

GOLDEN STAR RESOURCES LTD.

FORM 8-K (Current report filing)

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**UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**
Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT

Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): May 6, 2010

GOLDEN STAR RESOURCES LTD.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

CANADA
(State or other jurisdiction of
incorporation or organization)

1-12284
(Commission
File Number)

98-0101955
(I.R.S. Employer
Identification Number)

**10901 West Toller Drive,
Suite 300
Littleton, Colorado**
(Address of principal executive offices)

80127-6312
(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: 303-830-9000

No Change

(Former name or former address, if changed since last report)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions:

- Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
 - Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
 - Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
 - Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))
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Item 1.01 Entry into a Material Definitive Agreement.

At the Annual General and Special Meeting of Shareholders of Golden Star Resources Ltd. (the “Company”) held on May 6, 2010, the Company’s shareholders approved the Company’s Amended and Restated Shareholder Rights Plan Agreement (the “Rights Plan” or “Rights Agreement”). The Rights Plan was approved by the Board of Directors of the Company (the “Board”) on March 11, 2010, subject to receiving approval of the Company’s shareholders. Following shareholder approval, the Company and CIBC Mellon Trust Company, as rights agent, entered into the Rights Agreement, which became effective at the close of business on May 6, 2010. The Rights Agreement amends and restates the Rights Agreement dated as of April 24, 1996 between the Company and The R-M Trust Company, as rights agent, as amended pursuant to an Amending Agreement dated as of June 30, 1999 between the Company and CIBC Mellon Trust Company (formerly The R-M Trust Company), as rights agent, as amended and restated by the Amended and Restated Shareholder Rights Plan Agreement dated as of May 20, 2004, as amended and restated by the Amended and Restated Shareholder Rights Plan Agreement dated as of May 9, 2007.

The purpose of the Rights Plan is to encourage a potential acquiror to either make a permitted bid (as defined in the Rights Agreement), having terms and conditions designed to meet the objectives of the Rights Plan, or to negotiate the terms of the offer with the Board. Failure to do either creates the potential for substantial dilution of the offeror’s position.

The material features of the Rights Plan are described in the Company’s Definitive Management Information Circular, dated March 12, 2010, filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on April 1, 2010, under the section entitled “PARTICULARS OF MATTERS TO BE ACTED UPON — (e) Approval of Amended and Restated Shareholder Rights Plan — Summary of 2010 Rights Plan,” which summary is incorporated herein by reference. The summary descriptions of the Rights Plan contained herein are qualified in their entirety by reference to the full text of the Rights Agreement, which is attached as Exhibit 4.1 to this Current Report on Form 8-K and incorporated herein by reference.

Item 3.03 Material Modification to Rights of Security Holders.

See the disclosure regarding the Rights Agreement set forth above under “Item 1.01 Entry into a Material Definitive Agreement,” which is incorporated into this Item 3.03 by reference.

Item 5.02 Departure of Directors or Certain Officers; Election of Directors; Appointment of Certain Officers; Compensatory Arrangements of Certain Officers.

(e)

At the Annual General and Special Meeting of Shareholders of the Company held on May 6, 2010, the Company’s shareholders approved the Company’s Third Amended and Restated 1997 Stock Option Plan. The Third Amended and Restated 1997 Stock Option Plan was approved by the Board on March 11, 2010, subject to receiving approval of the Company’s shareholders. The Third Amended and Restated 1997 Stock Option Plan became effective at the close of business on May 6, 2010.

The purpose of the Third Amended and Restated 1997 Stock Option Plan is to provide to certain key employees, consultants and directors (including non-employee directors) of the Company and its subsidiaries an incentive to maintain and to enhance the long-term performance of the Company through the acquisition of common shares of the Company pursuant to the exercise of stock options. The Third Amended and Restated 1997 Stock Option Plan amends and restates the Company's Second Restated Stock Option Plan to (i) reserve an additional 10,000,000 common shares for issuance under the plan, thereby increasing the total number of common shares reserved for issuance from 15,000,000 under the Second Amended and Restated Stock Option Plan to 25,000,000 common shares (of which approximately 11.1 million are currently available for issuance) under the Third Amended and Restated 1997 Stock Option Plan; (ii) provide for the grant of incentive stock options; and (iii) to make certain other changes to update the provisions of the Second Amended and Restated Stock Option Plan in light of current corporate practice, changes in U.S. and Canadian laws and stock exchange requirements.

The material features of the Third Amended and Restated 1997 Stock Option Plan are described in the Company's Definitive Management Information Circular, dated March 12, 2010, filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on April 1, 2010, under the section entitled "PARTICULARS OF MATTERS TO BE ACTED UPON — (d) Approval of Third Amended and Restated 1997 Stock Option Plan — Summary of the Third Amended and Restated 1997 Stock Option Plan," which summary is incorporated herein by reference. The descriptions of the Third Amended and Restated 1997 Stock Option Plan contained herein are qualified in their entirety by reference to the full text of the Third Amended and Restated 1997 Stock Option Plan, which is attached as Exhibit 10.1 to this Current Report on Form 8-K and incorporated herein by reference.

Item 5.07 Submission of Matters to a Vote of Security Holders.

At the Annual General and Special Meeting of Shareholders of the Company held on May 6, 2010, the proposals listed below were submitted to a vote of the Company's shareholders. Each of the proposals was approved by the shareholders pursuant to the voting results set forth below.

(1) Election of the following persons as directors of the Company to hold office until the next annual meeting of shareholders or until their successors are elected or appointed:

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Votes For</u> | <u>Votes Withheld</u> |
|----------------------------|------------------|-----------------------|
| James E. Askew | 126,306,241 | 2,298,258 |
| Robert E. Doyle | 127,937,499 | 667,000 |
| David K. Fagin | 87,990,936 | 40,613,563 |
| Ian MacGregor | 111,990,990 | 16,613,509 |
| Thomas G. Mair | 127,966,126 | 638,373 |
| Michael P. Martineau | 127,563,786 | 1,040,713 |
| Christopher M. T. Thompson | 127,903,521 | 700,978 |

(2) Appointment of the firm of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP as auditor of the Company to hold office until the close of the next annual meeting of shareholders or until PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP is removed from office or resigns.

Votes For
178,638,259

Votes Withheld
3,622,019

(3) Passage of the Third Amended and Restated 1997 Stock Option Plan Resolution approving, ratifying and confirming the Company's Third Amended and Restated 1997 Stock Option Plan.

Votes For
82,727,324

Votes Against
45,877,175

(4) Passage of the Rights Plan Resolution approving, ratifying and confirming the Company's Amended and Restated Shareholder Rights Plan Agreement.

Votes For
122,940,076

Votes Against
5,664,423

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(d) *Exhibits.*

| <u>Exhibit No.</u> | <u>Description</u> |
|--------------------|--|
| 4.1 | Amended and Restated Shareholder Rights Plan Agreement, dated as of May 6, 2010, between Golden Star Resources Ltd. and CIBC Mellon Trust Company. |
| 10.1 | Golden Star Resources Ltd. Third Amended and Restated 1997 Stock Option Plan, dated May 6, 2010. |

SIGNATURE

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

Date: May 12, 2010

Golden Star Resources Ltd.

By: /s/ Roger Palmer

Roger Palmer

Vice President Finance and Controller

EXHIBIT INDEX

| <u>Exhibit No.</u> | <u>Description</u> |
|--------------------|--|
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| 10.1 | Golden Star Resources Ltd. Third Amended and Restated 1997 Stock Option Plan, dated May 6, 2010. |

**AMENDED AND RESTATED
SHAREHOLDER RIGHTS PLAN AGREEMENT**

(amending and restating the Rights Agreement dated as of April 24, 1996, as amended by an Amending Agreement dated as of June 30, 1999, as amended and restated by the Amended and Restated Shareholder Rights Plan Agreement dated as of May 20, 2004, as amended and restated by the Amended and Restated Shareholder Rights Plan Agreement dated as of May 9, 2007)

Dated as of May 6, 2010

BETWEEN

GOLDEN STAR RESOURCES LTD.

and

CIBC MELLON TRUST COMPANY

as Rights Agent

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**AMENDED AND RESTATED
SHAREHOLDER RIGHTS PLAN AGREEMENT**

AMENDED AND RESTATED SHAREHOLDER RIGHTS PLAN AGREEMENT dated as of May 6, 2010 between **GOLDEN STAR RESOURCES LTD.**, a corporation organized under the laws of Canada (the “**Corporation**”), and **CIBC MELLON TRUST COMPANY**, a trust company existing under the laws of Canada, as rights agent (the “**Rights Agent**”, which term shall include any successor Rights Agent hereunder), amending and restating the Rights Agreement dated as of April 24, 1996 between the Corporation and The R-M Trust Company, as rights agent, as amended pursuant to an Amending Agreement dated as of June 30, 1999 between the Corporation and CIBC Mellon Trust Company (formerly The R-M Trust Company), as rights agent, as amended and restated by the Amended and Restated Shareholder Rights Plan Agreement dated as of May 20, 2004 between the Corporation and CIBC Mellon Trust Company as rights agent, as amended and restated by the Amended and Restated Shareholder Rights Plan Agreement dated as of May 9, 2007 between the Corporation and CIBC Mellon Trust Company as rights agent.

WHEREAS the Corporation and The R-M Trust Company entered into a rights agreement dated as of April 24, 1996 (the “**1996 Rights Plan**”) respecting a shareholder rights plan that was effective until June 30, 1999;

AND WHEREAS the 1996 Rights Plan was amended by an Amending Agreement dated as of June 30, 1999 (the “**Amending Agreement**”) between the Corporation and the Rights Agent (formerly The R-M Trust Company) that, among other things, extended the 1996 Rights Plan until June 30, 2004, unless earlier terminated or extended (the 1996 Rights Plan, as amended by the Amending Agreement, being the “**Original Rights Plan**”);

AND WHEREAS the Original Rights Plan was amended and restated by the Amended and Restated Shareholder Rights Plan Agreement between the Corporation and the Rights Agent dated May 20, 2004 (the “**2004 Plan**”) to be effective until the Close of Business (as defined below) on the date of the annual meeting of the shareholders of the Corporation to be held in 2007;

AND WHEREAS the Original Rights Plan as amended and restated pursuant to the 2004 Plan was amended and restated by the Amended and Restated Shareholder Rights Plan Agreement between the Corporation and the Rights Agent dated May 9, 2007 (the “**2007 Plan**”) to be effective until the Close of Business (as defined below) on the date of the annual meeting of the shareholders of the Corporation to be held in 2010;

AND WHEREAS the Board of Directors (as hereinafter defined) has determined that it is advisable and in the best interests of the Corporation to continue the Original Rights Plan, as amended and restated pursuant to the 2004 Plan, as amended and restated pursuant to the 2007 Plan, by adopting an Amended and Restated Shareholder Rights Plan Agreement as provided herein (the “**Rights Plan**”) to take effect on the Effective Date (as hereinafter defined), subject to approval by the Independent Shareholders (as hereinafter defined) at the annual and special meeting of the shareholders of the Corporation scheduled to be held on May 6, 2010, to ensure, to the extent possible, that all shareholders of the Corporation are treated fairly in connection with any Take-Over Bid (as hereinafter defined) and, due to the uniqueness of the Corporation’s business, to ensure that the Board of Directors are provided with sufficient time to evaluate unsolicited Take-Over Bids and to explore and develop alternatives to maximize shareholder value;

AND WHEREAS in order to implement the Rights Plan, the Board of Directors has:

- (a) reconfirmed the issuance of one right (a “ **Right** ”) effective at the Record Time (as hereinafter defined) in respect of each Common Share (as hereinafter defined) outstanding at the Record Time; and
- (b) reconfirmed its authorization of the issuance of one Right in respect of each Voting Share issued after the Record Time and prior to the earlier of the Separation Time (as hereinafter defined) and the Expiration Time (as hereinafter defined);

AND WHEREAS each Right entitles the holder thereof, after the Separation Time, to purchase securities of the Corporation pursuant to the terms and subject to the conditions set forth herein;

AND WHEREAS the Rights Agent has agreed to act on behalf of the Corporation in connection with the issuance, transfer, exchange and replacement of Rights Certificates (as hereinafter defined), the exercise of Rights and other matters referred to herein;

NOW THEREFORE , in consideration of the premises and the respective agreements set forth herein, the Corporation and the Rights Agent hereby agree as follows:

ARTICLE 1 INTERPRETATION

1.1 Certain Definitions

For purposes of this Agreement, the following terms have the meanings indicated:

“ **Acquiring Person** ” means any Person who is the Beneficial Owner of 20% or more of the outstanding Voting Shares; *provided, however*, that the term “ **Acquiring Person** ” shall not include:

- (i) the Corporation or any Subsidiary of the Corporation;
- (ii) any Person who becomes the Beneficial Owner of 20% or more of the outstanding Voting Shares as a result of one or any combination of:
 - (A) a Voting Share Reduction,
 - (B) a Permitted Bid Acquisition,
 - (C) an Exempt Acquisition,

(D) a Convertible Security Acquisition, or

(E) a Pro Rata Acquisition.

provided, however, that if a Person becomes the Beneficial Owner of 20% or more of the outstanding Voting Shares by reason of one or any combination of a Voting Share Reduction, a Permitted Bid Acquisition, an Exempt Acquisition, a Convertible Security Acquisition or a Pro Rata Acquisition, and thereafter becomes the Beneficial Owner of an additional 1% or more of the outstanding Voting Shares (other than pursuant to a Voting Share Reduction, a Permitted Bid Acquisition, an Exempt Acquisition, a Convertible Security Acquisition or a Pro Rata Acquisition), then as of the date and time that such Person becomes the Beneficial Owner of such additional Voting Shares, such Person shall become an Acquiring Person;

(iii) an underwriter or member of a banking or selling group that becomes the Beneficial Owner of 20% or more of the outstanding Voting Shares as a result of an acquisition from the Corporation in connection with a distribution of securities pursuant to a prospectus or by way of a private placement; and

(iv) a Grandfathered Person, *provided, however*, that if after the Record Time such Person becomes the Beneficial Owner of an additional 1% or more of the outstanding Voting Shares (other than pursuant to a Voting Share Reduction, a Permitted Bid Acquisition, an Exempt Acquisition, a Convertible Security Acquisition or a Pro Rata Acquisition), then as of the date and time that such Person becomes the Beneficial Owner of such additional Voting Shares, such Person shall become an Acquiring Person.

“ **Affiliate** ”, when used to indicate a relationship with a specified corporation, means a Person that directly, or indirectly through one or more controlled intermediaries, controls, or is a corporation controlled by, or is a corporation under common control with, such specified corporation.

“ **Agreement** ” means this amended and restated shareholder rights plan agreement between the Corporation and the Rights Agent, as amended, supplemented or restated from time to time; “hereof”, “herein”, “hereto” and similar expressions mean and refer to this Agreement as a whole and not any particular part of this Agreement.

“ **Associate** ”, when used to indicate a relationship with a specified Person, means (i) a spouse of such specified Person, (ii) any Person of either sex with whom such specified Person is living in a conjugal relationship outside marriage, or (iii) any relative of such specified Person or of a Person mentioned in Clause (i) or (ii) of this definition if that relative has the same residence as the specified Person.

“ Beneficial Owner ”: a Person shall be deemed the **“ Beneficial Owner ”** and to have **“ Beneficial Ownership ”** of and to **“ Beneficially Own ”**, any security:

- (i) of which such Person or any of such Person’s Affiliates or Associates is the owner at law or in equity;
- (ii) as to which such Person or any of such Person’s Affiliates or Associates has the right to become the owner at law or in equity (A) upon the purchase, exercise, conversion or exchange of any Convertible Securities, or (B) pursuant to any agreement, arrangement, pledge or understanding, whether or not in writing, in each case if such right is then exercisable or exercisable within a period of 60 days of the date of the determination of Beneficial Ownership, and whether or not on condition or the happening of any contingency (other than customary agreements with and between underwriters and members of banking groups or selling groups with respect to a distribution of securities pursuant to a prospectus or by way of a private placement and other than pursuant to pledges of securities in the ordinary course of business); and
- (iii) which is Beneficially Owned within the meaning of Clause (i) or (ii) of this definition by any other Person with which, and in respect of which security, such Person is acting jointly or in concert;

provided, however, that a Person shall not be deemed the **“ Beneficial Owner ”** of, or to have **“ Beneficial Ownership ”** of, or to **“ Beneficially Own ”**, any security by reason of:

- (1) such security having been deposited or tendered pursuant to a Take-Over Bid made by such Person, any of such Person’s Affiliates or Associates or any other Person with which, and in respect of which security, such Person is acting jointly or in concert, until such deposited or tendered security has been accepted unconditionally for payment or exchange or has been taken up and paid for, whichever shall first occur;
- (2) the holder of such security having agreed pursuant to a Permitted Lock-Up Agreement to deposit or tender such security pursuant to a Take-Over Bid made by such Person, any of such Person’s Affiliates or Associates or any other Person with which, and in respect of which security, such Person is acting jointly or in concert, until the earliest time at which any such deposited or tendered security has been accepted unconditionally for payment or exchange or has been taken up and paid for, whichever shall first occur;
- (3) such Person, for greater certainty, holding such security in the ordinary course of such Person’s business or activities as follows:
 - (A) such Person (in this definition, a **“ Manager ”**) manages mutual funds or other investment funds for others (which others may include, or be limited to, employee benefit plans and pension plans), if such security is held by the Manager in the performance of the Manager’s duties for the account of another Person (in this definition, a **“ Client ”**, which term shall include any non-discretionary account held on behalf of a Client by a broker or dealer registered under applicable law);

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- (B) such Person (in this definition, a “ **Trust Company** ”) is licensed as a trust company under applicable law and, as such, acts as trustee or administrator or in a similar capacity for the estates of deceased or incompetent Persons (each, in this definition, an “ **Estate Account** ”) or for other accounts (each, in this definition, an “ **Other Account** ”), if such security is held by the Trust Company for the Estate Account or for such Other Accounts;
 - (C) such Person (in this definition, a “ **Crown Agent** ”) is a Crown agent or agency that manages public assets, if such security is held by the Crown Agent for the purposes of its activities as Crown Agent;
 - (D) such Person (in this definition, a “ **Statutory Body** ”) is established by statute for purposes that include the management of investment funds for employee benefit plans, pension plans and insurance plans (other than insurance plans administered by insurance companies) of various public bodies, if such security is held by the Statutory Body for the purposes of its activities as Statutory Body; or
 - (E) such Person (in this definition, an “ **Administrator** ”) is the administrator or trustee of one or more pension funds or plans (each, in this definition, a “ **Plan** ”) registered under the laws of Canada or any province thereof or the corresponding laws of the jurisdiction by which such Plan is governed, or is such a Plan, if such security is held by the Administrator or Plan for the purposes of its activities as Administrator or Plan;

but only if the Manager, the Trust Company, the Crown Agent, the Statutory Body, the Administrator or the Plan, as the case may be, is not then making or has not publicly announced a current intention to make a Take-Over Bid, alone or by acting jointly or in concert with any other Person, other than pursuant to a distribution by the Corporation or by means of ordinary market transactions (including pre-arranged trades entered into in the ordinary course of business of such Person) executed through the facilities of a stock exchange, securities quotation system or an organized over-the-counter market;

- (4) such Person, for greater certainty, being a Client of the same Manager as another Person on whose account the Manager holds such security;
- (5) such Person, for greater certainty, having an Estate Account or an Other Account with the same Trust Company as another Person on whose account the Trust Company holds such security;
- (6) such Person, for greater certainty, being a Plan with the same Administrator as another Plan on whose account the Administrator holds such security;

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- (7) such Person, for greater certainty:
- (A) being a Client of a Manager, if such security is owned at law or in equity by the Manager;
 - (B) being an Estate Account or an Other Account of a Trust Company, if such security is owned at law or in equity by the Trust Company; or
 - (C) being a Plan, if such security is owned at law or in equity by the Administrator of the Plan; or
- (8) such Person being the registered holder of such security as a result of carrying on the business of, or acting as nominee for, a securities depository.

