

# MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

# FOR THE THREE MONTHS ENDED MARCH 31, 2023

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# MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

This Management's Discussion and Analysis ("MD&A") has been prepared as at May 8, 2023 and should be read in conjunction with the unaudited condensed consolidated interim financial statements of Ero Copper Corp. ("Ero", the "Company", or "we") as at, and for the three months ended March 31, 2023, and related notes thereto, which are prepared in accordance with International Accounting Standards ("IAS") 34, *Interim Financial Reporting* as permitted by the International Financial Reporting Standards ("IFRS") as issued by the International Accounting Standards ("IFRS") as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board (the "IASB"). All references in this MD&A to "Q1 2023" and "Q1 2022" are to the three months ended March 31, 2023 and March 31, 2022, respectively. As well, this MD&A should be read in conjunction with the Company's December 31, 2022 audited consolidated financial statements and MD&A. All dollar amounts are expressed in United States ("US") dollars and tabular amounts are expressed in thousands of US dollars, unless otherwise indicated. References to "\$", "US\$", "dollars", or "BRL" are to Brazilian Reais.

This MD&A refers to various alternative performance (Non-IFRS) measures, including C1 cash cost of copper produced (per lb), realized copper price (per lb), C1 cash cost of gold produced (per ounce), allin sustaining cost ("AISC") of gold produced (per ounce), realized gold price (per ounce), EBITDA, Adjusted EBITDA, Adjusted net income attributable to owners of the Company, Adjusted net income per share attributable to owners of the Company, Net (Cash) Debt, Working Capital and Available Liquidity. Please refer to the section titled "Alternative Performance (Non-IFRS) Measures" for a discussion of non-IFRS measures.

This MD&A contains "forward-looking statements" that are subject to risk factors set out in a cautionary note contained at the end of this MD&A. The Company cannot assure investors that such statements will prove to be accurate, and actual results and future events may differ materially from those anticipated in such statements. The results for the periods presented are not necessarily indicative of the results that may be expected for any future period. Investors are cautioned not to place undue reliance on such forward-looking statements. All information contained in this MD&A is current and has been approved by the Board of Directors of the Company (the "Board") as of May 8, 2023, unless otherwise stated.

## **BUSINESS OVERVIEW**

Ero is a high-margin, high-growth, clean copper producer with operations in Brazil and corporate headquarters in Vancouver, B.C. The Company's primary asset is a 99.6% interest in the Brazilian copper mining company, Mineração Caraíba S.A. ("MCSA"), 100% owner of the Company's Caraíba Operations (formerly known as the MCSA Mining Complex), which are located in the Curaçá Valley, Bahia State, Brazil, and the Tucumã Project (formerly known as Boa Esperança), an IOCG-type copper project located in Pará, Brazil. The Company also owns 97.6% of NX Gold S.A. ("NX Gold") which owns the Xavantina Operations (formerly known as the NX Gold Mine), comprised of an operating gold and silver mine located in Mato Grosso, Brazil. Additional information on the Company and its operations, including technical reports on the Caraíba Operations, Xavantina Operations and Tucumã Project, can be found on the Company's website (www.erocopper.com), on SEDAR (www.sedar.com), and on EDGAR (www.sec.gov). The Company's shares are publicly traded on the Toronto Stock Exchange and the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol "ERO".

# HIGHLIGHTS

	20	23 - Q1	20	)22 - Q4	20	)22 - Q1
Operating Information						
Copper (Caraíba Operations)						
Ore Processed (tonnes)		772,548		745,850		596,230
Grade (% Cu)		1.33		1.84		1.78
Cu Production (tonnes)		9,327		12,664		9,784
Cu Production (lbs)	20	,563,552	27	7,918,071	21	,569,971
Cu Sold in Concentrate (tonnes)		9,464		13,301		10,045
Cu Sold in Concentrate (lbs)	20	,865,486	29	9,323,118	22	2,144,954
C1 Cash Cost of Cu Produced (per lb) <sup>(1)</sup>	\$	1.70	\$	1.41	\$	1.31
Gold (Xavantina Operations)						
Ore Processed (tonnes)		35,763		39,715		49,990
Au Production (oz)		12,443		11,786		8,796
C1 Cash Cost of Au Produced (per oz) <sup>(1)</sup>	\$	436	\$	445	\$	638
AISC of Au produced (per oz) <sup>(1)</sup>	\$	946	\$	1,096	\$	1,092
Financial information (\$ in millions, except per share amounts)						
Revenues	\$	101.0	\$	116.7	\$	108.9
Gross profit		40.1		52.7		61.0
EBITDA <sup>(1)</sup>		51.8		58.7		78.1
Adjusted EBITDA <sup>(1)</sup>		48.2		58.2		62.4
Cash flow from operations		16.4		34.0		44.0
Net income		24.5		22.5		52.5
Net income attributable to owners of the Company		24.2		22.2		52.1
- Per share (basic)		0.26		0.24		0.58
- Per share (diluted)		0.26		0.24		0.57
Adjusted net income attributable to owners of the $Company^{(1)}$		22.5		22.2		33.0
- Per share (basic)		0.24		0.24		0.37
- Per share (diluted)		0.24		0.24		0.36
Cash, cash equivalents and short-term investments		236.6		317.4		465.5
Working capital <sup>(1)</sup>		218.8		263.3		443.7
Net debt (cash) <sup>(1)</sup>		174.2		100.7		(54.4)

(1) Please refer to the section titled "Alternative Performance (Non-IFRS) Measures" within this MD&A.

# Q1 2023 Highlights

# Solid Q1 2023 financial performance driven by record quarterly gold production and favorable copper and gold price environment

