertainty and technical and economic risks of project failure.

### Mineral Titles

Although the Corporation has obtained a title opinion for the tenements underlying the Goondicum Mine, there is no guarantee that title to such mineral property interests will not be challenged or impugned and no assurances can be given that there are no title defects affecting its mineral properties. The Corporation's mineral property interests may be subject to prior unregistered agreements or transfers and title may be affected by undetected defects.

### Operating risks

Once the Goondicum Mine is operational, the activities of the Corporation will also be subject to all of the hazards and risks normally associated with exploration, development and operation of natural resource projects. These risks and uncertainties include environmental hazards, industrial accidents, labour disputes, mechanical failures of the mining equipment or other key plant or machinery, grade problems, transportation problems and periodic interruptions due to inclement or hazardous weather conditions and other acts of God. Should any of the risks affect the Corporation, its business, operations or assets, it may significantly reduce production for prolonged periods and cause the cost of production to increase to a point where it would no longer be economical to continue operations.

### Volatility of Mineral Prices

The future profitability of the Corporation will depend on the market price of ilmenite and apatite. Mineral prices fluctuate widely and are affected by numerous factors beyond the Corporation's control, including global supply and demand, political and economic conditions, advancements in mineral processing and currency exchange fluctuations. The effect of these factors on the price of the minerals that the Corporation sells cannot accurately be predicted.

### Government Legislation & Policies

Melior's operations are subject to government legislation, policies and controls relating to prospecting, land use, trade, environmental protection, taxation, rates of exchange, return of capital and labour relations. Its exploration operations may be affected in varying degrees by the extent of political and economic stability and by changes in regulations or shifts in political or economic conditions that are beyond the control of the resource issuer. Such factors may adversely affect Melior's business and/or its property holdings. Although Melior's exploration activities may be carried out in accordance with all applicable rules and regulations at any point in time, no assurance can be given that new rules and regulations will not be enacted or that existing rules and regulations will not be applied in a manner that could limit or curtail production or development of Melior's operations. Amendments to current laws and regulations governing the operations of Melior or more stringent enforcement of such laws and regulations could have a substantial adverse impact on its financial results.

### Government Regulations, Licenses and Permits

Exploration and development activities and mining operations are subject to laws and regulations governing health and worker safety, employment standards, environmental matters, mine development, prospecting, mineral production, exports, taxes, labour standards, reclamation obligations and other matters. It is possible that future changes in applicable laws and regulations, or changes in their enforcement or regulatory interpretation could result in changes in legal requirements or in the terms of permits applicable to the Corporation or its properties which could have a material adverse impact on the Corporation's business. Obtaining necessary permits and

licences can be a complex, time consuming process and there can be no assurance that required permits will be obtainable on acceptable terms, in a timely manner, or at all. The costs and delays associated with obtaining permits and licenses and complying with these permits and licenses and applicable laws and regulations could stop, materially delay or restrict the Corporation from proceeding with the exploration and development activities or the operation or further development of a mine.

Any failure to comply with applicable laws and regulations or permits, even if inadvertent, could result in enforcement actions, including orders issued by regulatory or judicial authorities causing interruption or closure of exploration, development or mining operations or material fines and penalties, including, but not limited to, corrective measures requiring capital expenditures, installation of additional equipment, remedial actions or other liabilities. Parties engaged in mining operations or in the exploration or development of mineral properties may be required to compensate those suffering loss or damage by reason of these activities and may have civil or criminal fines or penalties imposed for violations of applicable laws or regulations.

In addition, amendments to current laws and regulations governing the Corporation's activities or more stringent implementation thereof could have a substantial adverse impact on the Corporation and cause increases in exploration expenses, capital expenditures or production costs or reduction in levels of production at producing properties or require abandonment or delays in development of new mining properties.