“ **Board of Directors** ” means the board of directors of the Corporation or any duly constituted or empowered committee thereof.

“ **Business Day** ” means any day other than a Saturday, a Sunday or a day that is treated as a holiday in Vancouver, British Columbia.

“ **Canada Business Corporations Act** ” means the *Canada Business Corporations Act*, R.S.C. 1985, c.C-44, as amended, and the regulations made thereunder, as now in effect or as the same may from time to time be amended, re-enacted or replaced.

“ **Canadian Dollar Equivalent** ” of any amount which is expressed in United States dollars means on any date the Canadian dollar equivalent of such amount determined by multiplying such amount by the U.S.-Canadian Exchange Rate in effect on such date.

“ **Canadian-U.S. Exchange Rate** ” means on any date the inverse of the U.S.-Canadian Exchange Rate.

“ **Close of Business** ” on any date means the time on such date (or, if such date is not a Business Day, the time on the next succeeding Business Day) at which the office of the transfer agent for the Common Shares in Vancouver, British Columbia (or, after the Separation Time, the office of the Rights Agent in Vancouver, British Columbia) is closed to the public.

“ **Common Shares** ” means the common shares in the capital of the Corporation.

“ **Competing Permitted Bid** ” means a Take-Over Bid that:

- (i) is made after a Permitted Bid or another Competing Permitted Bid has been made and prior to the expiry, termination or withdrawal of that Permitted Bid or Competing Permitted Bid (in this definition, the “ **Prior Bid** ”);
- (ii) satisfies all the provisions of the definition of a Permitted Bid other than the requirements set out in Clauses (ii)(A) and (D) of the definition of Permitted Bid; and

(iii) contains, and the take-up and payment for securities deposited or tendered thereunder are subject to, irrevocable and unqualified conditions that:

- (A) no Voting Shares and/or Convertible Securities shall be taken up or paid for pursuant to the Take-Over Bid (x) prior to the Close of Business on a date that is not less than the later of 35 days after the Offer Date of such Take-Over Bid constituting the Competing Permitted Bid and 60 days after the Offer Date of the earliest Prior Bid then in existence, and (y) then only if, at the Close of Business on the date Voting Shares and/or Convertible Securities are first taken up or paid for under such Take-Over Bid constituting the Competing Permitted Bid, more than 50% of the outstanding Voting Shares and/or Convertible Securities held by Independent Shareholders have been deposited or tendered pursuant to such Take-Over Bid and not withdrawn; and
- (B) in the event that the requirement set forth in Subclause (iii)(A)(y) of this definition is satisfied, the Offeror will make a public announcement of that fact and the Take-Over Bid will remain open for deposits and tenders of Voting Shares and/or Convertible Securities for not less than 10 Business Days from the date of such public announcement.

“ **controlled** ”: a body corporate is “ **controlled** ” by another Person or two or more Persons acting jointly or in concert if:

- (i) securities entitled to vote in the election of directors carrying more than 50% of the votes for the election of directors are held, directly or indirectly, by or on behalf of the other Person or two or more Persons acting jointly or in concert; and
 - (ii) the votes carried by such securities are entitled, if exercised, to elect a majority of the board of directors of such body corporate;
- and “ **controls** ”, “ **controlling** ” and “ **under common control with** ” shall be interpreted accordingly.

“ **Convertible Securities** ” means at any time any securities issued by the Corporation from time to time (other than the Rights) carrying any purchase, exercise, conversion or exchange right pursuant to which the holder thereof may acquire Voting Shares or other securities carrying any purchase, exercise, conversion or exchange right pursuant to which the holder thereof may acquire Voting Shares (in each case, whether such right is then exercisable or exercisable within or after a specified period and whether or not on condition or the happening of any contingency).

“ **Convertible Security Acquisition** ” means the acquisition of Voting Shares by a Person upon the purchase, exercise, conversion or exchange of Convertible Securities acquired or received by such Person pursuant to a Permitted Bid Acquisition, an Exempt Acquisition or a Pro Rata Acquisition.

“ **Co-Rights Agent** ” has the meaning attributed thereto in Subsection 4.1(a).

“ **Effective Date** ” means May 6, 2010, which is the date of the annual and special meeting of the holders of Voting Shares to be held in 2010.

“ **Election to Exercise** ” shall have the meaning attributed thereto in Subsection 2.2(d).

“ **Exempt Acquisition** ” means an acquisition by a Person of Voting Shares and/or Convertible Securities (i) in respect of which the Board of Directors has waived the application of Section 3.1 pursuant to the provisions of Section 5.2, (ii) pursuant to a regular dividend reinvestment or other plan of the Corporation made available by the Corporation to the holders of Voting Shares and/or Convertible Securities where such plan permits the holder to direct that the dividends paid in respect of such Voting Shares and/or Convertible Securities be applied to the purchase from the Corporation of further securities of the Corporation, (iii) pursuant to a distribution of Voting Shares and/or Convertible Securities made by the Corporation (A) to the public pursuant to a prospectus; *provided* that such Person does not thereby become the Beneficial Owner of a greater percentage of Voting Shares so offered than the percentage of Voting Shares Beneficially Owned by such Person immediately prior to such distribution, or (B) by way of a private placement; *provided* that (x) all necessary stock exchange approvals to such private placement have been obtained and such private placement complies with the terms and conditions of such approvals, and (y) such Person does not thereby become the Beneficial Owner of Voting Shares equal in number to more than 25% of the Voting Shares outstanding immediately prior to the private placement and, in making this determination, the securities to be issued to such Person on the private placement shall be deemed to be held by such Person but shall not be included in the aggregate number of Voting Shares outstanding immediately prior to the private placement, or (iv) pursuant to an amalgamation, merger, arrangement or other statutory procedure requiring shareholder approval.

“ **Exercise Price** ” means, as of any date, the price at which a holder may purchase the securities issuable upon exercise of one whole Right in accordance with the terms hereof and, subject to adjustment thereof in accordance with the terms hereof, the Exercise Price shall be:

- (i) until the Separation Time, an amount equal to three times the Market Price, from time to time, per Common Share; and
- (ii) from and after the Separation Time, an amount equal to three times the Market Price, as at the Separation Time, per Common Share.

“ **Expansion Factor** ” has the meaning attributed thereto in Subsection 2.3(b)(x).

“ **Expiration Time** ” has the meaning attributed thereto in Subsection 5.19(a)(ii).

“ **Flip-in Event** ” means a transaction or event in which any Person becomes an Acquiring Person.

“ **Grandfathered Person** ” means any Person who is the Beneficial Owner of 20% or more of the outstanding Voting Shares as determined at the Record Time; *provided, however*, that a Person shall cease to be a Grandfathered Person in the event that such Person ceases to Beneficially Own 20% or more of the outstanding Voting Shares at any time after the Record Time.

“ **holder** ” shall have the meaning attributed thereto in Section 1.6.

“ **including** ” and “ **includes** ” shall be interpreted on an inclusive basis and shall be deemed to be followed by the words “ **without limitation** ”.

“ **Independent Shareholders** ” means holders of outstanding Voting Shares, excluding (i) any Acquiring Person, (ii) any Offeror, (iii) any Affiliate or Associate of any Acquiring Person or Offeror, (iv) any Person acting jointly or in concert with any Acquiring Person or Offeror, and (v) any employee benefit plan, share purchase plan, deferred profit sharing plan or trust for the benefit of employees of the Corporation or a wholly-owned Subsidiary of the Corporation (unless the beneficiaries of such plan or trust direct the manner in which such Voting Shares are to be voted or direct whether the Voting Shares are to be deposited or tendered to a Take-Over Bid, in which case such plan or trust shall be considered to be an Independent Shareholder).

“ **Market Price** ” per security of any securities on any date means the average of the daily closing prices per security of such securities (determined as described below) on each of the 20 consecutive Trading Days through to and including the Trading Day immediately preceding such date; *provided, however*, that if an event of a type analogous to any of the events described in Section 2.3 shall have caused the closing prices used to determine the Market Price on any Trading Day not to be fully comparable with the closing price on such date of determination (or, if the date of determination is not a Trading Day, on the immediately preceding Trading Day), each such closing price so used shall be appropriately adjusted in a manner analogous to the applicable adjustment provided for in Section 2.3 in order to make it fully comparable with the closing price on such date of determination (or, if the date of determination is not a Trading Day, on the immediately preceding Trading Day).

The closing price per security of any securities on any date shall be:

- (i) the closing board lot sale price or, in case no such sale takes place on such date, the average of the closing bid and asked prices for each such security as reported by the principal stock exchange or securities quotation system in Canada on which such securities are listed or admitted to trading (based on the volume of securities traded during the most recently completed financial year);
- (ii) if for any reason none of the prices described in Clause (i) above are available for such date or the securities are not listed or admitted to trading on a stock exchange or securities quotation system in Canada, the last board lot sale price or, if such price is not available, the average of the closing bid and asked prices, for each such security on such date as reported by such other securities exchange or securities quotation system on which such securities are listed or admitted to trading (and if such securities are listed or admitted to trading on more than one other stock exchange or securities quotation system such prices shall be determined based on the stock exchange or securities quotation system on which such securities are then listed or admitted to trading on which the largest number of such securities were traded during the most recently completed financial year);

- (iii) if for any reason none of the prices described in Clauses (i) and (ii) above are available for such date or the securities are not listed or admitted to trading on a stock exchange in Canada or any other securities exchange or securities quotation system, the last sale price, or if no sale takes place, the average of the high bid and low asked prices for each such security on such date in the over-the-counter market, as quoted by any reporting system then in use (as determined by the Board of Directors); or
- (iv) if for such date none of the prices described in Clauses (i), (ii) and (iii) above are available or the securities are not listed or admitted to trading on a stock exchange in Canada or any other securities exchange and are not quoted by any reporting system, the average of the closing bid and asked prices for such date as furnished by a professional market maker making a market in the securities selected in good faith by the Board of Directors;

provided, however, that if on any such date none of such prices is available, the closing price per security of such securities on such date shall be the fair value per security of such securities on such date as determined in good faith by an internationally recognized investment banking firm selected by the Board of Directors. The Market Price shall be expressed in Canadian dollars and if initially determined in respect of any day forming part of the 20 consecutive Trading Day period in question in United States dollars, such amount shall be translated into Canadian dollars on such date at the Canadian Dollar Equivalent thereof.

“ **Offer Date** ” means the date of a Take-Over Bid.

“ **to Acquire** ” shall include:

Offer

- (i) an offer to purchase, or a solicitation of an offer to sell, Voting Shares and/or Convertible Securities; and
- (ii) an acceptance of an offer to sell Voting Shares and/or Convertible Securities, whether or not such offer to sell has been solicited; or any combination thereof, and the Person accepting an offer to sell shall be deemed to be making an Offer to Acquire to the Person that made the offer to sell.

“ **Offeror** ” means a Person who has made a public announcement of a current intention to make or who is making a Take-Over Bid (including a Permitted Bid or a Competing Permitted Bid), but excluding any Person referred to in Clause (3) of the definition of Beneficial Owner in the circumstances described therein.

“ **Offeror’s Securities** ” means the aggregate of the Voting Shares Beneficially Owned on the date of an Offer to Acquire by an Offeror.

“ **Permitted Bid** ” means a Take-Over Bid that is made by means of a take-over bid circular and that also complies with the following additional provisions:

- (i) the Take-Over Bid is made to all holders of Voting Shares of record, other than the Offeror; and
- (ii) the Take-Over Bid contains, and the provisions for take-up and payment for securities deposited or tendered thereunder are subject to, irrevocable and unqualified conditions that:
 - (A) no Voting Shares and/or Convertible Securities shall be taken up or paid for pursuant to the Take-Over Bid (x) prior to the Close of Business on a date that is not less than 60 days following the Offer Date, and (y) then only if, at the Close of Business on the date Voting Shares and/or Convertible Securities are first taken up or paid for under such Take-Over Bid, more than 50% of the outstanding Voting Shares and/or Convertible Securities held by Independent Shareholders have been deposited or tendered pursuant to the Take-Over Bid and not withdrawn;
 - (B) Voting Shares and/or Convertible Securities may be deposited or tendered pursuant to such Take-Over Bid, unless such Take-Over Bid is withdrawn, at any time prior to the Close of Business on the date Voting Shares and/or Convertible Securities are first taken up or paid for under the Take-Over Bid;
 - (C) any Voting Shares and or Convertible Securities deposited or tendered pursuant to the Take-Over Bid may be withdrawn until taken up and paid for; and
 - (D) in the event that the requirement set forth in Subclause (ii)(A)(y) of this definition is satisfied, the Offeror will make a public announcement of that fact and the Take-Over Bid will remain open for deposits and tenders of Voting Shares and/or Convertible Securities for not less than 10 Business Days from the date of such public announcement.

“ **Permitted Bid Acquisition** ” means an acquisition by a Person of Voting Shares and/or Convertible Securities pursuant to a Permitted Bid or a Competing Permitted Bid.

“ **Permitted Lock-Up Agreement** ” means an agreement (the “ **Lock-Up Agreement** ”) between a Person and one or more holders of Voting Shares and/or Convertible Securities (each a “ **Locked-Up Person** ”) (the terms of which are publicly disclosed and a copy of which is made available to the public (including the Corporation) not later than the date the Lock-Up Bid (as defined below) is publicly announced or, if the Lock-Up Bid has been made prior to the date on which such Lock-Up Agreement is entered into, not later than the date of such Lock-Up Agreement (or, if such date is not a Business Day, on the Business Day next following such date)), pursuant to which such Locked-Up Person agrees to deposit or tender Voting Shares and/or Convertible Securities held by such holder to a Take-Over Bid (the “ **Lock-Up Bid** ”) made or to be made by such Person, any of such Person’s Affiliates or Associates or any other Person with which, and in respect of which security, such Person is acting jointly or in concert; *provided* that:

- (i) the Lock-Up Agreement permits such Locked-Up Person to terminate its obligation to deposit or tender to or not to withdraw Voting Shares and/or Convertible Securities from the Lock-Up Bid in order to deposit or tender such securities to another Take-Over Bid or support another transaction where:
 - (A) the price or value per Voting Share or Convertible Security offered under such other Take-Over Bid or transaction exceeds the price or value per Voting Share or Convertible Security offered under the Lock-Up Bid;
 - (B) the price or value per Voting Share or Convertible Security offered under such other Take-Over Bid or transaction exceeds by as much as or more than a specified amount (the “ **Specified Amount** ”) the price or value per Voting Share or Convertible Security offered under the Lock-Up Bid, *provided* that such Specified Amount is not greater than 7% of the price or value per Voting Share or Convertible Security offered under the Lock-Up Bid; or
 - (C) the number of Voting Shares and/or Convertible Securities to be purchased under such other Take-Over Bid or transaction exceeds by as much as or more than a specified number (the “ **Specified Number** ”) the number of Voting Shares and/or Convertible Securities that the Offeror has offered to purchase under the Lock-Up Bid at a price or value per Voting Share or Convertible Security that is not less than the price or value per Voting Share or Convertible Security offered under the Lock-Up Bid, *provided* that the Specified Number is not greater than 7% of the number of Voting Shares and/or Convertible Securities offered under the Lock-Up Bid;

and for greater certainty, such Lock-Up Agreement may contain a right of first refusal or require a period of delay to give the Offeror under the Lock-Up Bid an opportunity to match the higher price, value or number in such other Take-Over Bid or transaction, or other similar limitation on a Locked-Up Person’s right to withdraw Voting Shares from the Lock-Up Agreement, so long as the limitation does not preclude the exercise by the Locked-Up Person of the right to withdraw Voting Shares and/or Convertible Securities in sufficient time to deposit or tender to the other Take-Over Bid or support the other transaction; and

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- (ii) no “break-up” fees, “top-up” fees, penalties, expenses or other amounts that exceed in the aggregate the greater of:
- (A) the cash equivalent of 2.5% of the price or value payable under the Lock-Up Bid to a Locked-Up Person; and
 - (B) 50% of the amount by which the price or value payable under another Take-Over Bid or other transaction to a Locked-Up Person exceeds the price or value of the consideration that such Locked-Up Person would have received under the Lock-Up Bid,

shall be payable by a Locked-Up Person pursuant to the Lock-Up Agreement in the event that the Locked-Up Bid is not successfully concluded or if any Locked-Up Person fails to deposit or tender Voting Shares and/or Convertible Securities to the Lock-Up Bid or withdraws Voting Shares and/or Convertible Securities previously deposited or tendered thereto in order to deposit or tender to another Take-Over Bid or support another transaction.

“ **Person** ” shall include any individual, firm, partnership, syndicate, association, trust, trustee, executor, administrator, legal personal representative, government, governmental body or authority, corporation or other incorporated or unincorporated organization.

“ **Predecessor Plans** ” means, collectively, the Original Rights Plan, the 2004 Plan and the 2007 Plan and “ **Predecessor Plan** ” means any one of them.