- The Caraíba Operations produced 9,327 tonnes of copper in concentrate during the quarter at C1 cash costs<sup>(1)</sup> of \$1.70 per pound of copper produced
  - Planned stope sequencing drove lower mined copper grades from the Pilar and Vermelhos Mines, resulting in lower processed copper grades during the period
  - Increased C1 cash costs<sup>(1)</sup> during the quarter were in-line with expectations and are anticipated to decrease as a result of higher planned mined and processed copper grades through the remainder of the year
- The Xavantina Operations set a new record for quarterly gold production of 12,443 ounces at C1 cash costs<sup>(1)</sup> and AISC<sup>(1)</sup> of \$436 and \$946, respectively, per ounce of gold produced
  - Q1 2023 gold production benefited from higher processed gold grades of 11.85 grams per tonne ("gpt"), representing an increase in grade of over 16% quarter-on-quarter and approximately 100% year-on-year
  - Lower quarterly C1 cash costs<sup>(1)</sup> and AISC<sup>(1)</sup> were driven by higher mined and processed gold grades due to mine sequence during the first quarter
- Financial results for the quarter reflect higher copper and gold prices as well as record gold production at the Xavantina Operations, which offset lower copper production and concentrate sales, as planned, for the first quarter at the Caraíba Operations
  - Net earnings of \$24.5 million
  - Adjusted net income attributable to owners of the Company<sup>(1)</sup> of \$22.5 million (\$0.24 per share on a diluted basis)
  - Adjusted EBITDA<sup>(1)</sup> of \$48.2 million
- Quarterly cash flow from operations of \$16.4 million reflects \$27.8 million in working capital changes, including a decrease in accounts payable as well as an increase in accounts receivable related to settlement of provisionally priced copper concentrate sales from prior periods. Absent changes in working capital, cash flow from operations during the quarter would have been approximately \$44.1 million
- Available liquidity at quarter-end was \$386.6 million, including cash and cash equivalents of \$209.9 million, short-term investments of \$26.7 million, and \$150.0 million of undrawn availability under the Company's senior secured revolving credit facility

#### Reaffirming production, operating cost and capital expenditure guidance

- The Company is reiterating its full-year copper production guidance of 44,000 to 47,000 tonnes. Production from the Caraíba Operations is expected to be slightly weighted towards H2 2023 due to higher anticipated mill throughput levels during ramp up of the new ball mill in Q4 2023. Higher mined and processed copper grades are also expected through the remainder of the year based on planned stope sequencing
- The Company is reaffirming its 2023 gold production guidance of 50,000 to 53,000 ounces with slightly higher gold production expected in H2 2023 due to increased mill throughput volumes following the expected commencement of production from the Matinha vein

(1) Please refer to the section titled "Alternative Performance (Non-IFRS) Measures" within this MD&A.

- The Company is also reaffirming its full-year operating cost guidance
  - C1 cash costs at the Caraíba Operations are expected to benefit from higher planned mined and processed copper grades through the remainder of the year
  - At the Xavantina Operations, higher anticipated C1 cash costs in H2 2023 are expected to be driven by changes in planned gold grades
- The Company is reiterating its 2023 capital expenditure guidance of \$342 to \$389 million

#### Continued execution of strategic growth initiatives

- The Company maintained momentum on construction of its Tucumã Project during the quarter with physical completion reaching nearly 30% as of quarter-end
  - Mine pre-stripping remains ahead of schedule with 2.9 million tonnes, or approximately 20% of total planned pre-strip volume, completed as of quarter-end. Waste and tailings dump construction is progressing on schedule with completion expected in Q3 2023
  - Civil works commenced during the quarter with first foundations poured in February. Foundations for the primary crusher and ball mill are scheduled for completion in Q2 2023, and electromechanical erection for both areas is expected to commence in early Q3 2023
  - Approximately 85% of planned capital expenditures were under contract as of quarterend, up from approximately 55% at the end of 2022. An additional 5% of Feasibility Study capital expenditures were in the final stages of contract negotiation as of quarter-end, bringing visibility on total project capital to approximately 90%. Consistent with Q3 and year-end 2022 estimates, total planned capital expenditures remain unchanged at approximately \$305 million, or within 4% of total Feasibility Study estimates
  - In partnership with The National Service for Industrial Training, a Brazilian non-profit organization focused on improving the competitiveness of Brazil's manufacturing sector through technical and vocational education, the Company continued to ramp up labor training programs within surrounding communities to further develop the local skills and workforce that are expected to support the development and operation of the Tucumã Project
- At the Caraíba Operations, the Company continued to advance its Pilar 3.0 initiative, designed to support sustained annual ore production levels of 3.0 million tonnes. The components of Pilar 3.0 include (i) Project Honeypot, an engineering initiative focused on recovering higher-grade material in the upper levels of the Pilar Mine, (ii) an expansion of the Caraíba mill from 3.0 to 4.2 million tonnes of annual throughput capacity, and (iii) construction of a new external shaft to service the lower levels of the Pilar Mine, including the Deepening Extension Zone
  - Construction of the new external shaft remains on schedule with the shaft sinking contractor mobilized to site and the first blast of the pre-sink conducted subsequent to quarter-end. Planned capital expenditures under contract or in the final stages of negotiation increased from approximately 35% at year-end to over 70% at the end of Q1 2023. Importantly, construction of the new external shaft remains within 5% of budget
  - The Caraíba mill expansion also remains on schedule with commissioning expected to begin in early Q4 2023

# **REVIEW OF OPERATIONS**

# The Caraíba Operations

Copper	2023 -	Q1	2022 -	Q4	202	2 - Q1
Ore processed (tonnes)	772	,548	745	,850	ļ	596,230
Grade (% Cu)		1.33		1.84		1.78
Recovery (%)		90.8		92.3		92.2
Cu Production (tonnes)	9	,327	12	,664		9,784
Cu Production (lbs)	20,563	,552	27,918	,071	21,	569,971
Concentrate grade (% Cu)		33.9		33.9		33.1
Concentrate sales (tonnes)	30	,074	36	,865		29,206
Cu Sold in concentrate (tonnes)	9	,464	13	,301		10,045
Cu Sold in concentrate (lbs)	20,865	,486	29,323	29,323,118		144,954
Realized copper price (per lb)	\$	3.69	\$	3.31	\$	4.11
C1 cash cost of copper produced (per lb)	\$	1.70	\$	1.41	\$	1.31

The Caraíba Operations produced 9,327 tonnes of copper in concentrate at C1 cash costs of \$1.70 per pound of copper produced during Q1 2023. Lower mined and processed copper grades during the quarter were driven by planned stope sequencing at the Pilar and Vermelhos Mines, resulting in lower production and higher unit costs for the period.

Mined ore production in Q1 2023 included:

- Pilar: 450,559 tonnes grading 1.35% copper (vs. 454,497 tonnes at 1.77% copper in Q4 2022)
- Vermelhos: 205,963 tonnes grading 1.61% copper (vs. 234,778 tonnes at 2.21% copper in Q4 2022)
- Surubim: 103,077 tonnes at 0.68% copper (vs. 113,191 tonnes at 0.45% copper in Q4 2022)

Contributions from the three mines resulted in total ore mined during the period of 759,599 tonnes grading 1.33% copper (vs. 802,466 tonnes grading 1.71% copper in Q4 2022). During Q1 2023, 772,548 tonnes of ore grading 1.33% copper were processed, resulting in production of 9,327 tonnes of copper after average metallurgical recoveries of 90.8%.