#### Uninsurable Risks

In the course of exploration, development and production of mineral properties, certain risks, and in particular, unexpected or unusual geological operating conditions including fires, flooding and earthquakes may occur. It may not be possible to insure fully or at all against such risks and the Corporation may decide not to take out insurance against such risks as a result of high premiums or other reasons. Should such risks arise, they could reduce or eliminate the funds available to the Corporation to fund its operations or investments, increase costs to the Corporation, reduce future profitability and/or materially adversely affect the Corporation's financial condition.

#### Environmental Regulation

Melior's operations are subject to environmental regulations enacted by government agencies from time to time. A breach of such legislation may result in the imposition of fines and penalties. In addition, certain types of operations require the submission and approval of environmental impact assessments. Environmental legislation is evolving in a manner which has led, and is likely to continue to lead, to stricter standards and enforcement and greater fines and penalties for non-compliance. The cost of compliance and risk of non-compliance with government regulations may reduce the profitability of Melior's operations.

#### Rehabilitation

Costs associated with rehabilitating land disturbed during the mining process and addressing environmental, health and community issues are estimated and provided for based on the most current information available. Estimates may, however, be insufficient, inaccurate and/or further issues may be identified that were not previously anticipated or accounted for by management.

#### Attraction and Retention of Personnel

The Board may experience delays in hiring, or be unable to hire or retain, experienced and qualified new management for the Corporation within the timeframes necessary or upon terms acceptable to the Corporation. The competition for qualified personnel in the mining and metallurgical industry is intense and there can be no assurance that the Corporation will be able to attract and retain the personnel necessary for the implementation of its business strategy.

#### Reliance on Key Personnel

Melior is dependent upon the personal efforts, performance and commitment of its management and the Board, who are responsible for the future development of Melior's business. Melior will be relying upon the business judgment, expertise and integrity of Melior's management and the Board. To the extent that the services of any member of management or the Board became unavailable for any reason, a disruption to the operations of Melior could result and may delay the implementation of the Corporation's business strategy.

#### Conflicts of Interest

Melior's Directors and officers may serve as directors or officers of other companies in the same business as Melior, natural resource companies or companies providing services to Melior, or they may have significant shareholdings in natural resource companies. To the extent that such companies participate in transactions in which Melior participates, the Directors may have a conflict of interest in negotiating and concluding terms to the extent of such participation. Confidentiality and judiciary conflict issues may arise and any Director may be recused from participating in or voting at a Board meeting. If a conflict of interest arises at a Board meeting, any Director who has a conflict will abstain from voting in connection with the transaction in accordance with the *Business Corporations Act* (British Columbia).

#### **Financial Instruments and Associated Risks:**

The Corporation has classified its cash and cash equivalents as cash and cash equivalents, which are measured at cost. Payables and accrued liabilities are classified as other financial liabilities, which are measured at amortized cost.

The carrying value of cash and equivalents, deposits, receivables, accounts payable and accrued liabilities reflected in the consolidated statement of financial position approximate fair value because of the short term nature of these instruments.

The Corporation's risk exposures and the impact on the Corporation's financial instruments are summarized below:

#### Foreign Currency Risk

Cash and cash equivalents are comprised of cash at banks and on hand, and short term money market instruments with an original maturity of three months or less. As at March 31, 2017, \$111 was held in Australian dollars and only a nominal portion of the Corporation's cash and cash equivalents were held in United States dollars. Accordingly, management believes that the Corporation is not exposed to material foreign exchange risk for cash and short term money.

The Corporation's US dollar secured loan balance at March 31, 2017 was \$4,415. Accordingly, management believes that the Corporation is exposed to material foreign exchange risk until the



Goondicum Mine is restarted. The rate published by the Bank of Canada at the close of business on March 31, 2017 was US\$0.75 per Canadian dollar and at noon on March 31, 2017 was A\$0.98 per Canadian dollar.