“ **Pro Rata Acquisition** ” means an acquisition by a Person of Voting Shares and/or Convertible Securities (i) as a result of a stock dividend, a stock split or other event pursuant to which such Person receives or acquires Voting Shares and/or Convertible Securities on the same *pro rata* basis as all other holders of Voting Shares and/or Convertible Securities of the same class or series; or (ii) pursuant to the receipt or exercise of rights (other than the Rights) to subscribe for or purchase Voting Shares and/or Convertible Securities issued by the Corporation on the same *pro rata* basis to all of the holders of Voting Shares and/or Convertible Securities of the same class or series, provided that such rights are acquired directly from the Corporation; and *further provided* , in either case, that such Person does not thereby become the Beneficial Owner of a greater percentage of Voting Shares than the percentage of Voting Shares Beneficially Owned by such Person immediately prior to such acquisition.

“ **Record Time** ” means 5:00 p.m. (Vancouver time) on the Effective Date.

“ **Redemption Price** ” shall have the meaning attributed thereto in Subsection 5.1(a).

“ **Regular Periodic Cash Dividend** ” shall have the meaning attributed thereto in Subsection 2.3(d).

“ **Rights** ” means the herein described rights to purchase securities pursuant to the terms and subject to the conditions set forth herein.

“ **Rights Certificate** ” means a certificate representing the Rights after the Separation Time which shall be substantially in the form attached hereto as Exhibit A or such other form as the Corporation and the Rights Agent may agree.

“ **Rights Register** ” and “ **Rights Registrar** ” shall each have the meaning attributed thereto in Subsection 2.6(a).

“ **Securities Act (Ontario)** ” means the *Securities Act*, R.S.O. 1990, c. S.5, as amended, and the rules and regulations made thereunder, as now in effect or as the same may from time to time be amended, re-enacted or replaced.

“ **Separation Time** ” means the Close of Business on the tenth Trading Day after the earliest of:

- (i) the Stock Acquisition Date;
- (ii) the date of the commencement of, or first public announcement of the current intention of any Person (other than the Corporation or any Subsidiary of the Corporation) to commence, a Take-Over Bid (other than a Permitted Bid or Competing Permitted Bid so long as such Take-Over Bid continues to satisfy the requirements of a Permitted Bid or a Competing Permitted Bid); and
- (iii) the date upon which a Permitted Bid or Competing Permitted Bid ceases to be a Permitted Bid or a Competing Permitted Bid, as applicable;

or such later date as may be determined by the Board of Directors in good faith, *provided, however*, that if any Take-Over Bid referred to in Clause (ii) above expires or is terminated or otherwise withdrawn prior to the Separation Time, such Take-Over Bid shall be deemed, for the purposes of this definition, never to have been made.

“ **Stock Acquisition Date** ” means the first date of public announcement (which, for purposes of this definition, shall include a report filed pursuant to the *Securities Act* (Ontario), the *1934 Exchange Act* or any other applicable securities laws) by the Corporation or an Acquiring Person of facts indicating that a Person has become an Acquiring Person.

“ **Subsidiary** ”: a body corporate is a Subsidiary of another body corporate if:

- (i) it is controlled by (A) that other, or (B) that other and one or more bodies corporate, each of which is controlled by that other, or (C) two or more bodies corporate, each of which is controlled by that other; or
- (ii) it is a Subsidiary of a body corporate that is that other’s Subsidiary.

“ **Take-Over Bid** ” means an Offer to Acquire Voting Shares and/or Convertible Securities where the Voting Shares and/or Convertible Securities subject to the Offer to Acquire, together with the Offeror’s Securities, constitute in the aggregate 20% or more of the outstanding Voting Shares and/or Convertible Securities at the date of the Offer to Acquire.

“ **Termination Time** ” means the time at which the right to exercise Rights shall terminate pursuant to Section 5.1.

“ **Trading Day** ”, when used with respect to any securities, means a day on which the principal stock exchange or securities quotation system in Canada on which such securities are listed or admitted to trading is open for the transaction of business or, if the securities are not listed or admitted to trading on any stock exchange or securities quotation system in Canada, a Business Day.

“ **TSX** ” means the Toronto Stock Exchange.

“ **U.S.-Canadian Exchange Rate** ” means on any date:

- (i) if on such date the Bank of Canada sets an average noon spot rate of exchange for the conversion of one United States dollar into Canadian dollars, such rate; and
- (ii) in any other case, the rate on such date for the conversion of one United States dollar into Canadian dollars which is calculated in the manner which shall be determined by the Board of Directors from time to time acting in good faith.

“ **U.S. Dollar Equivalent** ” of any amount which is expressed in Canadian dollars means on any date the United States dollar equivalent of such amount determined by reference to the Canadian-U.S. Exchange Rate in effect on such date.

“ **Voting Share Reduction** ” means an acquisition or a redemption by the Corporation of Voting Shares and/or Convertible Securities which, by reducing the number of outstanding Voting Shares and/or Convertible Securities, increases the percentage of Voting Shares Beneficially Owned by any Person.

“ **Voting Shares** ” means collectively the Common Shares and any other shares in the capital stock or voting interests issued by the Corporation, the holders of which are entitled to vote generally in the election of directors.

“ **1933 Securities Act** ” means the *Securities Act of 1933* of the United States, as amended, and the rules and regulations made thereunder, as now in effect or as the same may from time to time be amended, re-enacted or replaced.

“ **1934 Exchange Act** ” means the *Securities Exchange Act of 1934* of the United States, as amended, and the rules and regulations made thereunder, as now in effect or as the same may from time to time be amended, re-enacted or replaced.

1.2 Currency

All sums of money which are referred to in this Agreement are expressed in lawful money of Canada, unless otherwise specified.

1.3 Number and Gender

Wherever the context so requires, terms used herein importing the singular number only shall include the plural and vice versa and words importing any one gender shall include all others.

1.4 Descriptive Headings and References

Descriptive headings and the Table of Contents appear herein for convenience of reference only and shall not affect the meaning or construction of any of the provisions hereof. All references to Articles, Sections, Subsections, Clauses and Exhibits are to the articles, sections, subsections, clauses and exhibits forming part of this Agreement unless otherwise indicated. The words “hereto”, “herein”, “hereof”, “hereunder”, “this Agreement” and similar expressions refer to this Agreement including the Exhibits, as the same may be amended, supplemented or restated from time to time.

1.5 Acting Jointly or in Concert

For purposes of this Agreement, a Person is acting jointly or in concert with every other Person who is a party to any agreement, commitment or understanding, whether formal or informal and whether or not in writing, with the first mentioned Person to acquire or Offer to Acquire Voting Shares and/or Convertible Securities (other than customary agreements with and between underwriters and/or members of banking groups and/or selling group members with respect to a distribution of securities pursuant to a prospectus or by way of a private placement and other than pursuant to pledges of securities in the ordinary course of business).

1.6 Holder

As used in this Agreement, unless the context otherwise requires, the term “**holder**” of any Rights means the registered holder of such Rights (or, prior to the Separation Time, of the associated Common Shares).

1.7 Calculation of Voting Shares Beneficially Owned

For the purposes of this Agreement, the percentage of Voting Shares Beneficially Owned by a Person shall be and be deemed to be the product determined by the formula:

$$100 \times \frac{A}{B}$$

where

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| A | = | the number of votes for the election of all directors generally attaching to the Voting Shares Beneficially Owned by such Person; and |
| B | = | the number of votes for the election of all directors generally attaching to all outstanding Voting Shares. |

Where a Person is deemed to Beneficially Own unissued Voting Shares, such Voting Shares shall be deemed to be outstanding for the purposes of both A and B above, but no other unissued Voting Shares shall, for the purposes of such calculation, be deemed to be outstanding.

ARTICLE 2
THE RIGHTS

2.1 Legend on Voting Share Certificates

Voting Share certificates issued after the Record Time and prior to the Close of Business on the earlier of the Separation Time and the Expiration Time shall evidence one Right for each Voting Share represented thereby and shall have impressed on, printed on, written on or otherwise affixed to them prior to the Effective Date the legend set forth in Section 2.1 of the applicable Predecessor Plan and which legend shall be deemed to be amended for all purposes to read the same as the legend set forth below, and after the Effective Date the following legend:

“Until the Separation Time (as such term is defined in the Shareholder Rights Plan Agreement referred to below), this certificate also evidences and entitles the holder hereof to certain Rights as set forth in an Amended and Restated Shareholder Rights Plan Agreement dated as of May 6, 2010, as amended, supplemented or restated from time to time (the “**Rights Agreement**”) between **Golden Star Resources Ltd.** (the “**Corporation**”) and **CIBC Mellon Trust Company**, as Rights Agent, the terms of which are hereby incorporated herein by reference and a copy of which is on file and may be inspected during normal business hours at the registered office of the Corporation. In certain circumstances, as set forth in the Rights Agreement, such Rights may be amended, may be redeemed, may expire, may become null and void or may be evidenced by separate certificates and may no longer be evidenced by this certificate. The Corporation will mail or arrange for the mailing of a copy of the Rights Agreement to the holder of this certificate without charge as soon as practicable after the receipt of a written request therefor.”

Certificates representing Voting Shares that are issued and outstanding at the Record Time shall also evidence one Right for each Voting Share evidenced thereby, notwithstanding the absence of the foregoing legend, until the earlier of the Separation Time and the Expiration Time. Following the Separation Time, Rights will be evidenced by Rights Certificates issued pursuant to Section 2.2 hereof.

2.2 Initial Exercise Price; Exercise of Rights; Detachment of Rights

- (a) Subject to adjustment as herein set forth, each Right will entitle the holder thereof, from and after the Separation Time and prior to the Expiration Time, to purchase one Common Share for the Exercise Price (which Exercise Price and number of Common Shares are subject to adjustment as set forth below) or its U.S. Dollar Equivalent as at the Business Day immediately preceding the day on which such Right is exercised. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Agreement, any Rights held by the Corporation or any of its Subsidiaries shall be null and void.
- (b) Until the Separation Time, (i) the Rights shall not be exercisable and no Right may be exercised, and (ii) for administrative purposes, each Right will be evidenced by the certificate for the associated Voting Share registered in the name of the holder thereof (which certificate shall be deemed to represent a Rights Certificate) and will be transferable only together with, and will be transferred by a transfer of, such associated Voting Share.

- (c) From and after the Separation Time and prior to the Expiration Time, the Rights may be exercised and the registration and transfer of the Rights shall be separate from and independent of Voting Shares. Promptly following the Separation Time, the Corporation will prepare and the Rights Agent will mail to each holder of record of Voting Shares as of the Separation Time (other than an Acquiring Person, any other Person whose Rights are or become null and void pursuant to the provisions of Subsection 3.1(b) and, in respect of any Rights Beneficially Owned by such Acquiring Person which are not held of record by such Acquiring Person, the holder of record of such Rights), at such holder's address as shown by the records of the Corporation (the Corporation hereby agreeing to furnish copies of such records to the Rights Agent for this purpose):
- (i) a Rights Certificate appropriately completed, representing the number of Rights held by such holder at the Separation Time and having such marks of identification or designation and such legends, summaries or endorsements printed thereon as the Corporation may deem appropriate and as are not inconsistent with the provisions of this Agreement, or as may be required to comply with any law or with any rule or regulation or judicial or administrative order made pursuant thereto or with any rule or regulation of any self-regulatory organization, stock exchange or securities quotation system on which the Rights may from time to time be listed or traded, or to conform to usage; and
 - (ii) a disclosure statement prepared by the Corporation describing the Rights;
- provided, however,* that a nominee shall be sent the materials provided for in Clauses (i) and (ii) above only in respect of Voting Shares held of record by it which are not Beneficially Owned by an Acquiring Person. In order for the Corporation to determine whether any Person is holding Voting Shares which are Beneficially Owned by another Person, the Corporation may require such first-mentioned Person to furnish such information and documentation as the Corporation deems necessary or appropriate to make such determination.
- (d) Rights may be exercised in whole or in part on any Business Day after the Separation Time and prior to the Expiration Time by submitting to the Rights Agent at its principal office in Vancouver, British Columbia or, with the approval of the Rights Agent, at any other office of the Rights Agent in the cities designated from time to time for that purpose by the Corporation:
- (i) the Rights Certificate evidencing such Rights with an election to exercise (an “ **Election to Exercise** ”) substantially in the form attached to the Rights Certificate appropriately completed and duly executed by the holder or his executors or administrators or other personal representatives or his legal attorney duly appointed by an instrument in writing in form and executed in a manner satisfactory to the Rights Agent; and

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- (ii) payment by certified cheque, banker's draft or money order payable to the order of the Corporation, of a sum equal to the Exercise Price multiplied by the number of Rights being exercised and a sum sufficient to cover any transfer tax or charge which may be payable in respect of the transfer or delivery of Rights Certificates or the issuance or delivery of certificates for Voting Shares in a name other than that of the holder of the Rights being exercised.
 - (e) Upon receipt of a Rights Certificate, with a completed Election to Exercise appropriately completed and duly executed which does not indicate that such Right is null and void as provided by Subsection 3.1(b), accompanied by payment as set forth in Clause 2.2(d)(ii), the Rights Agent (unless otherwise instructed in writing by the Corporation) will thereupon promptly:
 - (i) requisition from the transfer agent of the Common Shares certificates for the number of Common Shares to be purchased (the Corporation hereby irrevocably agreeing to authorize its transfer agent to comply with all such requisitions);
 - (ii) after receipt of such certificates referred to in Clause 2.2(e)(i), deliver such certificates to or upon the order of the registered holder of such Rights Certificate, registered in such name or names as may be designated by such holder;
 - (iii) when appropriate, requisition from the Corporation the amount of cash to be paid in lieu of issuing fractional Common Shares or fractional Rights;
 - (iv) after receipt, deliver such cash referred to in Clause 2.2(e)(iii) to or to the order of the registered holder of the Rights Certificate; and
 - (v) tender to the Corporation all payments received upon exercise of the Rights.
 - (f) In case the holder of any Rights shall exercise less than all the Rights evidenced by such holder's Rights Certificate, a new Rights Certificate evidencing the Rights remaining unexercised will be issued by the Rights Agent to such holder or to such holder's duly authorized assigns.
 - (g) The Corporation covenants and agrees that it will:
 - (i) take all such action as may be necessary and within its power to ensure that all securities delivered upon exercise of Rights shall, at the time of delivery of the certificates for such securities (subject to payment of the Exercise Price), be duly and validly authorized, executed, issued and delivered as fully paid and non-assessable;

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- (ii) take all such action as may be necessary and within its power to comply with any applicable requirements of the *Canada Business Corporations Act*, the *Securities Act* (Ontario), the securities acts or comparable legislation of each of the other provinces of Canada, the *1933 Securities Act* and the *1934 Exchange Act* and any other applicable law, rule or regulation, in connection with the issuance and delivery of the Rights Certificates and the issuance of any Common Shares upon exercise of Rights;
 - (iii) use reasonable efforts to cause all Common Shares issued upon exercise of Rights to be listed upon issuance on the TSX and each other stock exchange and/or securities quotation system on which the Common Shares are then listed or admitted to trading at that time;
 - (iv) cause to be reserved and kept available out of its authorized and unissued Common Shares the number of Common Shares that, as provided in this Agreement, will from time to time be sufficient to permit the exercise in full of all outstanding Rights; and
 - (v) pay when due and payable any and all Canadian and United States federal, provincial and state transfer taxes (for greater certainty not including any income taxes or capital gains of the holder or exercising holder or any liability of the Corporation to withhold tax) and charges which may be payable in respect of the original issuance or delivery of the Rights Certificates or certificates for Common Shares, provided that the Corporation shall not be required to pay any transfer tax or charge which may be payable in respect of the transfer or delivery of Rights Certificates or the issuance or delivery of certificates for Common Shares in a name other than that of the holder of the Rights being transferred or exercised.

2.3 Adjustments to Exercise Price; Number of Rights

- (a) The Exercise Price, the number and kind of securities subject to purchase upon exercise of each Right and the number of Rights outstanding are subject to adjustment from time to time as provided in this Section 2.3.
- (b) In the event the Corporation shall at any time after the Record Time and prior to the Expiration Time:
 - (i) declare or pay a dividend on the Common Shares payable in Common Shares or other capital stock of the Corporation (or Convertible Securities) other than pursuant to any optional stock dividend program, dividend reinvestment plan or dividend payable in Common Shares in lieu of a regular periodic cash dividend;

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- (ii) subdivide or change the outstanding Common Shares into a greater number of Common Shares;
 - (iii) consolidate or change the outstanding Common Shares into a smaller number of Common Shares; or
 - (iv) issue any Common Shares or other capital stock of the Corporation (or Convertible Securities) in respect of, in lieu of, or in exchange for existing Common Shares;

the Exercise Price and the number of Rights outstanding or, if the payment or effective date therefor shall occur after the Separation Time, the securities purchasable upon exercise of Rights, shall be adjusted in the manner set forth below.

If the Exercise Price and number of Rights outstanding are to be adjusted:

- (x) the Exercise Price in effect after such adjustment shall be equal to the Exercise Price in effect immediately prior to such adjustment divided by the number of Common Shares (or other capital stock) (the “**Expansion Factor**”) that a holder of one Common Share immediately prior to such dividend, subdivision, change, consolidation or issuance would hold thereafter as a result thereof (assuming the exercise of all such purchase, exercise, conversion or exchange rights, if any); and
- (y) each Right held prior to such adjustment shall become that number of Rights equal to the Expansion Factor and the adjusted number of Rights will be deemed to be distributed among the Common Shares with respect to which the original Rights were associated (if they remain outstanding) and the Common Shares issued or issuable in respect of such dividend, subdivision, change, consolidation or issuance, so that each such Common Share (or other capital stock) will have exactly one Right associated with it.

For greater certainty, if the securities purchasable upon exercise of Rights are to be adjusted, the securities purchasable upon exercise of each Right after such adjustment will be the securities that a holder of the securities purchasable upon exercise of one Right immediately prior to such dividend, subdivision, change, consolidation or issuance would hold thereafter as a result thereof. To the extent that such rights of purchase, exercise, conversion or exchange are not exercised prior to the expiration thereof, the Exercise Price shall be readjusted to the Exercise Price which would then be in effect based on the number of Common Shares (or Convertible Securities) actually issued upon the exercise of such rights.

If after the Record Time and prior to the Expiration Time the Corporation shall issue any shares of capital stock other than Common Shares in a transaction of a type described in Clause 2.3(b)(i) or (iv), shares of such capital stock shall be treated herein as nearly equivalent to Common Shares as may be practicable and appropriate under the circumstances and the Corporation and the Rights Agent shall amend or supplement this Agreement in order to effect such treatment.

If an event occurs which would require an adjustment under both this Section 2.3 and Section 3.1, the adjustment provided for in this Section 2.3 shall be in addition to, and shall be made prior to, any adjustment required pursuant to Section 3.1. Adjustments pursuant to Section 2.3 shall be made successively, whenever an event referred to in Section 2.3 occurs.