The Caraíba Operations are expected to produce 44,000 to 47,000 tonnes of copper in concentrate in 2023 with Q1 2023 expected to be the lowest production quarter of the year, as previously noted. Production from the Caraíba Operations is expected to be slightly weighted towards H2 2023 due to higher anticipated mill throughput during ramp up and commissioning of the new ball mill installation in Q4 2023. Higher mined and processed copper grades are also expected through the remainder of the year based on planned stope sequencing.

C1 cash costs at the Caraíba Operations are expected to be between \$1.40 and \$1.60 per pound of copper produced in 2023 with higher anticipated copper grades and production expected to result in lower unit operating costs in the remaining quarters of the year. While the Company has resumed shipments to its domestic smelter on a limited and prepaid basis, the associated reduction in concentrate sales costs has been offset to date by a stronger BRL to U.S. dollar exchange rate.

Exploration activities during Q1 2023 at the Caraíba Operations were focused on advancing the Company's full-year exploration objectives of (i) delineating extensions of nickel mineralization identified within the Umburana system, (ii) drill testing additional regional nickel and copper targets throughout the Curaçá Valley, and (iii) extending high-grade mineralization within the upper levels of the Pilar Mine and at the Vermelhos Mine.

# The Xavantina Operations

Gold	20	23 - Q1	202	22 - Q4	20	22 - Q1
Ore mined (tonnes)		35,763		39,755		49,990
Ore processed (tonnes)		35,763		39,715		49,990
Head grade (grams per tonne Au)		11.85		10.17		5.93
Recovery (%)		91.4		90.7		92.3
Gold ounces produced (oz)		12,443		11,786		8,796
Silver ounces produced (oz)		8,194		7,050		6,042
Gold sold (oz)		13,097		10,583		8,013
Silver sold (oz)		8,422		7,123		5,489
Realized gold price (per oz) <sup>(1)</sup>	\$	1,828	\$	1,750	\$	1,918
C1 cash cost of gold produced (per oz)	\$	436	\$	445	\$	638
AISC of gold produced (per oz)	\$	946	\$	1,096	\$	1,092

(1) Realized Au price includes the effect of ounces sold under the stream arrangement with Royal Gold. See "Realized Gold Price" section of "Non-IFRS Measures" for detail.

The Xavantina Operations set a new record for quarterly gold production of 12,443 ounces at C1 cash costs and AISC of \$436 and \$946, respectively, per ounce of gold produced. Planned mine sequencing drove higher mined and processed gold grades during the period of 11.85 grams per tonne, representing an increase in grade of over 16% quarter-on-quarter and approximately 100% year-on-year. Higher processed gold grades also resulted in lower unit operating costs both quarter-over-quarter and year-over-year.

The Company is reaffirming its 2023 gold production guidance range of 50,000 to 53,000 ounces with slightly higher gold production expected in H2 2023 due to increased mill throughput volumes following the expected commencement of production from the Matinha vein.

The Company is also reaffirming its full-year cost guidance for the Xavantina Operations with C1 cash costs expected to be between \$475 and \$575 per ounce of gold produced and AISC expected to be \$725 to \$825 per ounce of gold produced.

Exploration activities at the Xavantina Operations during the quarter were focused on testing extensions of the Matinha and Santo Antônio veins at depth as well as drill testing near-mine extensions of the shear zone hosting the Santo Antônio and Matinha veins along strike.

#### 2023 Guidance

The Company is reaffirming its full-year production, cost and capital expenditure guidance as detailed in the tables below. The Caraíba Operations are expected to produce 44,000 to 47,000 tonnes of copper in concentrate in 2023 with Q1 2023 expected to be the lowest production quarter of the year, as previously noted. Production from the Caraíba Operations is expected to be slightly weighted towards H2 2023 due to higher anticipated mill throughput volumes during ramp up and commissioning of the new ball mill installation in Q4 2023. Higher mined and processed copper grades are also expected through the remainder of the year based on planned stope sequencing.

C1 cash costs at the Caraíba Operations are expected to be between \$1.40 and \$1.60 per pound of copper produced in 2023 with higher anticipated copper grades and production expected to result in lower unit operating costs in the remaining quarters of the year. While the Company has resumed shipments to its domestic smelter on a limited and prepaid basis, the associated reduction in concentrate sales costs has been offset to date by a stronger BRL to U.S. dollar exchange rate.

At the Xavantina Operations, the Company is reaffirming its 2023 gold production guidance range of 50,000 to 53,000 ounces with slightly higher gold production expected in H2 2023 due to increased mill throughput volumes following the expected commencement of production from the Matinha vein.

The Company is also reaffirming its full-year cost guidance for the Xavantina Operations with C1 cash costs expected to be between \$475 and \$575 per ounce of gold produced and AISC expected to be \$725 to \$825 per ounce of gold produced.

#### 2023 Production and Cost Guidance

The Company's cost guidance for 2023 assumes a USD:BRL foreign exchange rate of 5.30, a gold price of \$1,725 per ounce and a silver price of \$20.00 per ounce.

	2023 Guidance
The Caraíba Operations	
Copper Production (tonnes)	44,000 - 47,000
C1 Cash Cost Guidance (US\$/lb) <sup>(1)</sup>	\$1.40 - \$1.60
The Xavantina Operations	
Au Production (ounces)	50,000 - 53,000
C1 Cash Cost Guidance (US\$/oz) <sup>(1)</sup>	\$475 - \$575
All-in Sustaining Cost (AISC) Guidance (US\$/oz) <sup>(1)</sup>	\$725 - \$825

Note: Guidance is based on certain estimates and assumptions, including but not limited to, mineral reserve estimates, grade and continuity of interpreted geological formations and metallurgical performance. Please refer to the Company's Annual Information Form for the year ended December 31, 2022 (the "AIF") and Management of Risks and Uncertainties in this MD&A for complete risk factors.

(1) Please refer to the section titled "Alternative Performance (Non-IFRS) Measures" within this MD&A.

# 2023 Capital Expenditure Guidance

The Company's capital expenditure guidance for 2023 assumes a USD:BRL foreign exchange rate of 5.30 and has been presented below in USD millions.

	2023 Guidance
Caraíba Operations	
Growth	\$80 - \$90
Sustaining	\$65 - \$75
Exploration	\$22 - \$27
Total, Caraíba Operations	\$167 - \$192
Tucumã Project	
Growth	\$150 - \$165
Sustaining	\$0
Exploration	\$0 - \$1
Total, Tucumã Project	\$150 - \$166
Xavantina Operations	
Growth	\$4 - \$5
Sustaining	\$12 - \$14
Exploration	\$6 - \$7
Total, Xavantina Operations	\$22 - \$26
Other Exploration Projects	\$3 - \$5
Company Total	
Growth	\$234 - \$260
Sustaining	\$77 - \$89
Exploration	\$31 - \$40
Total, Company	\$342 - \$389

# **REVIEW OF FINANCIAL RESULTS**

The following table provides a summary of the financial results of the Company for Q1 2023 and Q1 2022. Tabular amounts are in thousands of US dollars, except share and per share amounts.