Once the Goondicum Mine comes back online the revenue stream for this project will be in US dollars. Therefore, once the project is restarted, the Corporation will be exposed to fluctuations in Australian and US dollars. Accordingly, the Corporation is subject to the risks inherent in exchange rate fluctuations.

The Corporation does not use derivative instruments to reduce its exposure to foreign currency risk.

#### Additional Capital Requirements and Repayment of the Loan from Pala

Failure to obtain sufficient financing could result in a delay or abandonment of the Corporation's business strategy. Additional financing may not be available when needed or, if available, the terms of such financing might not be favourable to the Corporation and might involve substantial dilution to existing shareholders. Failure to raise capital when needed would have a material adverse effect on the Corporation's ability to pursue its business strategy, and accordingly could negatively impact the Corporation's business, financial condition and results of operations.

Additional funding may be required to account for repayment of the Pala loan upon its maturity and start-up costs of the Goondicum Mine or impact of other unforeseen events. As at March 31, 2017 the amount outstanding on the loan from Pala was \$4,415. This amount is due to be repaid on October 31, 2022. Pala may demand settlement within five business days at any time on or after October 24, 2017. There is a significant risk that if the Corporation is unable to extend the repayment date on the loan or find alternative financing, it will be unable to repay the loan on the maturity date. The Corporation's failure to repay the loan to Pala would have a material adverse effect on the Corporation and may cast significant doubt on the Corporation's ability to continue as a going concern.

#### Capital Risk Management

The Corporation defines capital as total shareholders' equity including share capital, other reserves and deficit. The Corporation manages its capital to ensure that adequate funds are available to settle its liabilities as they arise and reviews and evaluates investment opportunities that are achievable within existing resources.

The Corporation is not subject to any externally imposed capital requirements including by a regulator or lending institution.

#### Credit Risk

Credit risk is the risk of loss associated with a counterparty's inability to fulfill its payment obligations. The Corporation is subject to credit risk primarily attributable to its cash and short-term investments.

The Corporation's main credit risk arises from its cash and cash equivalents deposits with banks. All of the Corporation's cash and cash equivalents are with one major Canadian or Australian chartered bank, from which management believes the risk of loss to be remote. The Corporation

limits its counterparty credit risk on its deposits by dealing only with financial institutions with AA or above credit ratings.

#### Liquidity Risk Management

The Corporation manages liquidity risk by maintaining adequate cash balances and loan facilities in order to meet liabilities as they come due. As at March 31, 2017, the Corporation had cash and cash equivalents of \$924 (March 31, 2016 - \$657) to settle current liabilities of \$6,038 (March 31, 2016 - \$3,969). The current liabilities of \$6,352 as at March 31, 2017 includes the secured loan with Pala of \$4,415 with repayment due on October 31, 2022, however, Pala may demand settlement within five business days at any time on or after October 24, 2017. The financial liabilities or commitments of the Corporation that bear interest are the loan facility \$4,415 and \$12 of equipment finance leases.

#### Interest Rate Risk Management

The Corporation has cash balances that earn interest subject to fluctuations in the prime rate. The Corporation's current policy is to invest excess cash in bank institution savings accounts. The Corporation periodically monitors the investments it makes and is satisfied with the credit ratings of its banks. Management believes the interest rate risk is remote as investments have maturities of three months or less and the Corporation currently does not carry interest bearing debt at floating rates.

#### **Outstanding Share Data**

As at March 1, 2017, the Corporation has 271,468,945 Common Shares outstanding, which are listed on the TSX Venture Exchange under the symbol "MLR". The Corporation also has 13,210,000 stock options (each exercisable for one common share) outstanding which, if exercised, would result in proceeds of approximately \$981).

#### **Additional Information**

Additional information relating to the Corporation, is available for viewing on SEDAR at [www.sedar.com](http://www.sedar.com) and on the Corporation's web site at [www.meliorresources.com](http://www.meliorresources.com). The Corporation cautions that information contained on, or accessible through, these websites is current only as at the date of such information.