If the Corporation shall at any time after the Record Time and prior to the Separation Time issue any Common Shares otherwise than in a transaction referred to in this Subsection 2.3(b), each such Common Share so issued shall automatically have one new Right associated with it, which Right shall be evidenced by the certificate representing such associated Common Share.

- (c) If the Corporation shall at any time after the Record Time and prior to the Separation Time fix a record date for the issuance to all holders of Common Shares of rights, options or warrants entitling them (for a period expiring within 45 days after such record date) to subscribe for or purchase Common Shares (or Convertible Securities pursuant to which the holder may acquire Common Shares) at a price per Common Share (or, if a Convertible Security having a purchase, exercise, conversion or exchange price, including the price required to be paid to purchase such convertible or exchangeable security or right, per share) less than 90% of the Market Price per Common Share on such record date, the Exercise Price shall be adjusted in the manner set forth below. The Exercise Price in effect after such record date shall equal the Exercise Price in effect immediately prior to such record date multiplied by a fraction, of which the numerator shall be the number of Common Shares outstanding on such record date plus the number of Common Shares that the aggregate offering price of the total number of Common Shares so to be offered (and/or the aggregate initial conversion, exchange or exercise price of the convertible or exchangeable securities or rights so to be offered (including the price required to be paid to purchase such convertible or exchangeable securities or rights)) would purchase at such Market Price per Common Share and of which the denominator shall be the number of Common Shares outstanding on such record date plus the number of additional Common Shares to be offered for subscription or purchase (or into which the convertible or exchangeable securities or rights so to be offered are initially convertible, exchangeable or exercisable). In case such subscription price may be paid by delivery of consideration part or all of which shall be in a form other than cash, the value of such consideration shall be as determined in good faith by the Board of Directors whose determination shall be described in a statement filed with the Rights Agent and shall be binding on the Rights Agent and the holders of Rights. To the extent that such rights of purchase, exercise, conversion or exchange are not exercised prior to the expiration thereof, the Exercise Price shall be readjusted to the Exercise Price which would then be in effect based on the number of Common Shares (or securities convertible into or exchangeable for Common Shares) actually issued upon the exercise of such rights.

Such adjustment shall be made successively whenever such a record date is fixed. For purposes of this Agreement, the granting of the right to purchase Common Shares (whether from treasury shares or otherwise) pursuant to any dividend or interest reinvestment plan and/or any Common Share purchase plan providing for the reinvestment of dividends or interest payable on securities of the Corporation and/or the investment of periodic optional payments and/or employee benefit or similar plans (so long as such right to purchase is in no case evidenced by the delivery of rights or warrants) shall not be deemed to constitute an issue of rights or warrants by the Corporation; *provided, however*, that, in the case of any dividend or interest reinvestment plan, the right to purchase Common Shares is at a price per share of not less than 90% of the current market price per share (determined as provided in such plans) of the Common Shares.

- (d) In the event the Corporation shall at any time after the Record Time and prior to the Separation Time fix a record date for the making of a distribution to all holders of Common Shares of evidences of indebtedness or assets (other than a Regular Periodic Cash Dividend (as defined below) or a dividend paid in Common Shares) or rights, options or warrants (excluding those referred to in Subsection 2.3(c)), the Exercise Price shall be adjusted. The Exercise Price in effect after such record date will equal the Exercise Price in effect immediately prior to such record date less the fair market value (as determined in good faith by the Board of Directors) of the portion of the assets, evidences of indebtedness, rights or warrants so to be distributed applicable to the securities purchasable upon exercise of one Right. Such adjustment shall be made successively whenever such a record date is fixed.

For the purpose of this Subsection 2.3(d), “Regular Periodic Cash Dividend” means cash dividends paid at regular intervals in any fiscal year of the Corporation to the extent that such cash dividends do not exceed, in the aggregate, the greatest of:

- (i) 200% of the aggregate amount of cash dividends declared payable by the Corporation on its Common Shares in its immediately preceding fiscal year;
 - (ii) 300% of the arithmetic mean of the aggregate amounts of cash dividends declared payable by the Corporation on its Common Shares in its three immediately preceding fiscal years; and
 - (iii) 100% of the aggregate consolidated net income of the Corporation, before extraordinary items, for its immediately preceding fiscal year.
- (e) Each adjustment made pursuant to this Section 2.3 shall be made as of:
- (i) the payment or effective date for the applicable dividend, subdivision, change, consolidation or issuance, in the case of an adjustment made pursuant to Subsection 2.3(b) above; and

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- (ii) the record date for the applicable dividend or distribution, in the case of an adjustment made pursuant to Subsection 2.3(c) or (d) above subject to readjustment to reverse same if such distribution shall not be made.
 - (f) In the event the Corporation shall at any time after the Record Time and prior to the Separation Time issue any shares of capital stock (other than Common Shares), or rights, options or warrants to subscribe for or purchase any such capital stock, or securities convertible into or exchangeable for any such capital stock in a transaction referred to in Clause 2.3(b)(i) or (iv), or if the Corporation shall take any other action (other than the issue of Common Shares) which might have a negative effect on the holders of Rights, if the Board of Directors acting in good faith determines that the adjustments contemplated by Subsections 2.3(b), (c) and (d) above in connection with such transaction will not appropriately protect the interests of the holders of Rights, the Board of Directors may determine what other adjustments to the Exercise Price, number of Rights and/or securities purchasable upon exercise of Rights would be appropriate and, notwithstanding Subsections 2.3(b), (c) and (d) above, but subject to the prior consent of the holders of Common Shares or Rights obtained as set forth in Subsection 5.5(b) or (c) as applicable, such adjustments, rather than the adjustments contemplated by Subsections 2.3(b), (c) and (d) above, shall be made. The Corporation and the Rights Agent shall amend or supplement this Agreement as appropriate to provide for such adjustments.
 - (g) Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, no adjustment of the Exercise Price shall be required unless such adjustment would require an increase or decrease of at least 1% in such Exercise Price; *provided, however*, that any adjustments which by reason of this Subsection 2.3(g) are not required to be made shall be carried forward and taken into account in any subsequent adjustment. All adjustments made pursuant to this Section 2.3 shall be made to the nearest cent or to the nearest ten-thousandth of a Common Share, as the case may be.
 - (h) If as a result of an adjustment made pursuant to Section 3.1, the holder of any Right thereafter exercised shall become entitled to receive any securities other than Common Shares, thereafter the number of such other shares so receivable upon exercise of any Right and the applicable Exercise Price thereof shall be subject to adjustment from time to time in a manner and on terms as nearly equivalent as practicable to the provisions with respect to the Common Shares contained in the provisions of this Section 2.3 and the provisions of this Agreement with respect to the Common Shares shall apply on like terms to any such other securities.
 - (i) All Rights originally issued by the Corporation subsequent to any adjustment made to an Exercise Price hereunder shall evidence the right to purchase, at the adjusted Exercise Price, the number of Common Shares purchasable from time to time hereunder upon exercise of the Rights, all subject to further adjustment as provided herein.

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- (j) Unless the Corporation shall have exercised its election, as provided in Subsection 2.3(k), upon each adjustment of the Exercise Price as a result of the calculations made in Subsections 2.3(c) and (d), each Right outstanding immediately prior to the making of such adjustment shall thereafter evidence the right to purchase, at the adjusted Exercise Price, that number of Common Shares obtained by:
- (i) multiplying (A) the number of Common Shares covered by a Right immediately prior to such adjustment, by (B) the relevant Exercise Price in effect immediately prior to such adjustment of the relevant Exercise Price; and
 - (ii) dividing the product so obtained by the relevant Exercise Price in effect immediately after such adjustment of the relevant Exercise Price.
- (k) The Corporation may elect on or after the date of any adjustment of an Exercise Price to adjust the number of Rights, in lieu of any adjustment in the number of Common Shares purchasable upon the exercise of a Right. Each of the Rights outstanding after the adjustment in the number of Rights shall be exercisable for the number of Common Shares for which a Right was exercisable immediately prior to such adjustment. Each Right held of record prior to such adjustment of the number of Rights shall become the number of Rights (calculated to the nearest one ten-thousandth) obtained by dividing the relevant Exercise Price in effect immediately prior to adjustment of relevant Exercise Price by the relevant Exercise Price in effect immediately after adjustment of the relevant Exercise Price. The Corporation shall make a public announcement of its election to adjust the number of Rights, indicating the record date for the adjustment, and, if known at the time, the amount of the adjustment to be made. This record date may be the date on which the relevant Exercise Price is adjusted or any day thereafter, but, if the Rights Certificates have been issued, shall be at least 10 days later than the date of the public announcement. If Rights Certificates have been issued, upon each adjustment of the number of Rights pursuant to this Subsection 2.3(k), the Corporation shall, as promptly as practicable, cause to be distributed to holders of record of Rights Certificates on such record date, Rights Certificates evidencing, subject to Section 5.6, the additional Rights to which such holders shall be entitled as a result of such adjustment, or, at the option of the Corporation, shall cause to be distributed to such holders of record in substitution and replacement for the Rights Certificates held by such holders prior to the date of adjustment, and upon surrender thereof if required by the Corporation, new Rights Certificates evidencing all the Rights to which such holders shall be entitled after such adjustment. Rights Certificates so to be distributed shall be issued, executed and countersigned in the manner provided for herein and may bear, at the option of the Corporation, the relevant adjusted Exercise Price and shall be registered in the names of holders of record of Rights Certificates on the record date specified in the public announcement.
- (l) Irrespective of any adjustment or change in the securities purchasable upon exercise of the Rights, the Rights Certificates theretofore and thereafter issued may continue to express the securities so purchasable which were expressed in the initial Rights Certificates issued hereunder.

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- (m) In any case in which this Section 2.3 shall require that an adjustment in the Exercise Price be made effective as of a record date for a specified event, the Corporation may elect to defer until the occurrence of such event the issuance to the holder of any Right exercised after such record date of the number of Common Shares and other securities of the Corporation, if any, issuable upon such exercise over and above the number of Common Shares and other securities of the Corporation, if any, issuable upon such exercise on the basis of the relevant Exercise Price in effect prior to such adjustment; *provided, however*, that the Corporation shall deliver to such holder a due bill or other appropriate instrument evidencing such holder's right to receive such additional Common Shares (fractional or otherwise) or other securities upon the occurrence of the event requiring such adjustment.
- (n) Notwithstanding anything in this Section 2.3 to the contrary, the Corporation shall be entitled to make such reductions in the Exercise Price, in addition to those adjustments expressly required by this Section 2.3, as and to the extent that in its good faith judgment the Board of Directors shall determine to be advisable in order that any (i) subdivision or consolidation of the Common Shares, (ii) issuance (wholly or in part for cash) of Common Shares at less than the applicable Market Price, (iii) issuance (wholly for cash) of any Common Shares or securities that by their terms are exchangeable for or convertible into or give a right to acquire Common Shares, (iv) stock dividends, or (v) issuance of rights, options or warrants referred to in this Section 2.3, hereafter made by the Corporation to holders of its Common Shares, subject to applicable taxation laws, shall not be taxable to such shareholders.
- (o) After the Separation Time, the Corporation will not, except as permitted by the provisions hereof, take (or permit any Subsidiary of the Corporation to take) any action if at the time such action is taken it is reasonably foreseeable that such action will diminish substantially or otherwise eliminate the benefits intended to be afforded by the Rights.
- (p) Whenever an adjustment to the Exercise Price or a change in the securities purchasable upon the exercise of Rights is made pursuant to this Section 2.3, the Corporation shall promptly:
- (i) prepare a certificate setting forth such adjustment and a brief statement of the facts accounting for such adjustment;
 - (ii) file with the Rights Agent and with each transfer agent for the Common Shares, a copy of such certificate; and
 - (iii) cause notice of the particulars of such adjustment or change to be given to the holders of the Rights.

Failure to file such certificate or to cause such notice to be given as aforesaid, or any defect therein, shall not affect the validity of any such adjustment or change.

2.4 Date on Which Exercise is Effective

Each Person in whose name any certificate for Common Shares or other securities, if applicable, is issued upon the exercise of Rights shall for all purposes be deemed to have become the holder of record of the Common Shares or other securities, if applicable, represented thereby, and such certificate shall be dated the date upon which the Rights Certificate evidencing such Rights was duly surrendered in accordance with Subsection 2.2(e) (together with a duly completed Election to Exercise) and payment of the Exercise Price for such Rights (and any applicable transfer taxes and other governmental charges payable by the exercising holder hereunder) was made; *provided, however*, that if the date of such surrender and payment is a date upon which the Common Share transfer books of the Corporation are closed, such Person shall be deemed to have become the record holder of such shares on, and such certificate shall be dated, the next succeeding Business Day on which the Common Share transfer books of the Corporation are open.

2.5 Execution, Authentication, Delivery and Dating of Rights Certificates

- (a) The Rights Certificates shall be executed on behalf of the Corporation by its Chairman of the Board, President or any Vice President and by the Treasurer, any Assistant Treasurer, the Secretary or any Assistant Secretary of the Corporation. The signature of any of these officers on the Rights Certificates may be manual or facsimile. Rights Certificates bearing the manual or facsimile signatures of individuals who were at any time the proper officers of the Corporation shall bind the Corporation, notwithstanding that such individuals or any of them have ceased to hold such offices prior to the countersignature and delivery of such Rights Certificates.
- (b) Promptly after the Corporation learns of the Separation Time, the Corporation will notify the Rights Agent in writing of such Separation Time and will deliver Rights Certificates executed by the Corporation to the Rights Agent for countersignature and a disclosure statement as described in Subsection 2.2(c), and the Rights Agent shall countersign (manually or by facsimile signature) and mail such Rights Certificates and disclosure statement to the holders of the Rights pursuant to Subsection 2.2(c). No Rights Certificate shall be valid for any purpose until countersigned by the Rights Agent as aforesaid.
- (c) Each Rights Certificate shall be dated the date of countersignature thereof.

2.6 Registration, Registration of Transfer and Exchange

- (a) From and after the Separation Time, the Corporation will cause to be kept a register (the “ **Rights Register** ”) in which, subject to such reasonable regulations as it may prescribe, the Corporation will provide for the registration and transfer of Rights. The Rights Agent is hereby appointed “ **Rights Registrar** ” for the purpose of maintaining the Rights Register for the Corporation and registering Rights and transfers of Rights as herein provided. In the event that the Rights Agent shall cease to be the Rights Registrar, the Rights Agent will have the right to examine the Rights Register at all reasonable times.

After the Separation Time and prior to the Expiration Time, upon surrender for registration of transfer or exchange of any Rights Certificate, and subject to the provisions of Subsection 2.6(c), the Corporation will execute, and the Rights Agent will countersign and deliver, in the name of the holder thereof or the designated transferee or transferees, as required pursuant to the holder's instructions, one or more new Rights Certificates evidencing the same aggregate number of Rights as did the Rights Certificates so surrendered.

- (b) All Rights issued upon any registration of transfer or exchange of Rights Certificates shall be the valid obligations of the Corporation, and such Rights shall be entitled to the same benefits under this Agreement as the Rights surrendered upon such registration of transfer or exchange.
- (c) Every Rights Certificate surrendered for registration of transfer or exchange shall be duly endorsed, or be accompanied by a written instrument of transfer in form satisfactory to the Corporation or the Rights Agent, as the case may be, duly executed, by the holder thereof or such holder's attorney duly authorized in writing. As a condition to the issuance of any new Rights Certificate under this Section 2.6, the Corporation or the Rights Agent may require the payment of a sum sufficient to cover any tax or other governmental charge that may be imposed in relation thereto and any other expenses (including the fees and expenses of the Rights Agent) connected therewith.
- (d) The Corporation shall not be required to register the transfer or exchange of any Rights after the Rights have been terminated pursuant to the provisions of this Agreement.

2.7 Mutilated, Destroyed, Lost and Stolen Rights Certificates

- (a) If any mutilated Rights Certificate is surrendered to the Rights Agent prior to the Expiration Time, the Corporation shall execute and the Rights Agent shall countersign and deliver in exchange therefor a new Rights Certificate evidencing the same number of Rights as did the Rights Certificate so surrendered.
- (b) If there shall be delivered to the Corporation and the Rights Agent prior to the Expiration Time (i) evidence to their satisfaction of the destruction, loss or theft of any Rights Certificate, and (ii) such security or indemnity as may be required by them in their sole discretion to save each of them and any of their agents harmless, then, in the absence of notice to the Corporation or the Rights Agent that such Rights Certificate has been acquired by a *bona fide* purchaser, the Corporation shall execute and upon its request the Rights Agent shall countersign and deliver, in lieu of any such destroyed, lost or stolen Rights Certificate, a new Rights Certificate evidencing the same number of Rights as did the Rights Certificate so destroyed, lost or stolen.

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- (c) As a condition to the issuance of any new Rights Certificate under this Section 2.7, the Corporation may require the payment of a sum sufficient to cover any tax or other governmental charge that may be imposed in relation thereto and any other expenses (including the fees and expenses of the Rights Agent) connected therewith.
 - (d) Every new Rights Certificate issued pursuant to this Section 2.7 in lieu of any destroyed, lost or stolen Rights Certificate shall evidence a contractual obligation of the Corporation, whether or not the destroyed, lost or stolen Rights Certificate shall be at any time enforceable by anyone, and shall be entitled to all the benefits of this Agreement equally and proportionately with any and all other Rights duly issued hereunder.

2.8 Persons Deemed Owners

Prior to due presentment of a Rights Certificate (or, prior to the Separation Time, the associated Voting Share certificate) for registration of transfer, the Corporation, the Rights Agent and any agent of the Corporation or the Rights Agent may deem and treat the Person in whose name such Rights Certificate (or, prior to the Separation Time, such Voting Share certificate) is registered as the absolute owner thereof and of the Rights evidenced thereby for all purposes whatsoever.

2.9 Delivery and Cancellation of Certificates

All Rights Certificates surrendered upon exercise or for redemption, registration of transfer or exchange shall, if surrendered to any Person other than the Rights Agent, be delivered to the Rights Agent and, in any case, shall be promptly cancelled by the Rights Agent. The Corporation may at any time deliver to the Rights Agent for cancellation any Rights Certificates previously countersigned and delivered hereunder which the Corporation may have acquired in any manner whatsoever, and all Rights Certificates so delivered shall be promptly cancelled by the Rights Agent. No Rights Certificate shall be countersigned in lieu of or in exchange for any Rights Certificates cancelled as provided in this Section 2.9, except as expressly permitted by this Agreement. The Rights Agent shall, subject to applicable law, destroy all cancelled Rights Certificates and deliver a certificate of destruction to the Corporation on request.