	Th		Three months e	nded March 31,			
	Notes		2023		2022		
Revenue	1	\$	100,956	\$	108,911		
Cost of sales	2		(60,848)		(47,912)		
Gross profit			40,108		60,999		
Expenses							
General and administrative	3		(12,216)		(11,213)		
Share-based compensation			(5,017)		(1,990)		
Income before the undernoted			22,875		47,796		
Finance income			4,138		713		
Finance expense	4		(6,526)		(5,496)		
Foreign exchange gain	5		8,621		18,709		
Other income (expenses)			58		(630)		
Income before income taxes			29,166		61,092		
Income tax expense							
Current			(2,100)		(3,059)		
Deferred			(2,566)		(5,547)		
	6		(4,666)		(8,606)		
Net income for the period		\$	24,500	\$	52,486		
Other comprehensive gain							
Foreign currency translation gain	7		17,641		85,934		
Comprehensive income		\$	42,141	\$	138,420		
Net income per share attributable to owners of the Company							
Basic		\$	0.26	\$	0.58		
Diluted		\$	0.26	\$	0.57		
Weighted average number of common shares outstandin	g						
Basic			92,294,045		90,238,008		
Diluted			93,218,281		92,050,104		

#### Notes:

1. Revenues from copper sales in Q1 2023 was \$77.3 million (Q1 2022 - \$93.7 million) on sale of 20.9 million lbs of copper (Q1 2022 - 22.1 million lbs). The decrease in revenues was primarily attributed to lower coppers prices and less copper sold. The decrease in copper production was attributed to lower head grades based on planned stope sequencing.

Revenues from gold sales in Q1 2023 was \$23.7 million (Q1 2022 - \$15.2 million) on sale of 13,097 ounces of gold (Q1 2022 - 8,013 ounces) at an average realized price of \$1,828 per ounce (Q1 2022 - \$1,918 per ounce). The increase in revenues was primarily attributable to higher sales volume as head grades increased significantly compared to the same quarter of the prior year.

2. Cost of sales for Q1 2023 from copper sales was \$50.6 million (Q1 2022 - \$40.5 million) which primarily comprised of \$12.2 million (Q1 2022 - \$9.9 million) in depreciation and depletion, \$11.3 million (Q1 2022 - \$9.2 million) in salaries and benefits, \$8.5 million (Q1 2022 - \$7.3 million) in materials and consumables, \$6.4 million (Q1 2022 - \$5.1 million) in maintenance costs, \$6.1 million (Q1 2022 - \$5.6 million) in contracted services, \$2.7 million (Q1 2022 - \$2.7 million) in utilities, \$1.9 million (Q1 2022 - \$1.9 million) in sales expenses, and \$1.5 million in change in inventory (Q1 2022 - \$(1.2) million). The increase in cost of sales in Q1 2023 as compared to Q1 2022 was primarily attributable to overall inflationary pressure on materials and consumables as well as higher depreciation and depletion due to an increase in asset base compared to the same quarter of the prior year.

Cost of sales for Q1 2023 from gold sales was \$10.2 million (Q1 2022 - \$7.4 million) which primarily comprised of \$3.8 million (Q1 2022 - \$2.3 million) in depreciation and depletion, \$2.1 million (Q1 2022 - \$2.2 million) in salaries and benefits, \$1.2 million (Q1 2022 - \$1.5 million) in contracted services, \$1.5 million (Q1 2022 - \$1.4 million) in materials and consumables, \$0.5 million (Q1 2022 - \$0.6 million) in utilities, \$0.4 million (Q1 2022 - \$0.5 million) in maintenance costs, and \$0.5 million in change in inventory (Q1 2022 - \$(1.2) million). The increase in cost of sales in Q1 2023 as compared to Q1 2022 is primarily attributable to a 63% increase in gold ounces sold, overall inflationary pressure on costs, as well as higher depreciation and depletion attributed to an increase in depreciable asset base.

- 3. General and administrative expenses for Q1 2023 was primarily comprised of \$7.1 million (Q1 2022 \$5.9 million) in salaries and consulting fees, \$2.2 million (Q1 2022 \$2.1 million) in office and administration expenses, \$1.4 million (Q1 2022 \$1.6 million) in incentive payments, \$0.9 million (Q1 2022 \$1.0 million) in other costs, and \$0.5 million (Q1 2022 \$0.5 million) in accounting and legal costs. The increase in general and administrative expenses was mainly attributed to an increase in salaries and consulting fees due to support overall growth in operations.
- 4. Finance expense for Q1 2023 was \$6.5 million (Q1 2022 \$5.5 million) and is primarily comprised of interest on loans and borrowings of \$4.5 million (Q1 2022 \$4.0 million), accretion of deferred revenue of \$0.8 million (Q1 2022 \$0.9 million), accretion of asset retirement obligations of \$0.6 million (Q1 2022 \$0.5 million), lease interest of \$0.3 million (Q1 2022 \$0.2 million), and other finance expense of \$0.2 million (Q1 2022 \$0.9 million). In addition, \$2.4 million (Q1 2022 \$1.1 million) in interest was capitalized to projects in progress. The overall increase in finance expense was primarily attributable to a full quarter of financing costs associated with the senior unsecured notes (the "Senior Notes", as defined below) being recognized in Q1 2023, as compared to two months of pro-rated costs recognized in Q1 2022. In February 2022, the Company issued \$400 million aggregate principal amount of the Senior Notes. The Senior Notes mature in February, 2030 and bear annual interest at 6.5%, payable semi-annually in February and August of each year.
- 5. Foreign exchange gain for Q1 2023 was \$8.6 million (Q1 2022 \$18.7 million gain). This amount is primarily comprised of foreign exchange gain on USD denominated debt of \$5.4 million (Q1 2022 \$11.3 million gain) in MCSA for which the functional currency is the BRL, unrealized foreign exchange gain on derivative contracts of \$3.2 million (Q1 2022 \$24.7 million gain), and realized foreign exchange gain on derivative contracts of \$0.9 million (Q1 2022 \$4.6 million loss), partially offset by other foreign exchange losses of \$0.9 million (Q1 2022 \$12.7 million losses). The foreign exchange gains were primarily a result of a strengthening of BRL against USD at the end of Q1 2023 as compared to the prior quarter. The foreign exchange gain on unrealized derivative contracts are a result of mark-to-market adjustments at period end.
- 6. In Q1 2023, the Company recognized \$4.7 million in income tax expense (Q1 2022 \$8.6 million). The reduction was primarily a result of decrease in income before taxes as compared to the same quarter of the prior year.
- 7. The foreign currency translation gain is a result of a strengthening of the BRL against the USD during Q1 2023, which strengthened from approximately 5.22 BRL per US dollar at the beginning of Q1 2023 to approximately 5.08 BRL per US dollar by the end of the quarter, when translating the net assets of the Company's Brazilian subsidiaries to USD for presentation in the Company's condensed consolidated interim financial statements.

# SUMMARY OF QUARTERLY RESULTS

The following table presents selected financial information for each of the most recent eight quarters. Tabular amounts are in millions of US Dollars, except share and per share amounts.

Selected Financial	Ma	ar. 31, <sup>(1)</sup>	De	ec. 31, <sup>(2)</sup>	Se	ep. 30, <sup>(3)</sup>	Ju	n. 30, <sup>(4)</sup>	M	ar. 31, <sup>(5)</sup>	D	ec. 31, <sup>(6)</sup>	Se	ep. 30, <sup>(7)</sup>	Ju	n. 30, <sup>(8)</sup>
Information		2023		2022		2022		2022		2022 2021		2021	2021		2021	
Revenue	\$	101.0	\$	116.7	\$	85.9	\$	114.9	\$	108.9	\$	134.9	\$	111.8	\$	120.7
Cost of sales	\$	(60.8)	\$	(64.0)	\$	(63.1)	\$	(64.3)	\$	(47.9)	\$	(50.5)	\$	(43.8)	\$	(37.0)
Gross profit	\$	40.1	\$	52.7	\$	22.8	\$	50.7	\$	61.0	\$	84.4	\$	68.0	\$	83.7
Net income for period	\$	24.5	\$	22.5	\$	4.0	\$	24.1	\$	52.5	\$	60.2	\$	26.4	\$	84.0
Income per share attributable to the owners of the Company																
- Basic	\$	0.26	\$	0.24	\$	0.04	\$	0.26	\$	0.58	\$	0.67	\$	0.29	\$	0.95
- Diluted	\$	0.26	\$	0.24	\$	0.04	\$	0.26	\$	0.57	\$	0.65	\$	0.28	\$	0.89
Weighted average number of common shares outstanding																
- Basic	92,	294,045	91,	,522,358	90	,845,229	90	,539,647	90	,238,008	89	9,637,768	88	,449,567	88,	251,995
- Diluted	93,	218,281	92,	,551,916	91	,797,437	91	,850,321	92	,050,104	91	L,727,452	93	,255,615	93,	314,274

Notes:

- 1. During Q1 2023, the Company recognized net income of \$24.5 million compared to \$22.5 million in the preceding quarter. The increase was primarily attributable to an increase in foreign exchange gain, a reduction in general and administrative expenses, and a reduction in finance expense. In the prior quarter, the Company recognized a \$3.3 million expected credit loss provision as compared to a recovery of \$0.5 million in Q1 2023.
- 2. During Q4 2022, the Company recognized net income of \$22.5 million compared to \$4.0 million in the preceding quarter. The increase was primarily attributable to a \$29.9 million increase in gross profit as a result of 13% increase in copper production, partially offset by higher share-based payment expenses and a \$3.3 million expected credit loss provision recognized in relation to payment arrangement with one of the Company's customers in Brazil, Paranapanema S/A ("PMA").
- 3. During Q3 2022, the Company recognized net income of \$4.0 million compared to \$24.1 million in the preceding quarter. The decrease was primarily attributable to a \$27.9 million decrease in gross profit as a result of 12% lower production, reduced copper and gold realized prices, and provisional pricing adjustments on copper concentrate sold in the prior quarter.
- 4. During Q2 2022, the Company recognized net income of \$24.1 million compared to \$52.5 million in the preceding quarter. The decrease was primarily attributable to volatility in foreign exchange gains or losses driven by the strengthening of the BRL against the USD in the quarter, which resulted in \$3.3 million of foreign exchange losses compared to \$18.7 million of foreign exchange gains in the preceding quarter and a \$10.3 million decrease in gross profit as a result of reduced copper and gold realized prices and overall inflationary pressure on cost of sales. The increase in copper produced and sold was mostly offset by a provisional pricing adjustment.
- 5. During Q1 2022, the Company recognized net income of \$52.5 million compared to \$60.2 million in the preceding quarter. The decrease was primarily attributable to a \$23.4 million decrease in gross profit as a result of reduced copper and gold sales volume, and overall inflationary pressure on cost of sales. Production and throughput for the quarter was adversely impacted by employee absenteeism due to COVID-19 and the seasonal influenza virus. The decrease in gross

profit was partially offset by foreign exchange gains driven by the strengthening of the BRL against the USD in the quarter, which resulted in \$18.7 million of foreign exchange gains compared to \$4.4 million of foreign exchange losses in the preceding quarter.

- 6. During Q4 2021, the Company recognized net income of \$60.2 million compared to \$26.4 million in the preceding quarter. The increase was primarily attributable to a \$16.4 million increase in gross profit as a result of increased copper sales volume, as well as a \$15.2 million decrease in foreign exchange losses as the BRL depreciation against the USD was relatively less than the preceding quarter.
- 7. During Q3 2021, the Company recognized net income of \$26.4 million compared to \$84.0 million in the preceding quarter, a decrease of \$58.7 million primarily due to volatility in foreign exchange gains or losses driven by the weakening of the BRL against the USD in the quarter, resulting in \$19.6 million of foreign exchange losses compared to foreign exchange gains of \$30.7 million in the preceding quarter.
- 8. During Q2 2021, the Company recognized \$30.7 million in foreign exchange gains. This amount is primarily comprised of foreign exchange gain on unrealized derivative contracts of \$29.9 million, foreign exchange gain on USD denominated debt of \$10.0 million in MCSA for which the functional currency is the BRL, partially offset by realized foreign exchange loss on derivative contracts of \$6.0 million, and other foreign exchange losses of \$3.2 million. The foreign exchange gains were primarily a result of a strengthening of BRL against USD in Q2 2021 as compared to the prior quarter. The foreign exchange gains on unrealized derivative contracts are a result of mark-to-market calculations at period end and may not represent the amount that will ultimately be realized, which will depend on future changes to the USD/BRL foreign exchange rates.