2.10 Agreement of Rights Holders

Every holder of Rights, by accepting such Rights, consents and agrees with the Corporation and the Rights Agent and with every other holder of Rights that:

- (a) such holder shall be bound by and subject to the provisions of this Agreement in respect of all Rights held;

- (b) prior to the Separation Time, each Right will be transferable only together with, and will be transferred by a transfer of, the associated Voting Share certificate representing such Right;
- (c) after the Separation Time, the Rights will be transferable only upon registration of the transfer on the Rights Register as provided herein;
- (d) prior to due presentment of a Rights Certificate (or, prior to the Separation Time, the associated Voting Share certificate) for registration of transfer, the Corporation, the Rights Agent and any agent of the Corporation or the Rights Agent may deem and treat the Person in whose name the Rights Certificate (or, prior to the Separation Time, the associated Voting Share certificate) is registered as the absolute owner thereof and of the Rights evidenced thereby (notwithstanding any notations of ownership or writing on such Rights Certificate or the associated Voting Share certificate made by anyone other than the Corporation or the Rights Agent) for all purposes whatsoever, and neither the Corporation nor the Rights Agent shall be affected by any notice to the contrary;
- (e) such holder of Rights is not entitled to receive any fractional Rights or fractional Common Shares or other securities upon the exercise of Rights;
- (f) without the approval of any holder of Rights or Voting Shares and upon the sole authority of the Board of Directors acting in good faith, this Agreement may be amended or supplemented from time to time in accordance with the provisions of Section 5.5 and the third last paragraph of Subsection 2.3(b); and
- (g) notwithstanding anything in this Agreement to the contrary, neither the Corporation nor the Rights Agent shall have any liability to any holder of a Right or to any other Person as a result of its inability to perform any of its obligations under this Agreement by reason of any preliminary or permanent injunction or other order, decree or ruling issued by a court of competent jurisdiction or by a government, regulatory or administrative agency or commission, or any statute, rule, regulation or executive order promulgated or enacted by any governmental authority, prohibiting or otherwise restraining performance of such obligation.

ARTICLE 3
ADJUSTMENTS TO THE RIGHTS IN THE
EVENT OF A FLIP-IN EVENT

3.1 Flip-in Event

- (a) Subject to Subsection 3.1(b) and Sections 5.1 and 5.2, in the event that prior to the Expiration Time a Flip-in Event shall occur, each Right shall constitute, effective from and after the Close of Business on the tenth Trading Day following the Stock Acquisition Date, the right to purchase from the Corporation, upon exercise thereof in accordance with the terms hereof, that number of Common Shares having an aggregate Market Price on the date of consummation or occurrence of such Flip-in Event equal to twice the Exercise Price for an amount in cash equal to the Exercise Price (such right to be appropriately adjusted in a manner analogous to the applicable adjustment provided for in Section 2.3 in the event that after such date of consummation or occurrence an event of a type analogous to any of the events described in Section 2.3 shall have occurred with respect to such Common Shares).

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- (b) Notwithstanding anything in this Agreement to the contrary, upon the occurrence of a Flip-in Event, any Rights that are or were Beneficially Owned on or after the earlier of the Separation Time or the Stock Acquisition Date by:
- (i) an Acquiring Person (or an Affiliate or Associate of an Acquiring Person, or any Person acting jointly or in concert with an Acquiring Person); or
 - (ii) a transferee or other successor-in-title, directly or indirectly, from an Acquiring Person (or an Affiliate or Associate of an Acquiring Person, or any Person acting jointly or in concert with an Acquiring Person) in a transfer of Rights, whether or not for consideration, that the Board of Directors acting in good faith has determined is part of a plan, understanding or scheme of an Acquiring Person (or an Affiliate or Associate of an Acquiring Person, or any Person acting jointly or in concert with an Acquiring Person) that has the purpose or effect of avoiding the provisions of Clause 3.1(b)(i);

shall become null and void without any further action and any holder of such Rights (including transferees or other successors-in-title) shall thereafter have no right to exercise or transfer such Rights under any provision of this Agreement and shall have no other rights whatsoever with respect to such Rights, whether under any provision of this Agreement or otherwise. The holder of any Rights represented by a Rights Certificate which is submitted to the Rights Agent upon exercise or for registration of transfer or exchange which does not contain the necessary certifications set forth in the Rights Certificate establishing that such Rights are not null and void under this Subsection 3.1(b) shall be deemed to be an Acquiring Person for the purposes of this Section 3.1 and such Rights shall become null and void.

- (c) Any Rights Certificate that represents Rights Beneficially Owned by a Person described in either Clause 3.1(b)(i) or 3.1(b)(ii) or transferred to any nominee of any such Person, and any Rights Certificate issued upon transfer, exchange, replacement or adjustment of any other Rights Certificate referred to in this sentence, shall contain the following legend:

“The Rights represented by this Rights Certificate were issued to a Person who was an Acquiring Person, or an Affiliate or an Associate of an Acquiring Person, or a Person acting jointly or in concert with any of them (as such terms are defined in the Shareholder Protection Rights Agreement). This Rights Certificate and the Rights represented hereby shall become null and void in the circumstances specified in Subsection 3.1(b) of the Shareholder Protection Rights Agreement.”

provided, however, that the Rights Agent shall not be under any responsibility to ascertain the existence of facts that would require the imposition of such legend but shall be required to impose such legend only if instructed to do so in writing by the Corporation or if a holder fails to certify upon transfer or exchange in the space provided on the Rights Certificate that such holder is not a Person described in such legend. The issuance of a Rights Certificate without the legend referred to in this Subsection 3.1(c) shall be of no effect on the provisions of Subsection 3.1(b).

ARTICLE 4 THE RIGHTS AGENT

4.1 General

- (a) The Corporation hereby appoints the Rights Agent to act as agent for the Corporation and the holders of Rights in accordance with the terms and conditions hereof, and the Rights Agent hereby accepts such appointment. The Corporation may from time to time appoint one or more co-rights agents (each a “ **Co-Rights Agent** ”) as it may deem necessary or desirable, subject to the approval of the Rights Agent. In the event the Corporation appoints one or more Co-Rights Agents, the respective duties of the Rights Agent and Co-Rights Agents shall be as the Corporation may determine with the approval of the Rights Agent and the Co-Rights Agents. The Corporation agrees to pay to the Rights Agent reasonable compensation for all services rendered by it hereunder and, from time to time, on demand of the Rights Agent, its reasonable expenses and counsel fees and other disbursements reasonably incurred in the execution and administration of this Agreement and the exercise and performance of its duties hereunder (including the reasonable fees and other disbursements of any expert retained by the Rights Agent with the approval of the Corporation, such approval not to be unreasonably withheld). The Corporation also agrees to indemnify the Rights Agent, its officers, directors, employees and agents for, and to hold it harmless against, any loss, liability, cost, claim, action, suit, damage or expense, incurred without negligence, bad faith or wilful misconduct on the part of the Rights Agent, for anything done, suffered or omitted by the Rights Agent in connection with the acceptance, execution and administration of this Agreement and the exercise and performance of its duties hereunder, including the legal costs and expenses of defending against any claim of liability, which right to indemnification will survive the termination of this Agreement and the resignation or removal of the Rights Agent.
- (b) The Rights Agent shall be protected and shall incur no liability for or in respect of any action taken, suffered or omitted by it in connection with its administration of this Agreement in reliance upon any certificate for Common Shares, Rights Certificate, certificate for other securities of the Corporation, instrument of assignment or transfer, power of attorney, endorsement, affidavit, letter, notice, direction, consent, certificate, statement or other paper or document believed by it to be genuine and to be signed, executed and, where necessary, verified or acknowledged, by the proper Person or Persons.

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- (c) The Corporation shall inform the Rights Agent in a reasonably timely manner of events which may materially affect the administration of this Agreement by the Rights Agent and, at any time upon request, shall provide to the Rights Agent an incumbency certificate certifying the then current officers of the Corporation, provided that failure to inform the Rights Agent of any such events or any defect therein, shall not affect the validity of any action taken hereunder in relation to such events.

4.2 Merger, Amalgamation or Consolidation or Change of Name of Rights Agent

- (a) Any corporation into which the Rights Agent or any successor Rights Agent may be merged or amalgamated or with which it may be consolidated, or any corporation resulting from any merger, amalgamation or consolidation to which the Rights Agent or any successor Rights Agent is a party, or any corporation succeeding to the shareholder services business of the Rights Agent or any successor Rights Agent, will be the successor to the Rights Agent under this Agreement without the execution or filing of any paper or any further act on the part of any of the parties hereto, provided that such corporation would be eligible for appointment as a successor Rights Agent under the provisions of Section 4.4. In case at the time such successor Rights Agent succeeds to the agency created by this Agreement any of the Rights Certificates have been countersigned but not delivered, any such successor Rights Agent may adopt the countersignature of the predecessor Rights Agent and deliver such Rights Certificates so countersigned; and in case at that time any of the Rights Certificates have not been countersigned, any successor Rights Agent may countersign such Rights Certificates either in the name of the predecessor Rights Agent or in the name of the successor Rights Agent; and in all such cases such Rights Certificates will have the full force provided in the Rights Certificates and in this Agreement.
- (b) In case at any time the name of the Rights Agent is changed and at such time any of the Rights Certificates shall have been countersigned but not delivered, the Rights Agent may adopt the countersignature under its prior name and deliver such Rights Certificates so countersigned; and in case at that time any of the Rights Certificates have not been countersigned, the Rights Agent may countersign such Rights Certificates either in its prior name or in its changed name; and in all such cases such Rights Certificates will have the full force provided in the Rights Certificates and in this Agreement.

4.3 Duties of Rights Agent

The Rights Agent undertakes the duties and obligations imposed by this Agreement upon the following terms and conditions, by all of which the Corporation and the holders of Rights Certificates, by their acceptance thereof, shall be bound:

- (a) The Rights Agent may retain and consult with legal counsel (who may be legal counsel for the Corporation), and the opinion of such counsel will be full and complete authorization and protection to the Rights Agent as to any action taken or omitted by it in good faith and in accordance with such opinion and the Rights Agent may also, with the approval of the Corporation (such approval not to be unreasonably withheld), retain and consult with such other experts or advisors as the Rights Agent shall consider necessary or appropriate to properly carry out its duties and obligations imposed under this Agreement (at the Corporation's expense) and the Rights Agent shall be entitled to act and rely in good faith on the advice of such experts or advisors.
- (b) Whenever in the performance of its duties under this Agreement, the Rights Agent deems it necessary or desirable that any fact or matter be proved or established by the Corporation prior to taking or suffering any action hereunder, such fact or matter (unless other evidence in respect thereof be herein specifically prescribed) may be deemed to be conclusively proved and established by a certificate signed by an individual believed by the Rights Agent to be the Chairman of the Board, the Vice Chairman of the Board, the President or any Vice President and by the Treasurer, any Assistant Treasurer, the Secretary or any Assistant Secretary of the Corporation and delivered to the Rights Agent; and such certificate will be full authorization to the Rights Agent for any action taken, omitted or suffered in good faith by it under the provisions of this Agreement in reliance upon such certificate.
- (c) The Rights Agent will be liable hereunder only for its own negligence, bad faith or wilful misconduct and that of its officers, directors and employees.
- (d) The Rights Agent will not be liable for or by reason of any of the statements of fact or recitals contained in this Agreement or in the certificates for Common Shares or the Rights Certificates (except its countersignature thereof) or be required to verify the same, but all such statements and recitals are and will be deemed to have been made by the Corporation only.
- (e) The Rights Agent will not be under any responsibility in respect of the validity of this Agreement or the execution and delivery hereof (except the due authorization, execution and delivery hereof by the Rights Agent) or in respect of the validity or execution of any Common Share certificate or Rights Certificate (except its countersignature thereof); nor will it be responsible for any breach by the Corporation of any covenant or condition contained in this Agreement or in any Rights Certificate; nor will it be responsible for any change in the exercisability of the Rights (including the Rights becoming null and void pursuant to Subsection 3.1(b)) or any adjustment required under the provisions of Section 2.3 or responsible for the manner, method or amount of any such adjustment or the ascertaining of the existence of facts that would require any such adjustment (except with respect to the exercise of Rights after receipt of the certificate contemplated by Subsection 2.3(p) describing any such adjustment); nor will it by any act hereunder be deemed to make any representation or warranty as to the authorization of any Common Shares to be issued pursuant to this Agreement or any Rights or as to whether any Common Shares will, when issued, be duly and validly authorized, executed, issued and delivered and fully paid and non-assessable.

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- (f) The Corporation will perform, execute, acknowledge and deliver or cause to be performed, executed, acknowledged and delivered all such further and other acts, instruments and assurances as may reasonably be required by the Rights Agent for the carrying out or performing by the Rights Agent of the provisions of this Agreement.
 - (g) The Rights Agent is hereby authorized and directed to accept written instructions with respect to the performance of its duties hereunder from any individual believed by the Rights Agent to be Chairman of the Board, the Vice Chairman of the Board, the President, any Vice President or the Secretary or any Assistant Secretary or the Treasurer or any Assistant Treasurer of the Corporation, and to apply to such individuals for advice or instructions in connection with its duties, and it shall not be liable for any action taken, omitted or suffered by it in good faith in accordance with instructions of any such individual; it is understood that instructions to the Rights Agent shall, except where circumstances make it impossible or the Rights Agent otherwise agrees, be given in writing and, where not in writing, such instructions shall be confirmed in writing as soon as reasonably possible after the giving of such instructions.
 - (h) The Rights Agent and any shareholder, director, officer or employee of the Rights Agent may buy, sell or deal in Common Shares, Rights or other securities of the Corporation or become pecuniarily interested in any transaction in which the Corporation may be interested, or contract with or lend money to the Corporation or otherwise act as fully and freely as though it were not Rights Agent under this Agreement. Nothing herein shall preclude the Rights Agent from acting in any other capacity for the Corporation or for any other legal entity.
 - (i) The Rights Agent may execute and exercise any of the rights or powers hereby vested in it or perform any duty hereunder either itself or by or through its attorneys or agents, and the Rights Agent will not be answerable or accountable for any act, omission, default, neglect or misconduct of any such attorneys or agents or for any loss to the Corporation resulting from any such act, omission, default, neglect or misconduct, provided reasonable care was exercised in the selection and continued employment thereof.

4.4 Change of Rights Agent

The Rights Agent may resign and be discharged from its duties under this Agreement upon 30 days' notice (or such lesser notice as is acceptable to the Corporation) in writing mailed to the Corporation and to each transfer agent of Voting Shares by registered or certified mail. The Corporation may remove the Rights Agent upon 30 days' notice in writing, given to the Rights Agent and to the transfer agent of the Common Shares (by personal delivery or registered or certified mail), and to the holders of the Rights in accordance with Section 5.10. If the Rights Agent should resign or be removed or otherwise become incapable of acting, the Corporation will appoint a successor to the Rights Agent. If the Corporation fails to make such appointment within a period of 30 days after such removal or after it has been notified in writing of such resignation or incapacity by the resigning or incapacitated Rights Agent (at the Corporation's expense) or by the holder of any Rights (which holder shall, with such notice if given after the Separation Time, submit such holder's Rights Certificate for inspection by the Corporation), then the resigning Rights Agent or the holder of any Rights may apply to any court of competent jurisdiction for the appointment of a new Rights Agent. Any successor Rights Agent, whether appointed by the Corporation or by such a court, shall be a corporation incorporated under the laws of Canada or a province thereof authorized to carry on the business of a trust company in the Province of British Columbia. After appointment, the successor Rights Agent will be vested with the same powers, rights, duties and responsibilities as if it had been originally named as Rights Agent without further act or deed; but the predecessor Rights Agent, upon receipt of any and all outstanding amounts owing to it pursuant to this Agreement, shall deliver and transfer to the successor Rights Agent any property at the time held by it hereunder, and execute and deliver any further assurance, conveyance, act or deed necessary for the purpose. Not later than the effective date of any such appointment, the Corporation will file notice thereof in writing with the predecessor Rights Agent and the transfer agent of the Common Shares, and mail a notice thereof in writing to the holders of the Rights. Failure to give any notice provided for in this Section 4.4, however, or any defect therein, shall not affect the legality or validity of the resignation or removal of the Rights Agent or the appointment of the successor Rights Agent, as the case may be.

ARTICLE 5 MISCELLANEOUS

5.1 Redemption and Termination of Rights

- (a) With the prior consent of the holders of Voting Shares or Rights obtained in accordance with Subsection 5.5(b) or (c), as applicable, the Board of Directors may, at any time prior to the occurrence of a Flip-in Event as to which the application of Section 3.1 has not been waived pursuant to Section 5.2, elect to redeem all but not less than all of the outstanding Rights at a redemption price of \$0.00001 per Right, appropriately adjusted in a manner analogous to the applicable adjustment to the Exercise Price provided for in Section 2.3 if an event analogous to any of the events described in Section 2.3 shall have occurred (such redemption price being herein referred to as the "**Redemption Price**").

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- (b) If a Person acquires, pursuant to a Permitted Bid, a Competing Permitted Bid or an Exempt Acquisition occurring under Subsection 5.2(a) or (b), outstanding Voting Shares, the Board of Directors shall, notwithstanding the provisions of Subsection 5.1(a), immediately upon such acquisition and without further formality, be deemed to have elected to redeem the Rights at the Redemption Price.
 - (c) Where a Take-Over Bid that is not a Permitted Bid or Competing Permitted Bid expires, is terminated or is otherwise withdrawn after the Separation Time has occurred and prior to the occurrence of a Flip-in Event, the Board of Directors may elect to redeem all of the outstanding Rights at the Redemption Price.
 - (d) If the Board of Directors elects or is deemed to have elected to redeem the Rights and, in circumstances where Subsection 5.1(a) is applicable, the requisite consent is given by the holders of Voting Shares or Rights, as applicable, (i) the right to exercise the Rights will thereupon, without further action and without notice, terminate and the only right thereafter of the holders of Rights shall be to receive the Redemption Price, and (ii) subject to Subsection 5.1(f), no further Rights shall thereafter be issued.
 - (e) Within 10 Business Days of the Board of Directors electing or having been deemed to have elected to redeem the Rights or, in circumstances where Subsection 5.1(a) is applicable, within 10 Business Days after the requisite consent is given by the holders of Voting Shares or Rights, as applicable, the Corporation shall give notice of redemption to the holders of the outstanding Rights by mailing such notice to each such holder at his last address as it appears upon the Rights Register or, prior to the Separation Time, on the register of Voting Shares maintained by the Corporation's transfer agent or transfer agents. Each such notice of redemption shall state the method by which the payment of the Redemption Price shall be made.
 - (f) Upon the Rights being redeemed pursuant to Subsection 5.1(c), all the provisions of this Agreement shall continue to apply as if the Separation Time had not occurred and Rights Certificates representing the number of Rights held by each holder of record of Voting Shares as of the Separation Time had not been mailed to each such holder and, for all purposes of this Agreement, the Separation Time shall be deemed not to have occurred and Rights shall remain attached to the outstanding Voting Shares, subject to and in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement.