# LIQUIDITY, CAPITAL RESOURCES, AND CONTRACTUAL OBLIGATIONS

# Liquidity

As at March 31, 2023, the Company held cash and cash equivalents of \$209.9 million which were primarily comprised of cash held with reputable financial institutions and are invested in highly liquid short-term investments with maturities of three months or less. In addition, the Company held short-term investments of \$26.7 million with reputable financial institutions with maturities greater than three months and less than one year. The funds are not exposed to liquidity risk and there are no restrictions on the ability of the Company to use these funds to meet its obligations.

Cash and cash equivalents have increased by \$32.2 million since December 31, 2022. The Company's cash flows from operating, investing, and financing activities during 2023 are summarized as follows:

- **Cash from investing activities** of \$31.1 million, including:
  - \$117.4 million in proceeds from short term investments;

net of:

- \$83.3 million of additions to mineral property, plant and equipment; and
- \$3.0 million of additions to exploration and evaluation assets.
- **Cash from operating activities** of \$16.4 million, primarily consists of:
  - \$51.8 million of EBITDA (see Non-IFRS Measures);
  - \$2.4 million of additional advances from the NX Gold Precious Metal Purchase Agreement;

net of:

• \$3.2 million of unrealized gain on foreign exchange hedges;

- \$0.9 million of derivative contract settlements;
- \$0.4 million of income taxes paid; and
- \$27.8 million of net change in non-cash working capital items.

Partially offset by:

- Cash used in financing activities of \$15.9 million, primarily consists of:
  - \$13.3 million of interest paid on loans and borrowings;
  - \$2.2 million of principal repayments on loans and borrowings; and
  - \$2.6 million of lease payments;

net of:

• \$3.0 million of proceeds from exercise of stock options.

As at March 31, 2023, the Company had working capital of \$218.8 million and available liquidity of \$386.6 million.

## Capital Resources

The Company's primary sources of capital are comprised of cash from operations, cash and cash equivalents on hand and short-term investments. The Company continuously monitors its liquidity position and capital structure and, based on changes in operations and economic conditions, may adjust such structure by issuing new common shares or new debt as necessary. Taking into consideration cash flow from existing operations, management believes that the Company has sufficient working capital and financial resources to maintain its planned operations and activities for the foreseeable future.

At March 31, 2023, the Company had available liquidity of \$386.6 million, including \$209.9 million in cash and cash equivalents, \$26.7 million in short-term investments and \$150.0 million of undrawn availability under its senior secured revolving credit facility.

At December 31, 2022, the Company had a senior credit facility with maturity of March 2025 and included an accordion feature to increase limit from \$75.0 million to \$100.0 million, which bore interest on a sliding scale at a rate of LIBOR plus 2.25% to 4.25% depending on the Company's consolidated leverage ratio. Commitment fees for any undrawn portion of the senior credit facility were on a sliding scale between 0.56% to 1.06%.

In January 2023, the senior credit facility was amended to increase its limit from \$75.0 million to \$150.0 million with maturity extended from March 2025 to December 2026 ("Amended Senior Credit Facility"). The Amended Senior Credit Facility will bear interest on a sliding scale of SOFR plus an applicable margin of 2.00% to 4.00% depending on the Company's consolidated leverage ratio. Commitment fees for the undrawn portion of the Amended Senior Credit Facility will also be based on a sliding scale ranging from 0.45% to 0.90%.

In relation to its loans and borrowings, the Company is required to comply with certain financial covenants. As of the date of the condensed consolidated interim financial statements, the Company is in compliance with these covenants. The loan agreements also contain covenants that could restrict the ability of the Company and its subsidiaries, MCSA, Ero Gold, and NX Gold, to, among other things,

incur additional indebtedness needed to fund its respective operations, pay dividends or make other distributions, make investments, create liens, sell or transfer assets or enter into transactions with affiliates. There are no other restrictions or externally imposed capital requirements of the Company.

#### **Contractual Obligations and Commitments**

The Company has a precious metals purchase agreement with RGLD Gold AG ("Royal Gold"), a wholly-owned subsidiary of Royal Gold, Inc., whereby the Company is obligated to sell a portion of its gold production from the Xavantina Operations at contract prices.

## MANAGEMENT OF RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES

The Company thoroughly examines the various financial instruments and risks to which it is exposed and assesses the impact and likelihood of those risks. These risks may include credit risk, liquidity risk, currency risk, commodity price risk and interest rate risk. Where material, these risks are reviewed and monitored by the Board.

#### Credit risk

Credit risk is the risk of financial loss to the Company if a customer or counterparty to a financial instrument fails to meet its contractual obligations and arises principally from the Company's receivables from customers. The carrying amount of the financial assets below represents the maximum credit risk exposure as at March 31, 2023 and December 31, 2022:

	Mar	ch 31, 2023	Decer	nber 31, 2022
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	209,908	\$	177,702
Short-term investments		26,739		139,700
Accounts receivable		21,213		10,289
Note receivable		20,232		20,630
Deposits and other non-current assets		5,091		3,985
	\$	283,183	\$	352,306

The Company invests cash and cash equivalents and short-term investments with financial institutions that are financially sound based on their credit rating.

The Company's exposure to credit risk associated with accounts receivable is influenced mainly by the individual characteristics of each customer. On November 30, 2022, one of the Company's customers in Brazil, Paranapanema S/A ("PMA"), filed for bankruptcy protection due to working capital difficulties after an operational incident in June which resulted in one of their plants being shutdown for 38 days. Preceding the announcement, the Company agreed to restructure PMA's outstanding accounts receivable balance of \$23.9 million into a note receivable, guaranteed by certain assets of PMA, with payment terms of 24 monthly installments beginning in February 2023. The loan bears an annual interest rate equivalent to Brazil's CDI rate of approx. 13%. As a result of the arrangement, the Company recognized a credit loss provision of \$3.3 million in other finance expense during the year ended December 31, 2022. No further credit loss provision was required during the three months ended March 31, 2023.

## Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk associated with the difficulties that the Company may have meeting the obligations associated with financial liabilities that are settled with cash payments or with another financial asset. The Company's approach to liquidity management is to ensure as much as possible that sufficient liquidity exists to meet their maturity obligations on the expiration dates, under normal and stressful conditions, without causing unacceptable losses or with risk of undermining the normal operation of the Company.