5.2 Waiver of Flip-In Events

- (a) With the prior consent of the holders of Voting Shares obtained in accordance with Subsection 5.5(b), the Board of Directors may, at any time prior to the occurrence of a Flip-in Event that would occur by reason of an acquisition of Voting Shares otherwise than in the circumstances described in Subsection 5.2(b) or (c), waive the application of Section 3.1 to such Flip-in Event by written notice delivered to the Rights Agent.

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- (b) The Board of Directors may, at any time prior to the occurrence of a Flip-in Event that would occur by reason of a Take-Over Bid made by means of a take-over bid circular sent to all holders of record of Voting Shares (which, for greater certainty, shall not include the circumstances described in Subsection 5.2(c)), waive the application of Section 3.1 to such Flip-in Event by written notice delivered to the Rights Agent, *provided, however*, that if the Board of Directors waives the application of Section 3.1 to such a Flip-in Event, the Board of Directors shall be deemed to have waived the application of Section 3.1 to any other Flip-in Event occurring by reason of any Take-Over Bid which is made by means of a take-over bid circular sent to all holders of record of Voting Shares prior to the expiry, termination or withdrawal of any Take-Over Bid in respect of which a waiver is, or is deemed to have been, granted under this Subsection 5.2(b).
- (c) The Board of Directors may waive the application of Section 3.1 to a Flip-in Event provided that the following conditions are satisfied:
- (i) the Board of Directors has determined that the Acquiring Person became an Acquiring Person by inadvertence and without any intention to become, or knowledge that it would become, an Acquiring Person; and
 - (ii) such Acquiring Person has reduced its Beneficial Ownership of Voting Shares such that, at the time of the waiver pursuant to this Subsection 5.2(c), it is no longer an Acquiring Person.

5.3 Expiration

No Person shall have any rights pursuant to this Agreement in respect of any Right after the Expiration Time, except the Rights Agent as specified in Subsection 4.1(a).

5.4 Issuance of New Rights Certificates

Notwithstanding any of the provisions of this Agreement or of the Rights to the contrary, the Corporation may, at its option, issue new Rights Certificates evidencing Rights in such form as may be approved by the Board of Directors to reflect any adjustment or change in the number or kind or class of shares purchasable upon exercise of Rights made in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement.

5.5 Supplements and Amendments

- (a) The Corporation may from time to time prior to or after the Separation Time amend, supplement or restate this Agreement without the approval of any holders of Rights or Voting Shares in order to correct any clerical or typographical error or, subject to Subsection 5.5(d), to maintain the validity and effectiveness of this Agreement as a result of any change in applicable laws, rules or regulatory requirements. The Corporation may, prior to the date of the shareholders' meeting referred to in Subsection 5.19(b), amend, supplement or restate this Agreement without the approval of any holders of Voting Shares or Rights in order to make any changes which the Board of Directors acting in good faith may deem necessary or desirable. Notwithstanding anything in this Section 5.5 to the contrary, no such amendment, supplement or restatement shall be made to the provisions of Article 4 except with the written concurrence of the Rights Agent to such amendment, supplement or restatement.
- (b) Subject to Subsection 5.5(a), the Corporation may, with the prior consent of the holders of Voting Shares obtained as set forth below, at any time prior to the Separation Time, amend, supplement, restate or rescind any of the provisions of this Agreement and the Rights (whether or not such action would materially adversely affect the interests of the holders of Rights generally). Such consent shall be deemed to have been given if the action requiring such approval is authorized by the affirmative vote of a majority of the votes cast by Independent Shareholders present or represented at and entitled to vote at a meeting of the holders of Voting Shares duly called and held in compliance with applicable laws and the articles and by-laws of the Corporation.
- (c) Subject to Subsection 5.5(a), the Corporation may, with the prior consent of the holders of Rights obtained as set forth below, at any time after the Separation Time, amend, supplement, restate or rescind any of the provisions of this Agreement and the Rights (whether or not such action would materially adversely affect the interests of the holders of Rights generally). Such consent shall be deemed to have been given if the action requiring such approval is authorized by the affirmative vote of a majority of the votes cast by the holders of Rights (other than any holder of Rights whose Rights have become null and void pursuant to the provisions hereof) present or represented at and entitled to vote at a meeting of the holders of Rights. For the purposes hereof, the procedures for the calling, holding and conduct of a meeting of the holders of Rights shall be those, as nearly as may be, which are provided in the Corporation's by-laws with respect to meetings of its shareholders and each Right shall be entitled to one vote at any such meeting.
- (d) Any amendments, supplements or restatements made by the Corporation to this Agreement pursuant to Subsection 5.5(a) which are required to maintain the validity and effectiveness of this Agreement as a result of any change in any applicable laws, rules or regulatory requirements shall:
 - (i) if made before the Separation Time, be submitted to the holders of Voting Shares at the next meeting of holders of Voting Shares and the holders of Voting Shares may, by the majority referred to in Subsection 5.5(b), confirm or reject such amendment, supplement or restatement; and
 - (ii) if made after the Separation Time, be submitted to the holders of Rights at a meeting to be called and held in accordance with the provisions of Subsection 5.5(c) and the holders of Rights may, by a majority referred to in Subsection 5.5(c), confirm or reject such amendment, supplement or restatement.

Any such amendment, supplement or restatement shall, unless the Board of Directors otherwise stipulates, be effective from the date of the resolution of the Board of Directors adopting such amendment, supplement or restatement, until it is confirmed or rejected or until it ceases to be effective (as described in the next sentence) and, where such amendment, supplement or restatement is confirmed, it shall continue in effect in the form so confirmed. If such amendment, supplement or restatement is rejected by the holders of Voting Shares or the holders of Rights or is not submitted to the holders of Voting Shares or holders of Rights as required, then such amendment, supplement or restatement shall cease to be effective from and after the termination of the meeting at which it was rejected or to which it should have been but was not submitted or if such a meeting of the holders of Rights is not called within 90 days after the date of the resolution of the Board of Directors adopting such amendment, supplement or restatement, at the end of such period, and no subsequent resolution of the Board of Directors to amend, supplement or restate this Agreement to substantially the same effect shall be effective until confirmed by the holders of Voting Shares or holders of Rights as the case may be.

- (e) The Corporation shall give notice in writing to the Rights Agent of any amendment, supplement or restatement to this Agreement pursuant to Section 5.5 within five Business Days of the date of any such amendment, supplement or restatement, provided that failure to give such notice, or any defect therein, shall not affect the validity of any such amendment, supplement or restatement.

5.6 Fractional Rights and Fractional Shares

- (a) The Corporation shall not be required to issue fractions of Rights or to distribute Rights Certificates which evidence fractional Rights. Subject to Section 5.3, after the Separation Time there shall be paid to the registered holders of the Rights Certificates with regard to which fractional Rights would otherwise be issuable, an amount in cash equal to the same fraction of the Market Price at the Separation Time of a whole Right in lieu of such fractional Rights. The Rights Agent shall have no obligation to make any payments in lieu of fractional Rights unless the Corporation shall have provided the Rights Agent with the necessary funds to pay in full all amounts payable in accordance with Subsection 2.2(e).
- (b) The Corporation shall not be required to issue fractional Common Shares upon exercise of the Rights or to distribute certificates which evidence fractional Common Shares. In lieu of issuing fractional Common Shares, the Corporation shall pay to the registered holder of Rights Certificates at the time such Rights are exercised as herein provided, an amount in cash equal to the same fraction of the Market Price at the date of such exercise of one Common Share. The Rights Agent shall have no obligation to make any payments in lieu of fractional Voting Shares unless the Corporation shall have provided the Rights Agent with the necessary funds to pay in full all amounts payable in accordance with Subsection 2.2(e).

5.7 Rights of Action

Subject to the terms of this Agreement, rights of action in respect of this Agreement, other than rights of action vested solely in the Rights Agent, are vested in the respective holders of the Rights; and any holder of any Rights, without the consent of the Rights Agent or of the holder of any other Rights, may, on such holder's own behalf and for such holder's own benefit and the benefit of other holders of Rights, enforce, and may institute and maintain any suit, action or proceeding against the Corporation to enforce, or otherwise act in respect of, such holder's right to exercise such holder's Rights, or Rights to which such holder is entitled, in the manner provided in such holder's Rights Certificate and in this Agreement. Without limiting the foregoing or any remedies available to the holders of Rights, it is specifically acknowledged that the holders of Rights would not have an adequate remedy at law for any breach of this Agreement and will be entitled to specific performance of the obligations under, and injunctive relief against actual or threatened violations of, the obligations of any Person subject to this Agreement.

5.8 Holder of Rights Not Deemed a Shareholder

No holder, as such, of any Rights shall be entitled to vote, receive dividends or be deemed for any purpose the holder of Common Shares or any other securities which may at any time be issuable on the exercise of such Rights, nor shall anything contained herein or in any Rights Certificate be construed to confer upon the holder of any Rights, as such, any of the rights of a shareholder of the Corporation or any right to vote for the election of directors or upon any matter submitted to shareholders at any meeting thereof, or to give or withhold consent to any corporate action, or to receive notice of meetings or other actions affecting shareholders (except as provided in Section 5.9), or to receive dividends or subscription rights or otherwise, until such Rights, or Rights to which such holder is entitled, shall have been exercised in accordance with the provisions hereof.

5.9 Notice of Proposed Actions

If after the Separation Time and prior to the Expiration Time:

- (i) there shall occur an adjustment in the rights attaching to the Rights pursuant to Section 3.1 as a result of the occurrence of a Flip-in Event; or
- (ii) the Corporation proposes to effect the liquidation, dissolution or winding up of the Corporation or the sale of all or substantially all of the Corporation's assets;

then, in each such case, the Corporation shall give to each holder of a Right, in accordance with Section 5.10, a notice of such event or proposed action, which shall specify the date on which such adjustment to the Rights occurred or liquidation, dissolution or winding up is to take place, and such notice shall be so given within 10 Business Days after the occurrence of an adjustment to the Rights and not less than 20 Business Days prior to the date of taking such proposed action by the Corporation.

5.10 Notices

Notices or demands to be given or made in connection with this Agreement by the Rights Agent or by the holder of any Rights to or on the Corporation shall be sufficiently given or made if delivered or sent by mail, postage prepaid or by fax (with, in the case of fax, an original copy of the notice or demand sent by first class mail, postage prepaid, to the Corporation following the giving of the notice or demand by fax), addressed (until another address is filed in writing with the Rights Agent) as follows:

Golden Star Resources Ltd.
10901 West Toller Drive
Suite 300
Littleton, Colorado
80127-6312

Attention: John A. Labate, Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer
Fax: (303) 830-9094

Notices or demands to be given or made in connection with this Agreement by the Corporation or by the holder of any Rights to or on the Rights Agent shall be sufficiently given or made if delivered or sent by mail, postage prepaid, or by fax (with, in the case of fax, an original copy of the notice or demand sent by first class mail, postage prepaid, to the Rights Agent following the giving of the notice or demand by fax), addressed (until another address is filed in writing with the Corporation) as follows:

CIBC Mellon Trust Company
1600, 1066 West Hastings Street
Vancouver, British Columbia V6E 3X1

Attention: Leslie MacFarlane, Associate Director
Fax: (604) 688-4301

Notices or demands to be given or made in connection with this Agreement by the Corporation or the Rights Agent to or on the holder of any Rights shall be sufficiently given or made if delivered or sent by first class mail, postage prepaid, or by fax (with, in the case of fax, an original copy of the notice or demand sent by first class mail, postage prepaid, to such holder following the giving of the notice or demand by fax), addressed to such holder at the address of such holder as it appears upon the register of the Rights Agent or, prior to the Separation Time, on the register of the Corporation for the Common Shares.

Any notice given or made in accordance with this Section 5.10 shall be deemed to have been given and to have been received on the day of delivery, if so delivered, on the third Business Day (excluding each day during which there exists any general interruption of postal service due to strike, lockout or other cause) following the mailing thereof, if so mailed, and on the day of faxing (provided such sending is during the normal business hours of the addressee on a Business Day and if not, on the first Business Day thereafter). Each of the Corporation and the Rights Agent may from time to time change its address for notice by notice to the other given in the manner aforesaid.

If mail service is or is threatened to be interrupted at a time when the Corporation or the Rights Agent wishes to give a notice or demand hereunder to or on the holders of the Rights, the Corporation or the Rights Agent may, notwithstanding the foregoing provisions of this Section 5.10, give such notice by means, of publication once in each of two successive weeks in the business section of the Financial Post and, so long as the Corporation has a transfer agent in the United States, in a daily publication in the United States designated by the Corporation, or in such other publication or publications as may be designated by the Corporation and notice so published shall be deemed to have been given on the date on which the first publication of such notice in any such publication has taken place.

5.11 Costs of Enforcement

The Corporation agrees that, if the Corporation fails to fulfil any of its obligations pursuant to this Agreement, then the Corporation will reimburse the holder of any Rights for the costs and expenses (including legal fees) reasonably incurred by such holder in actions to enforce his rights pursuant to any Rights or this Agreement.

5.12 Successors

All the covenants and provisions of this Agreement by or for the benefit of the Corporation or the Rights Agent shall bind and inure to the benefit of their respective successors and assigns hereunder.

5.13 Benefits of this Agreement

Nothing in this Agreement shall be construed to give to any Person other than the Corporation, the Rights Agent and the holders of the Rights any legal or equitable right, remedy or claim under this Agreement; this Agreement shall be for the sole and exclusive benefit of the Corporation, the Rights Agent and the holders of the Rights.

5.14 Governing Law

This Agreement and each Right issued hereunder shall be deemed to be a contract made under the laws of the Province of Ontario and for all purposes shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of such Province applicable to contracts to be made and performed entirely within such Province.

5.15 Language

Les parties aux présentes ont exigé que la présente convention ainsi que tous les documents et avis qui s'y rattachent et/ou qui en découleront soient rédigés en langue anglaise. The parties hereto have required that this Agreement and all documents and notices related thereto and/or resulting therefrom be drawn up in the English language.

5.16 Counterparts

This Agreement may be executed in any number of counterparts and each of such counterparts shall for all purposes be deemed to be an original, and all such counterparts shall together constitute but one and the same instrument.

5.17 Severability

If any term or provision hereof or the application thereof to any circumstance shall, in any jurisdiction and to any extent, be invalid or unenforceable, such term or provision shall be ineffective as to such jurisdiction to the extent of such invalidity or unenforceability without invalidating or rendering unenforceable the remaining terms and provisions hereof or the application of such term or provision to circumstances other than those as to which it is held invalid or unenforceable.

5.18 Determinations and Actions by the Board of Directors

All actions, calculations and determinations (including all omissions with respect to the foregoing) which are done or made by the Board of Directors in good faith pursuant to this Agreement, shall not subject the Board of Directors to any liability to the holders of the Rights.

5.19 Effective Date and Expiration Time

- (a) Notwithstanding its amendment and restatement as at the date hereof, and subject to Subsection 5.19(b), this Agreement:
 - (i) shall be effective and in full force and effect in accordance with its terms from and after the Close of Business on the Effective Date and shall amend, replace and supersede the 2007 Plan, and shall constitute the entire agreement between the parties pertaining to the subject matter hereof, as of the Effective Date; and
 - (ii) shall expire and be of no further force or effect from and after the Close of Business on the date (the “**Expiration Time**”) that is the earlier of (i) the Termination Time, and (ii) the date upon which the annual meeting of the holders of Voting Shares terminates in 2013.
- (b) Notwithstanding Subsection 5.19(a), if the Agreement is not approved by a resolution passed by a majority of the votes cast by Independent Shareholders who vote in respect of approval of this Agreement at the annual and special meeting of the holders of Voting Shares scheduled to be held on May 6, 2010, then the 2007 Plan and all outstanding Rights shall terminate and be null and void and of no further force and effect from and after the Close of Business on the Effective Date and this Agreement shall not become effective.

5.20 Regulatory Approvals

Any obligation of the Corporation or action or event contemplated by this Agreement, or any amendment, supplement or restatement of this Agreement, shall be subject to receipt of any requisite approval or consent from any governmental or regulatory authority having jurisdiction including, while any securities of the Corporation are listed and admitted to trading thereon, the TSX.

5.21 Time of the Essence

Time shall be of the essence of this Agreement.

5.22 Declaration as to Non-Canadian Holders

If in the opinion of the Board of Directors (who may rely on the advice of counsel) any action or event contemplated by this Agreement would require compliance with the securities laws or comparable legislation of a jurisdiction outside of Canada or the United States, the Board of Directors acting in good faith may take such actions as it may deem appropriate to ensure such compliance. In no event shall the Corporation or the Rights Agent be required to issue or deliver Rights or securities issuable on the exercise of Rights to Persons who are citizens, residents or nationals of any jurisdiction other than Canada or the United States in which such issue or delivery would be unlawful without registration or the relevant Persons or securities for such purposes, or (until such notice is given as required by law) without advance notice to any regulatory or self-regulatory body.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF , the parties hereto have caused this Agreement to be duly executed as of the date first above written.

GOLDEN STAR RESOURCES LTD.

By: /s/ Thomas G. Mair
Name: Thomas G. Mair
Title: President and Chief Executive Officer

By: /s/ John A. Labate
Name: John A. Labate
Title: Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

CIBC MELLON TRUST COMPANY

By: /s/ Van Bot
Name: Van Bot
Title: Authorized Signatory

By: /s/ Kathy Straw
Name: Kathy Straw
Title: Authorized Signatory

EXHIBIT A

(Form of Rights Certificate)

Certificate No. _____

_____ Rights

THE RIGHTS ARE SUBJECT TO REDEMPTION, AT THE OPTION OF THE CORPORATION, ON THE TERMS SET FORTH IN THE SHAREHOLDER RIGHTS PLAN AGREEMENT. UNDER CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES (SPECIFIED IN SUBSECTION 3.1(b) OF THE SHAREHOLDER RIGHTS PLAN AGREEMENT), RIGHTS BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY AN ACQUIRING PERSON OR ITS AFFILIATES OR ASSOCIATES OR ANY PERSON ACTING JOINTLY OR IN CONCERT WITH ANY OF THEM (AS SUCH TERMS ARE DEFINED IN THE SHAREHOLDER RIGHTS PLAN AGREEMENT) OR TRANSFEREES OF ANY OF THE FOREGOING WILL BECOME NULL AND VOID WITHOUT FURTHER ACTION.

Rights Certificate

This certifies that _____, or registered assigns, is the registered holder of the number of Rights set forth above, each of which entitles the registered holder thereof, subject to the terms, provisions and conditions of the Amended and Restated Shareholder Rights Plan Agreement dated as of May 6, 2010 amending and restating the Rights Agreement dated as of April 24, 1996, as amended on June 30, 1999, as amended and restated by the Amended and Restated Shareholder Rights Plan Agreement dated as of May 20, 2004, as amended and restated by the Amended and Restated Shareholder Rights Plan Agreement dated as of May 9, 2007, and as further amended, supplemented or restated from time to time (the "Rights Agreement") between Golden Star Resources Ltd., a corporation incorporated under the laws of Canada (the "Corporation") and CIBC Mellon Trust Company, a trust company incorporated under the laws of Canada, as Rights Agent (the "Rights Agent", which term shall include any successor Rights Agent under the Rights Agreement), to purchase from the Corporation at any time after the Separation Time and prior to the Expiration Time (as such terms are defined in the Rights Agreement), one fully paid common share of the Corporation (a "Common Share") at the Exercise Price referred to below, upon presentation and surrender of this Rights Certificate with the Form of Election to Exercise duly executed and submitted to the Rights Agent at its principal office in Vancouver, British Columbia or, with the approval of the Rights Agent, at any other office of the Rights Agent in the cities designated from time to time by the Corporation. Until adjustment thereof in certain events as provided in the Rights Agreement, the Exercise Price shall be \$<*> (Canadian) per Right.

In certain circumstances described in the Rights Agreement, each Right evidenced hereby may entitle the registered holder thereof to purchase more or less than one Common Share, all as provided in the Rights Agreement.

This Rights Certificate is subject to all of the terms, provisions and conditions of the Rights Agreement which terms, provisions and conditions are hereby incorporated herein by reference and made a part hereof and to which Rights Agreement reference is hereby made for a full description of the rights, limitations of rights, obligations, duties and immunities thereunder of the Rights Agent, the Corporation and the holders of the Rights. Copies of the Rights Agreement are on file at the registered office of the Corporation and are available upon written request.

This Rights Certificate, with or without other Rights Certificates, upon surrender at any of the offices of the Rights Agent designated for such purpose, may be exchanged for another Rights Certificate or Rights Certificates of like tenor and date evidencing an aggregate number of Rights equal to the aggregate number of Rights evidenced by the Rights Certificate or Rights Certificates surrendered. If this Rights Certificate shall be exercised in part, the registered holder shall be entitled to receive, upon surrender hereof, another Rights Certificate or Rights Certificates for the number of whole Rights not exercised.

Subject to the provisions of the Rights Agreement, the Rights evidenced by this Certificate may be, and under certain circumstances are required to be, redeemed by the Corporation at a redemption price of Cdn.\$0.00001 per Right, subject to adjustment in certain events.

No fractional Common Shares will be issued upon the exercise of any Right or Rights evidenced hereby, but in lieu thereof, a cash payment will be made, as provided in the Rights Agreement.

No holder of this Rights Certificate, as such, shall be entitled to vote or receive dividends or be deemed for any purpose the holder of Common Shares or any other securities which may at any time be issuable upon the exercise hereof, nor shall anything contained in the Rights Agreement or herein be construed to confer upon the holder hereof, as such, any of the rights of a shareholder of the Corporation or any right to vote for the election of directors or upon any matter submitted to shareholders at any meeting thereof, or to give or withhold consent to any corporate action, or to receive notice of meeting or other actions affecting shareholders (except as provided in the Rights Agreement), or to receive dividends or subscription rights, or otherwise, until the Rights evidenced by this Rights Certificate shall have been exercised as provided in the Rights Agreement.

This Rights Certificate shall not be valid or obligatory for any purpose until it shall have been countersigned by the Rights Agent.

WITNESS the facsimile signature of the proper officers of the Corporation and its corporate seal.

Date: _____

GOLDEN STAR RESOURCES LTD.

By: _____
Name:
Title:

By: _____
Name:
Title:

CIBC MELLON TRUST COMPANY

By: _____
Name:
Title:

By: _____
Name:
Title:

(To be attached to each Rights Certificate)

FORM OF ELECTION TO EXERCISE

TO:

The undersigned hereby irrevocably elects to exercise _____ whole Rights represented by the attached Rights Certificate to purchase the Common Shares issuable upon the exercise of such Rights and requests that certificates for such shares be issued in the name of:

Name

Address

Social Insurance, Social Security or other Taxpayer Identification Number _____

Dated

Per: _____

Signature

(Signature must correspond to name as written upon the face of this Rights Certificate in every particular, without alteration or enlargement or any change whatsoever)

Signature Guaranteed

Signature must be guaranteed by a Schedule 1 Canadian chartered bank, a major Canadian trust company or by a medallion guarantee by a member firm of a recognized Medallion Guarantee Program.

(To be completed if true)

The undersigned hereby represents, for the benefit of all holders of Rights and Common Shares, that the Rights evidenced by this Rights Certificate are not, and, to the knowledge of the undersigned, have never been, Beneficially Owned by an Acquiring Person or an Affiliate or Associate thereof or by any Person acting jointly or in concert with any of the foregoing (all as defined in the Rights Agreement).

Signature

NOTICE

In the event the certification set forth above is not completed, the Corporation will deem the Beneficial Owner of the Rights evidenced by this Rights Certificate to be an Acquiring Person (as defined in the Rights Agreement) and, accordingly, such Rights shall be null and void and not transferable or exercisable.

(To be executed by the registered holder if such holder desires to transfer the Rights evidenced by this Rights Certificate.)

FORM OF ASSIGNMENT

FOR VALUE RECEIVED _____ hereby sells, assigns and transfers unto

(please print name and address of transferee)

the Rights evidenced by this Rights Certificate, together with all right, title and interest therein, and does hereby irrevocably constitute and appoint _____ attorney, to transfer the within Rights on the books of the within-named Corporation, with full power of substitution.

Dated

Per: _____
Signature
(Signature must correspond to name as written upon the face of this Rights Certificate in every particular, without alteration or enlargement or any change whatsoever)

Signature Guaranteed

Signature must be guaranteed by a Schedule 1 Canadian chartered bank, a major Canadian trust company or by a medallion guarantee by a member firm a recognized Medallion Guarantee Program.

(To be completed if true)

The undersigned hereby represents, for the benefit of all holders of Rights and Common Shares, that the Rights evidenced by this Rights Certificate are not, and, to the knowledge of the undersigned, have never been, Beneficially Owned by an Acquiring Person or an Affiliate or Associate thereof or by any Person acting jointly or in concert with any of the foregoing (as defined in the Rights Agreement).

Signature

NOTICE

In the event the certification set forth above is not completed, the Corporation will deem the Beneficial Owner of the Rights evidenced by this Rights Certificate to be an Acquiring Person (as defined in the Rights Agreement) and, accordingly, such Rights shall be null and void and not transferable or exercisable.

GOLDEN STAR RESOURCES LTD.

THIRD AMENDED AND RESTATED 1997 STOCK OPTION PLAN
(Effective Date of Amendment May 6, 2010)

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of the Third Amended and Restated 1997 Stock Option Plan (the “Plan”) is to advance the interests of Golden Star Resources Ltd. (the “Corporation”) by encouraging and enabling equity participation in the Corporation by selected key employees, consultants and directors of the Corporation or subsidiaries of the Corporation through the acquisition of common shares without par value of the Corporation (“Shares”). The Corporation would like to incentivize eligible employees to maintain and to enhance the long-term performance of the Corporation through the acquisition of Shares pursuant to the exercise of stock options. Any reference herein to the Corporation or any subsidiary of the Corporation shall be deemed to refer to any predecessor or successor corporation thereto.
- “Affiliate” shall have the meaning set forth in the *Canada Business Corporations Act* .
- “Code” shall mean the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended.
- “Effective Date” shall mean May 6, 2010.
- “Incentive Stock Option” means a stock option designated as an incentive stock option in an option agreement and that is granted in accordance with the requirements of, and that conforms to the applicable provisions of, Section 422 of the Code.
- “Insider” shall have the meaning set forth in the Toronto Stock Exchange Company Manual.
- “Nonqualified Stock Option” means a stock option that is not designated in an option agreement as an Incentive Stock Option or was not granted in accordance with the requirements of, and does not conform to the applicable provisions of, Section 422 of the Code.
- “Option” means any Nonqualified Stock Option or Incentive Stock Option granted under the Plan.
- 1.2 It is the further purpose of this Plan to permit the granting of Options that will constitute performance-based compensation for certain executive officers, as described in Section 162(m) of the Code.

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- 1.3 The 1992 Employees' Stock Option Plan and the 1992 Non-Discretionary Directors' Stock Option Plan (collectively, the "1992 Plans") were terminated upon the assumption under the Plan of outstanding options granted under the 1992 Plans.

2. ADMINISTRATION OF THE PLAN

- 2.1 The Plan will be administered by the Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors of the Corporation (the "Board of Directors") or such other independent committee of the Board of Directors as the Board of Directors shall determine (the "Independent Committee"); provided however, the Board of Directors may, in its discretion, reserve to itself any or all of the authority and responsibility of the Independent Committee; and provided further, with respect to Nonqualified Stock Options granted to non-employee directors of the Corporation, the Board of Directors shall serve as the Independent Committee. To the extent that the Board of Directors has reserved to itself the authority and responsibility of the Independent Committee, all references herein to the Independent Committee shall be deemed to refer to the Board of Directors.

The Independent Committee shall consist of such two or more directors of the Corporation as the Board of Directors may designate from time to time, all of whom shall be and remain directors of the Corporation. To the extent necessary to comply with Code Section 162(m) or Rule 16b-3 under the U.S. Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Exchange Act"), as amended ("Rule 16b-3"), each member of the Independent Committee shall be an "outside director" within the meaning of Code Section 162(m) and a "non-employee director" within the meaning of Rule 16b-3. The Independent Committee shall also satisfy any "independence" requirements of any national securities exchange in the United States on which the Shares are listed. As of the Effective Date, the Compensation Committee of the Corporation shall be the Independent Committee that administers the Plan.

The Independent Committee is authorized to interpret and to implement the Plan and all Plan agreements and may from time to time amend or rescind rules and regulations required for carrying out the Plan. The Independent Committee shall have the authority to exercise all of the powers granted to it under the Plan, to make any determination necessary or advisable in administering the Plan and to correct any defect or any omission and reconcile any inconsistency in the Plan. Any such interpretation or construction of any provision of the Plan shall be final and binding on all optionees and for all purposes of the Plan. The Independent Committee shall have, in addition to any specific powers granted by this Plan, such powers that it may deem necessary, desirable, convenient or appropriate for the supervision and administration of this Plan.

- 2.2 All administrative costs of the Plan shall be paid by the Corporation. No member of the Independent Committee shall be liable for any action or determination made in good faith with respect to the Plan or any Option granted under it.

3. PARTICIPATION

- 3.1 Options may be granted under the Plan to persons who are directors or key employees (including officers, whether or not directors, and part-time employees) of, or independent consultants to, the Corporation or any of its subsidiaries who, by the nature of their positions or jobs, are in the opinion of the Independent Committee in a position to contribute to the success of the Corporation or any of its subsidiaries or who, by virtue of their length of service to the Corporation or to any of its subsidiaries are, in the opinion of the Independent Committee, worthy of special recognition. However, Incentive Stock Options may only be granted to employees of the Corporation and its subsidiaries. Designation of a participant in any year shall not require the designation of such person to receive an Option in any other year. The Independent Committee shall consider such factors as it deems pertinent in selecting participants and in determining the amount and terms of their respective Options.
- 3.2 Options may also be granted under the Plan in substitution for outstanding options of another corporation or entity or corporations or entities in connection with a plan of arrangement, amalgamation, merger, consolidation, acquisition of property or shares, or other reorganization between or involving such other corporation or entity or corporations or entities and the Corporation or any of its subsidiaries.

4. NUMBER OF SHARES RESERVED UNDER THE PLAN

- 4.1 The number of Shares reserved for issuance under the Plan is limited as follows:
- (a) the maximum number of Shares issuable pursuant to the exercise of Incentive Stock Options and Nonqualified Stock Options shall be twenty-five million (25,000,000) (including such number of Shares issuable upon exercise of options granted under other stock option plans or share compensation arrangements of the Corporation as of the Effective Date); provided, however, if, after the Effective Date, any Shares covered by an Option, or to which such an Option relates, are forfeited, or if an Option has expired, terminated or been cancelled for any reason whatsoever (other than by reason of exercise), then the Shares covered by such Option shall again be, or shall become, Shares with respect to which Options may be granted hereunder. The maximum number of Shares set forth in this Section 4.1(a) shall be subject to adjustment or increase of such number pursuant to Section 11;
 - (b) the aggregate number of Shares in respect of which Options have been granted and remain outstanding under the Plan shall not at any time, when taken together with all of the Corporation's other stock option plans or share compensation arrangements then either in effect or proposed, at any time be such as to result in the number of Shares reserved for issuance to Insiders pursuant to stock options exceeding ten percent (10%) of the Outstanding Issue (as defined below);
 - (c) the total number of Shares issued within any one-year period to all Insiders of the Corporation pursuant to the exercise of vested Options and pursuant to any other share compensation arrangements of the Corporation shall not exceed ten percent (10%) of the Outstanding Issue;

- (d) the total number of Shares reserved for issuance to any one optionee pursuant to Options granted under the Plan and other stock option plans or share compensation arrangements of the Corporation shall not exceed two percent (2%) of the Outstanding Issue from time to time;
 - (e) the total number of Shares issuable within any one-year period to an Insider and, if applicable, such Insider's "associates" (as defined under the *Securities Act* (Ontario)) pursuant to the exercise of vested Options or any other share compensation arrangements of the Corporation shall not exceed two percent (2%) of the Outstanding Issue; and
 - (f) notwithstanding any other provision of the Plan or an option agreement, the aggregate fair market value of the Shares with respect to which Incentive Stock Options are exercisable for the first time by an optionee in any calendar year, under the Plan or any other option plan of the Corporation or its affiliates, shall not exceed US\$100,000. For this purpose, the fair market value of the Shares shall be determined as of the time the Incentive Stock Option is granted and the value of stock acquired through the exercise of Nonqualified Stock Options shall not be included. The Options or portions thereof which exceed such limit (according to the order in which they were granted) shall be treated as Nonqualified Stock Options.
- 4.2 "Outstanding Issue", for the purposes of the Plan, is determined on the basis of the number of Shares that are outstanding immediately prior to the issuance of Shares in question, and shall exclude Shares issued pursuant to the Plan and the Corporation's other share compensation arrangements over the preceding one-year period.

5. NUMBER OF OPTIONED SHARES PER OPTIONEE

- 5.1 Subject to Section 4.1 hereof, the maximum number of Shares subject to Options granted to any one participant in any one calendar year shall not exceed eight hundred thousand (800,000) (such number shall be subject to adjustment or increase pursuant to Section 11). Subject to these limitations, however, the determination regarding the number of optioned Shares that may be granted to each optionee pursuant to an Option will be made by the Independent Committee and will take into consideration the optionee's present and potential contribution to the success of the Corporation.

6. PRICE

- 6.1 The exercise price per Option shall be determined by the Independent Committee at the time the Option is granted, but such price shall not be less than the fair market value per Share on the date of grant. For the purposes of the Plan, "fair market value" per Share shall mean the closing price of the Shares on the stock exchange or other market on which the Shares principally traded on the day immediately preceding the date of grant; provided, however, that if the Shares are not readily tradable on an established securities market, the fair market value shall be made in a manner that, in the good faith determination of the Independent Committee, represents a reasonable application of a reasonable valuation method. Notwithstanding the foregoing, in the case of a grant of an Incentive Stock Option, the exercise price shall be the closing price of the Shares on the stock exchange or other market on which the Shares principally traded on the day immediately preceding the date of grant.

6.2 Notwithstanding Section 6.1 hereof, in the case of a grant of an Incentive Stock Option to an employee who is a Ten Percent Shareholder (as defined below) as of the date of grant, the exercise price shall not be less than one hundred ten percent (110%) of the greater of the closing price of the Shares on the stock exchange or other market on which the Shares principally traded on (i) the date of grant or (ii) the day immediately preceding the date of grant.

A “Ten Percent Shareholder” shall be a shareholder who owns shares possessing more than ten percent (10%) of the total combined voting power of all classes of shares of the Corporation or any related corporation. The preceding sentence shall be interpreted and administered in accordance with Code Section 422(b)(6) and U.S. Treasury Regulations promulgated thereunder.

7. EXERCISE OF OPTIONS

7.1 The period during which an Option may be exercised (the “Option Period”) shall be determined by the Independent Committee at the time the Option is granted and may be up to ten (10) years from the date the Option is granted, except as the same may be reduced pursuant to the provisions of Sections 8 and 9 hereof. Notwithstanding the previous sentence, no Incentive Stock Option granted to a Ten Percent Shareholder shall be exercisable after the expiration of five (5) years from the date of grant.

7.2 In order to ensure that the Corporation will receive the benefits contemplated in exchange for the Options granted hereunder, no Option shall be exercisable until it has vested. The vesting schedule for each Option shall be specified in an option agreement as provided for in Section 11 hereof; provided, however, that the Independent Committee shall have the right with respect to any one or more optionees to accelerate the time at which an Option may be exercised. Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions of this Section 7.2, if there is a Change of Control (as defined below), then all Options outstanding shall become immediately exercisable.

For purposes of this Plan, a “Change of Control” shall mean the occurrence of any of the following: (i) the sale, lease, transfer, conveyance or other disposition, in one or a series of related transactions, of all or substantially all of the assets of the Corporation to any “person” or “group” (as such terms are used in Sections 13(d)(3) and 14(d)(2) of the Exchange Act), (ii) any person or group, is or becomes the “beneficial owner” (as defined in Rules 13d-3 and 13d-5 under the Exchange Act, except that a person shall be deemed to have “beneficial ownership” of all shares that any such person has the right to acquire, whether such right is exercisable immediately or only after the passage of time), directly or indirectly, of more than fifty percent (50%) of the total voting power of the voting stock of the Corporation, including by way of merger, consolidation or otherwise, (iii) during any period of two consecutive years, individuals who at the beginning of such period constituted the Board of Directors (together with any new directors whose election by such Board of Directors whose nomination for election by the shareholders of the Corporation was approved by a vote of a majority of the directors of the Corporation, then still in office, who were either directors at the beginning of such period or whose election or nomination for election was previously so approved) cease for any reason to constitute a majority of the Board of Directors, then in office, or (iv) the Corporation is liquidated or dissolved.