The table below shows the Company's maturity of non-derivative financial liabilities on March 31, 2023:

Non-derivative financial liabilities		Carrying value		Contractual cash flows		Up to 12 months		1 - 2 years								3 - 5 years	 ore than 5 years
Loans and borrowings (including interest)	\$	410,816	\$	598,066	\$	32,618	\$	31,367	\$	82,080	\$ 452,001						
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities		77,292		77,292		77,292				_	_						
Other non-current liabilities		7,410		19,698		_		8,954		10,099	645						
Leases		12,211		12,179		7,469		3,344		1,108	 258						
Total	\$	507,729	\$	707,235	\$	117,379	\$	43,665	\$	93,287	\$ 452,904						

As at March 31, 2023, the Company has made commitments for capital expenditures through contracts and purchase orders amounting to \$181.0 million, which are expected to be incurred over a six-year period. In the normal course of operations, the Company may also enter into long-term contracts which can be cancelled with certain agreed customary notice periods without material penalties.

The Company also has derivative financial liabilities for foreign exchange collar contracts whose notional amounts and maturity information is disclosed below under foreign exchange currency risk and interest rate risk.

#### Foreign exchange currency risk

The Company's subsidiaries in Brazil are exposed to exchange risks primarily related to the US dollar. In order to minimize currency mismatches, the Company monitors its cash flow projections considering future sales expectations indexed to US dollar variation in relation to the cash requirement to settle the existing financings.

The Company's exposure to foreign exchange currency risk at March 31, 2023 relates to \$10.9 million (December 31, 2022 – \$11.7 million) in loans and borrowings of MCSA denominated in US dollars and Euros. In addition, the Company is also exposed to foreign exchange currency risk at March 31, 2023 on \$175.9 million of intercompany loan balances (December 31, 2022 - \$44.6 million) which have contractual repayment terms. Strengthening (weakening) in the Brazilian Real against the US dollar at March 31, 2023 by 10% and 20%, would have increased (decreased) pre-tax net income by \$18.6 million and \$37.1 million, respectively (March 31, 2022 – \$6.8 million and \$13.6 million. This

analysis is based on the foreign currency exchange variation rate that the Company considered to be reasonably possible at the end of the period. The analysis assumes that all other variables, especially interest rates, are held constant.

The Company may use derivatives, including forward contracts, collars and swap contracts, to manage market risks. At March 31, 2023, the Company has entered into foreign exchange collar contracts at zero cost for notional amounts of \$180.0 million (December 31, 2022 - notional amount of \$270.0 million) with an average floor rate of 5.16 BRL to US Dollar and an average cap rate of 6.34 BRL to US Dollar. The maturity dates of these contracts are from April 1, 2023 to December 1, 2023 and are financially settled on a net basis. As of March 31, 2023 the Company had contracts with three different counterparties and the fair value of these contracts was a net asset of \$6.6 million (December 31, 2022 - asset of \$3.2 million), included in other current assets in the statement of financial position. The fair value of foreign exchange contracts was determined based on option pricing models, forward foreign exchange rates and information provided by the counter party.

The change in fair value of foreign exchange collar contracts was a gain of \$3.2 million for the three months ended March 31, 2023 (a gain of \$24.7 million for the three months ended March 31, 2022) and has been recognized in foreign exchange gain (loss). In addition, during the three months ended March 31, 2023, the Company recognized a realized gain of \$0.9 million (realized loss of \$4.6 million for the three months ended March 31, 2022) related to the settlement of foreign currency forward collar contracts.

#### Interest rate risk

The Company is principally exposed to the variation in interest rates on loans and borrowings with variable rates of interest. Management reduces interest rate risk exposure by entering into loans and borrowings with fixed rates of interest or by entering into derivative instruments that fix the ultimate interest rate paid.

The Company is principally exposed to interest rate risk through Brazilian Real denominated bank loans of \$2.8 million. Based on the Company's net exposure at March 31, 2023, a 1% change in the variable rates would not materially impact its pre-tax annual net income.

## Price risk

The Company may use derivatives, including forward contracts, collars and swap contracts, to manage commodity price risks.

At March 31, 2023, the Company has provisionally priced sales that are exposed to commodity price changes. Based on the Company's net exposure at March 31, 2023, a 10% change in the price of copper would have changed \$2.8 million on pre-tax net income.

At March 31, 2023, the Company has entered into copper derivative contracts at zero-cost on 3,000 tonnes of copper per month from April 2023 to January 2024. These copper derivative contracts establish a floor price of \$3.50 per pound of copper and a cap price of \$4.76 per pound on total hedged volumes of 30,000 tonnes of copper, representing approximately 75% of estimated production volumes over the period. As of March 31, 2023, the fair value of these contracts was a net liability of \$0.3 million (December 31, 2022 - liability of \$0.6 million). The fair value of copper collar contracts was determined based on option pricing models, forward copper price and information provided by the counter party.

During the three months ended March 31, 2023, the Company recognized an unrealized gain of \$0.2 million (2022 - \$nil) and a realized loss of \$1.8 million in relation to its copper hedge derivatives in other income or loss.

For a discussion of additional risks applicable to the Company and its business and operations, including risks related to the Company's foreign operations, the environment and legal proceedings, see "Risk Factors" in the Company's AIF.

## **OTHER FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

#### Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements

As at March 31, 2023, the Company had no material off-balance sheet arrangements.

#### Outstanding Share Data

As of May 8, 2023, the Company had 92,549,013 common shares issued and outstanding.

# ACCOUNTING POLICIES, JUDGMENTS AND ESTIMATES

## **Critical Accounting Judgments and Estimates**

The preparation of condensed consolidated interim financial statements in conformity with IFRS requires management to make judgments, estimates and assumptions about future events that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenue and expenses during the reporting period. Although these estimates are based on management's best knowledge of the amount, events or actions, actual results may differ from these estimates.

The Company's significant accounting policies and accounting estimates are contained in the Company's consolidated financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2022. Certain of these policies, such as derivative instruments, deferred revenue, depreciation of property, plant and equipment and mining interests, provision for rehabilitation and closure costs, and income tax estimates including tax uncertainties involve critical accounting estimates. Certain of these estimates are dependent on mineral reserves and resource estimates and require management of the Company to make subjective or complex judgments about matters that are inherently uncertain, and because of the likelihood that materially different amounts could be reported under different conditions or using different assumptions. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

Management continuously reviews its estimates, judgments and assumptions on an ongoing basis using the most current information available. Revisions to estimates are recognized prospectively.

# **Capital Expenditures**

The following table presents capital expenditures at the Company's operations.