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- 7.3 Options shall be exercisable, either all or in part, at any time after vesting. If less than all of the Shares included in the vested portion of any Option are purchased, the remainder may be purchased, subject to the Option's terms, at any subsequent time prior to the expiration of the Option Period.
- 7.4 Except as set forth in Sections 8 and 9 hereof, no Option may be exercised unless the optionee is at the time of such exercise an employee or director of, or consultant to, the Corporation or any of its subsidiaries and shall have continuously served in any one or more of such capacities since the grant of the Option. The Independent Committee may decide in each case to what extent bona fide leaves of absence for illness, temporary disability, government or military service, or other reasons will or will not be deemed to interrupt continuous service.
- 7.5 The exercise of any Option will be contingent upon receipt by the Corporation of written notice of the optionee's exercise of such Option and payment for the full purchase price of the Shares being purchased in cash by way of certified cheque or bank draft. No optionee or his or her legal representatives, legatees or distributees will be, or will be deemed to be, a holder of any Shares subject to an option under the Plan, unless and until Options for such Shares are issued to him, her or them under the terms of the Plan.
- 7.6 Optioned Shares will be issued to the optionee on the date of exercise and he or she will be the owner of those shares from that date.
- 7.7 If an Option expires during a trading black-out period imposed by the Corporation to restrict trades in the Corporation's securities, then, notwithstanding any other provision of the Plan, the Option shall expire ten (10) business days after the trading black-out period is lifted by the Corporation and a reference to "Option Expiry Date" herein shall be deemed to be a reference to the date on which the Option, as so extended, expires.

8. TERMINATION OF EMPLOYMENT

- 8.1 If an optionee ceases to be employed by, or provide services to, the Corporation or any of its subsidiaries for any reason (other than death), or shall receive notice from the Corporation or any of its subsidiaries of the termination of his or her employment or services (such optionee being referred to in this Section 8.1 as a “Former Optionee”), the Former Optionee may only exercise each Option held, to the extent that it has vested and not been exercised before such termination, until the earlier of:
- (a) the date which is thirty (30) days after the Former Optionee ceased to be employed by, or provide services to, the Corporation or any of its subsidiaries; and
 - (b) the expiry of the Option Period for the Option (the “Option Expiry Date”);
- provided, however, that:
- (c) if the Former Optionee was a director of the Corporation or any of its subsidiaries, each Nonqualified Stock Option held will continue to be exercisable until the earlier of:
 - (i) the date which is twelve (12) months after the Former Optionee ceases to be such a director for any reason (other than death); and
 - (i) the Option Expiry Date; and
 - (d) each Option held may continue to be exercisable for such longer period than that provided for in this Section 8.1 if and as may be determined by the Independent Committee and any such determination by the Independent Committee may be made retroactively effective in order to reinstate the effectiveness of an Option held by a Former Optionee that is otherwise rendered unexercisable pursuant to the other provisions of this Section 8.1; provided, however, that any such determination by the Independent Committee shall be subject to the following:
 - (i) such determination shall be made within three months after the date that the Former Optionee ceased to be employed by, or provide services to, the Corporation or any of its subsidiaries;
 - (ii) an extension of the exercise period of an Incentive Stock Option shall not exceed three (3) months after the date on which the Optionee ceased to be an employee, unless such Optionee is disabled (within the meaning of Code Section 22(e)(3)), in which case the extension of the exercise period of the Incentive Stock Option shall not exceed one (1) year;
 - (iii) such determination shall be subject to applicable regulatory approvals; and
 - (iv) such longer exercise period determined by the Independent Committee for any Option shall not extend beyond the Option Expiry Date for such Option.

9. DEATH OF OPTIONEE

- 9.1 In the event of the death of an optionee while in service or in the post-termination period described in Section 8, each Option theretofore granted to him or her shall be exercisable until the earlier of:
- (a) the expiry of the period within which the Option may be exercised after such death, which period may be up to one (1) year after such death and is to be specified in his or her option agreement, and
 - (b) the Option Expiry Date;
- provided, however, that the Option is only exercisable in such event:
- (c) by the person or persons to whom the optionee's rights under the Option shall pass by the optionee's will or by the laws of descent and distribution, and
 - (d) to the extent that the Option has vested and not been exercised prior to the Optionee's death.

10. OPTION AGREEMENT

- 10.1 Upon the grant of an Option to an optionee, the Corporation and the optionee shall enter into an option agreement setting out the number of Options and optioned Shares granted to the optionee and the terms of the Option and incorporating the terms and conditions of the Plan and any other requirements of regulatory bodies having jurisdiction over the securities of the Corporation and such other terms and conditions as the Independent Committee may determine are necessary or appropriate, subject to the Plan's terms. Any option agreement for Incentive Stock Options shall contain such limitations upon the exercise of the Option as shall be necessary in order for the Option to be an "Incentive Stock Option" as defined in Section 422 of the Code.

11. ADJUSTMENT IN SHARES SUBJECT TO THE PLAN

- 11.1 The Option exercise price and the number of Shares to be purchased by an optionee upon the exercise of an Option will be adjusted, with respect to the then unexercised portion thereof, by the Independent Committee from time to time (on the basis of such advice as the Independent Committee considers appropriate, including, if considered appropriate by the Independent Committee, a certificate of auditors of the Corporation) in the event and in accordance with the provisions and rules set out in this Section 11. Any dispute that arises at any time with respect to any adjustment pursuant to such provisions and rules will be conclusively determined by the Independent Committee, and any such determination will be binding on the Corporation, the optionee and all other affected parties.

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- (a) In the event that a dividend is declared upon the Shares payable in Shares (other than in lieu of dividends paid in the ordinary course), the number of Shares then subject to any Option shall be adjusted by adding to each such Share the number of Shares which would be distributable thereon if such Share had been outstanding on the date fixed for determining shareholders entitled to receive such stock dividend.
- (b) In the event that the outstanding Shares are (i) changed into or exchanged for a different number or kind of Shares or other securities of the Corporation or of another corporation, whether through an arrangement, amalgamation, reclassification, redesignation or other similar procedure or otherwise, then there shall be substituted for each Share subject to any Option the number and kind of Shares or other securities of the Corporation another Corporation into which each outstanding Share shall be so changed or for which each such Share shall be exchanged or (ii) subject to a subdivision or consolidation or similar procedure, the Independent Committee may change the number of Shares available under the Plan and any outstanding Option and the exercise price of any Option and the fair market value determined under this Plan in such manner as it shall deem equitable in its sole discretion.
- (c) In the event that there is any change, other than as specified above in this Section 11, in the number or kind of outstanding Shares or of any securities into which such Shares shall have been changed or for which they shall have been exchanged, then, if the Independent Committee, in its sole discretion, determines that such change equitably requires an adjustment to be made in the number or kind of Shares and/or exercise price, such adjustment shall be made as determined by the Independent Committee.
- (d) In the event that the Corporation distributes by way of a dividend, or otherwise, to all or substantially all holders of Shares, property, evidences of indebtedness or shares or other securities of the Corporation (other than Shares) or rights, options or warrants to acquire Shares or securities convertible into or exchangeable for Shares or other securities or property of the Corporation, other than as a dividend in the ordinary course, then, if the Independent Committee, in its sole discretion, determines that such action equitably requires an adjustment in the exercise price or number of Shares subject to any Option, or both, such adjustment shall be made as determined by the Independent Committee.
- 11.2 In the case of any such substitution or adjustment as provided for in this Section 11, the exercise price in respect of each Option for each Share covered thereby prior to such substitution or adjustment will be proportionately and appropriately varied, such variation shall generally require that the number of Shares or securities covered by the Option after the relevant event multiplied by the varied Option exercise price be equal to the number of Shares covered by the Option prior to the relevant event multiplied by the original Option exercise price.

- 11.3 No adjustment or substitution provided for in this Section 11 shall require the Corporation to issue a fractional share in respect of any Option. Fractional shares shall be eliminated and no cash payment in lieu thereof will be made to any optionee by the Corporation.
- 11.4 The grant of an Option shall not affect in any way the right or power of the Corporation to effect adjustments, reclassifications, reorganizations, arrangements or changes of its capital or business structure, or to amalgamate, merge, consolidate, dissolve or liquidate, or to sell or transfer all or any part of its business or assets.

12. TRANSFERABILITY

- 12.1 All benefits, rights and Options accruing to any optionee in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Plan shall not be assignable other than as specifically provided in Section 9 in the event of the death of the optionee. During the lifetime of an optionee, all benefits, rights and Options shall not be assignable or transferable and may only be exercised by the optionee.

13. EMPLOYMENT

- 13.1 Nothing contained in the Plan shall confer upon any optionee any right with respect to employment or continuance of employment with, or the provision of services to, the Corporation or any of its subsidiaries, or interfere in any way with the right of the Corporation or any of its subsidiaries to terminate the optionee's employment or services at any time. Participation in the Plan by an optionee is "voluntary" within the meaning of applicable securities laws.

14. RECORD KEEPING

- 14.1 The Corporation shall maintain a register in which shall be recorded:
- (a) the name and address of each optionee; and
 - (b) the number of Shares subject to an Option granted to an optionee and the number of Shares subject to the Option remaining outstanding, as well as the Option exercise price.

15. SECURITIES REGULATION AND TAX WITHHOLDING

- 15.1 Where the Independent Committee determines it is necessary or desirable to effect or rely on an exemption from the registration or distribution of the Shares under securities laws applicable to the securities of the Corporation, an optionee shall be required, upon the acquisition of any Shares pursuant to the Plan, to acquire the Shares with investment intent (i.e., for investment purposes) and not with a view to their distribution, and to present to the Independent Committee an undertaking to that effect in a form acceptable to the Independent Committee. The Board of Directors and the Independent Committee may take such other action or require such other action or agreement by such optionee as may from time to time be necessary to comply with applicable securities laws. This provision shall in no way obligate the Corporation to undertake the registration or qualification of the distribution of any Options or the Shares under any securities laws applicable to the securities of the Corporation.

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- 15.2 The Board of Directors and the Corporation may take all such measures as they deem appropriate to ensure that the Corporation's obligations under the withholding provisions under income and tax laws applicable to the Corporation and other provisions of applicable laws are satisfied with respect to the issuance of Shares pursuant to the Plan or the grant or exercise of Options, including retention of Shares that would otherwise be issued to the optionee or requiring the optionee to fund the amount required to be withheld.
- 15.3 Issuance, transfer or delivery of certificates for Shares purchased pursuant to the Plan may be delayed, at the discretion of the Independent Committee, until the Independent Committee is satisfied that the applicable requirement of securities and income tax laws have been met.

16. AMENDMENT, SUSPENSION AND TERMINATION

- 16.1 The Independent Committee may, in its discretion, and without obtaining shareholder approval, amend, suspend or discontinue the Plan, and amend or discontinue any Options granted under the Plan at any time. Without limiting the foregoing, the Independent Committee may, without obtaining shareholder approval, amend the Plan and any Options granted under the Plan to:
- (a) amend the vesting provisions;
 - (b) amend the termination provisions, except in certain limited circumstances as described in Section 16.2;
 - (c) amend the eligibility requirements of eligible participants which would have the potential of broadening or increasing Insider participation;
 - (d) add a cashless exercise feature, payable in cash or securities, whether or not the feature provides for a full deduction of the number of underlying Shares from the reserved Shares;
 - (e) allow a participant to transfer or assign an Option to any person or entity as the Board of Directors may permit, provided that such transfer or assignment complies with applicable laws and rules of applicable stock exchanges;
 - (f) make amendments in any respect it deems necessary or advisable to provide eligible employees with the maximum benefits provided or to be provided under the provisions of the Code and the regulations promulgated thereunder relating to Incentive Stock Options and/or to bring the Plan and/or Incentive Stock Options granted under it into compliance therewith; and

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- (g) make amendments of a housekeeping nature or to comply with the requirements of applicable law or stock exchange listing requirements; provided that no such amendment or termination shall adversely affect any outstanding Options granted under the Plan without the consent of the optionee.
- 16.2 Notwithstanding Section 16.1, none of the following amendments to the Plan shall be made without obtaining the approval of the shareholders in accordance with the requirements of applicable law or any stock exchange listing requirements and, in the case of (d) and (e) below, no such amendment that would adversely affect any outstanding Options granted under the Plan shall be made without the consent of the affected optionee:
- (a) increase the number of Shares reserved for issuance under the Plan;
 - (b) change the manner of determining the exercise price so that the exercise price is less than the fair market value per Share (as determined under Section 6);
 - (c) increase the aggregate number of Shares in respect of which Options have been granted and remain outstanding so that such number of Shares, when taken together with all of the Corporation's security based compensation arrangements, at any time results in:
 - (i) the number of Shares issuable to Insiders pursuant to Options exceeding 10% of the Outstanding Issue; or
 - (ii) the issuance to Insiders pursuant to Options, within a one-year period, of a number of Shares exceeding 10% of the Outstanding Issue (excluding Shares issued pursuant to security based compensation arrangements during the preceding one-year period);
 - (d) reduce the exercise price, or cancel and reissue Options so as to in effect reduce the exercise price, for the benefit of Insiders of the Corporation; or
 - (e) extend the termination date beyond the original expiration date for the benefit of Insiders of the Corporation, other than in accordance with Section 7.7.
- 16.3 Notwithstanding Section 16.1, to the extent that shareholder approval is necessary or desirable in the Independent Committee's sole discretion under applicable law, including without limitation, Section 162(m), Section 409A and Section 422 of the Code and Rule 16b-3 of the Exchange Act, such amendment shall be effective upon the required approval of the shareholders of the Corporation.

- 16.4 If, at any time, tax advisors to the Corporation determine that the terms of any outstanding Option result in additional tax or interest to the holder under Code Section 409A, the Independent Committee shall have the authority to enter into an amendment of such Option, consistent with this Plan, that is designed to avoid such additional tax or interest. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Plan to the contrary, if (1) on the date of an optionee's Separation from Service (as such term is used or defined in Code Section 409A(a)(2)(A)(i), Treasury Regulation Section 1.409A-1(h), or any successor law or regulation), any of the Corporation's equity is publicly traded on an established securities market or otherwise (within the meaning of Section 409A(a)(2)(B)(i) of the Code) and (2) as a result of such Separation from Service, the optionee would receive any payment that, absent the application of this sentence, would be subject to interest and additional tax imposed pursuant to Code Section 409A as a result of the application of Code Section 409A(a)(2)(B)(i), then, to the extent necessary to avoid the imposition of such interest and additional tax, such payment shall be deferred until the earlier of (i) six months after the optionee's Separation from Service or (ii) the optionee's death.

17. NO REPRESENTATION OR WARRANTY

- 17.1 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.

18. NECESSARY APPROVALS

- 18.1 The obligation of the Corporation to issue and to deliver any Shares in accordance with the Plan is subject to any necessary or desirable approval of any regulatory authority having jurisdiction over the securities of the Corporation. Notwithstanding any provision of this Plan or any Option or any option agreement, optionees shall not be entitled to exercise options or receive the benefits thereof and the Corporation shall not be obligated to deliver any Shares or provide any benefits to an optionee if such exercise, delivery, receipt or payment of benefits would constitute a violation by the optionee or the Corporation of any provision of any such law or regulation. If any Shares cannot be issued to any optionee for whatever reason, the obligation of the Corporation to issue such Shares shall terminate and any Option exercise price paid by the optionee to the Corporation shall be returned to the optionee.

19. GENERAL PROVISIONS

- 19.1 Nothing contained in the Plan shall prevent the Corporation or any subsidiary thereof from adopting or continuing in effect other compensation arrangements, which may, but need not, provide for the grant of Options (subject to shareholder approval if such approval is required), and such arrangements may be either generally applicable or applicable only in specific cases.
- 19.2 The Plan, all instruments of grant evidencing Options granted hereunder and any other agreements or other documents relating to the Plan shall be interpreted and construed in accordance with the laws of the Province of Ontario, except to the extent the terms of the Plan or of any supplement or appendix to the Plan expressly provides for application of the laws of another jurisdiction.

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- 19.3 Awards may be granted to Participants who are citizens or residents of a jurisdiction other than Canada or the United States on such terms and conditions different from those under the Plan as may be determined by the Independent Committee to be necessary or advisable to achieve the purposes of the Plan while also complying with applicable local laws, customs and tax practices, including any such terms and conditions as may be set forth in any supplement or appendix to the Plan intended to govern the terms of any such Option. In no event shall the eligibility, grant, exercise or settlement of an Option constitute a term of employment, or entitlement with respect to employment, of any employee.
- 19.4 If any provision of the Plan or any Option is or becomes or is deemed to be invalid, illegal, or unenforceable in any jurisdiction or as to any person or Option, or would disqualify the Plan or any Option under any law deemed applicable by the Independent Committee, such provision shall be construed or deemed amended to conform to the applicable laws, or if it cannot be construed or deemed amended without, in the determination of the Independent Committee, materially altering the intent of the Plan or the Option, such provision shall be stricken as to such jurisdiction, person or Option and the remainder of the Plan and any such Option shall remain in full force and effect.
- 19.5 Neither the Plan nor any Option shall create or be construed to create a trust or separate fund of any kind or a fiduciary relationship between the Corporation or any subsidiary thereof and an optionee or any other person.
- 19.6 Headings are given to the sections of the Plan solely as a convenience to facilitate reference. Such headings shall not be deemed in any way material or relevant to the construction or interpretation of the Plan or any provision thereof.
- 19.7 Although the Corporation intends to administer the Plan so that Options will be exempt from, or will comply with, the requirements of Code Section 409A, the Corporation does not warrant that any Option under the Plan will qualify for favorable tax treatment under Code Section 409A or any other provision of federal, state, local or foreign law. The Corporation shall not be liable to any participant in the Plan for any tax, interest or penalties such participant might owe as a result of the grant, holding, vesting or exercise of any Option under the Plan.

20. TERM OF THE PLAN

- 20.1 The Plan shall be effective as of the date of the Effective Date.
- 20.2 The Board of Directors may suspend or terminate the Plan at any time; provided, that the administration of the Plan shall continue in effect until all matters relating to Options previously granted have been settled. Suspension or termination of the Plan shall not impair rights and obligations under any Option granted while the Plan is in effect except with the written consent of the optionee.

20.3 No Option shall be granted under the Plan after the 10th anniversary of the Effective Date or at such earlier time as the Board of Directors may determine. Unless otherwise expressly provided in the Plan or in an applicable option agreement, any Option granted hereunder may, and the authority of the Independent Committee to amend, alter, adjust, suspend, discontinue, or terminate any such Option or to waive any conditions or rights under any such Option shall, continue after termination of the Plan.