	20	23 - Q1	2022 - Q1
Caraíba Operations			
Growth	\$	<b>25,710</b> \$	5 14,457
Sustaining		19,854	19,537
Exploration		5,196	6,157
Deposit on Projects		3,659	2,288
Total, Caraíba Operations	\$	<b>54,419</b> \$	42,439
Tucumã Project			
Growth		11,782	5,457
Exploration		638	1,574
Deposit on Projects		14,100	153
Total, Tucumã Project	\$	<b>26,520</b> \$	5 7,184
Xavantina Operations			
Growth		987	813
Sustaining		3,013	2,145
Exploration		1,905	3,037
Total, Xavantina Operations	\$	<b>5,905</b> \$	5,995
Corporate and Other			
Sustaining		178	
Exploration		1,837	2,750
Total, Corporate and Other	\$	2,015	2,750
Consolidated			
Growth		38,479	20,727
Sustaining		23,045	21,682
Exploration		9,576	13,518
Deposit on Projects		17,759	2,441
Total, Consolidated	\$	88,859	58,368

## ALTERNATIVE PERFORMANCE (NON-IFRS) MEASURES

The Company utilizes certain alternative performance (non-IFRS) measures to monitor its performance, including C1 cash cost of copper produced (per lb), realized copper price (per lb), C1 cash cost of gold produced (per ounce), AISC of gold produced (per ounce), realized gold price (per ounce), EBITDA, adjusted EBITDA, adjusted net income attributable to owners of the Company, adjusted net income per share, net (cash) debt, working capital and available liquidity. These performance measures have no standardized meaning prescribed within generally accepted accounting principles under IFRS and, therefore, amounts presented may not be comparable to similar measures presented by other mining companies. These non-IFRS measures are intended to provide supplemental information and should not be considered in isolation or as a substitute for measures of performance prepared in accordance with IFRS. The tables below provide reconciliations of these non-IFRS measures to the most directly comparable IFRS measures as contained in the Company's financial statements.

Unless otherwise noted, the non-IFRS measures presented below have been calculated on a consistent basis for the periods presented.

## C1 Cash Cost of Copper Produced (per lb)

C1 cash cost of copper produced (per lb) is a non-IFRS performance measure used by the Company to manage and evaluate the operating performance of its copper mining segment and is calculated as C1 cash costs divided by total pounds of copper produced during the period. C1 cash costs includes total cost of production, transportation, treatment and refining charges, and certain tax credits relating to sales invoiced to the Company's Brazilian customer on sales, net of by-product credits and incentive payments. C1 cash cost of copper produced per pound is widely reported in the mining industry as benchmarks for performance but does not have a standardized meaning and is disclosed in supplement to IFRS measures.

The following table provides a reconciliation of C1 cash cost of copper produced per pound to cost of production, its most directly comparable IFRS measure.

Reconciliation:	20	023 - Q1	20	)22 - Q4	20	22 - Q1
Cost of production	\$	36,285	\$	40,067	\$	29,163
Add (less):						
Transportation costs & other		1,339		2,362		1,869
Treatment, refining, and other		2,527		4,949		2,046
By-product credits		(2,810)		(6,103)		(4,812)
Incentive payments		(1,237)		(1,092)		(904)
Net change in inventory		(1,185)		(861)		577
Foreign exchange translation and other		15		(47)		386
C1 cash costs	\$	34,934	\$	39,275	\$	28,325

	20	2023 - Q1		022 - Q4	20	)22 - Q1
Costs						
Mining	\$	23,210	\$	26,433	\$	20,126
Processing		6,554		8,033		6,447
Indirect		5,453		5,963		4,518
Production costs		35,217		40,429		31,091
By-product credits		(2,810)		(6,103)		(4,812)
Treatment, refining and other		2,527		4,949		2,046
C1 cash costs	\$	34,934	\$	39,275	\$	28,325
Costs per pound						
Payable copper produced (lb, 000)		20,564		27,918		21,570
Mining	\$	1.13	\$	0.95	\$	0.93
Processing	\$	0.32	\$	0.29	\$	0.30
Indirect	\$	0.27	\$	0.21	\$	0.21
By-product credits	\$	(0.14)	\$	(0.22)	\$	(0.22)
Treatment, refining and other	\$	0.12	\$	0.18	\$	0.09
C1 cash costs of copper produced (per lb)	\$	1.70	\$	1.41	\$	1.31

# Realized Copper Price (per lb)

Realized Copper Price (per lb) is a non-IFRS ratio that is calculated as gross copper revenue divided by pounds of copper sold during the period. Management believes measuring Realized Copper Price (per lb) enables investors to better understand performance based on the realized copper sales in each reporting period. The following table provides a calculation of Realized Copper Price (per lb) and a reconciliation to copper segment.

Reconciliation:	20	2023 - Q1		2022 - Q4		)22 - Q1
Copper revenue (\$000s)	\$	77,301	\$	98,315	\$	93,696
less: by-product credits		(2,810)		(4,929)		(4,812)
Net copper revenue		74,491		93,386		88,884
add: treatment, refining and other		2,527		4,949		2,046
Gross copper revenue		77,018		98,335		90,930
Cu Sold in concentrate (lbs)		20,865		29,323		22,145
Realized copper price (per lb)	\$	3.69	\$	3.35	\$	4.11

## C1 Cash Cost of Gold produced (per ounce) and AISC of Gold produced (per ounce)

C1 cash cost of gold produced (per ounce) is a non-IFRS performance measure used by the Company to manage and evaluate the operating performance of its gold mining segment and is calculated as C1 cash costs divided by total ounces of gold produced during the period. C1 cash cost includes total cost of production, net of by-product credits and incentive payments. C1 cash cost of gold produced per ounce is widely reported in the mining industry as benchmarks for performance but does not have a standardized meaning and is disclosed in supplemental to IFRS measures.

AISC of gold produced (per ounce) is an extension of C1 cash cost of gold produced (per ounce) discussed above and is also a key performance measure used by management to evaluate operating performance of its gold mining segment. AISC of gold produced (per ounce) is calculated as AISC divided by total ounces of gold produced during the period. AISC includes C1 cash costs, site general and administrative costs, accretion of mine closure and rehabilitation provision, sustaining capital expenditures, sustaining leases, and royalties and production taxes. AISC of gold produced (per ounce) is widely reported in the mining industry as benchmarks for performance but does not have a standardized meaning and is disclosed in supplement to IFRS measures.

The following table provides a reconciliation of C1 cash cost of gold produced per ounce and AISC of gold produced per ounce to cost of production, its most directly comparable IFRS measure.

Reconciliation:	2023 - Q1		2022 - Q4		20	22 - Q1
Cost of production	\$	6,107	\$	4,834	\$	5,392
Add (less):						
Incentive payments		(407)		(167)		(585)
Net change in inventory		(352)		258		727
By-product credits		(176)		(199)		(124)
Smelting and refining		76		61		42
Foreign exchange translation and other		176		462		164
C1 cash costs	\$	5,424	\$	5,249	\$	5,616
Site general and administrative		1,232		1,196		559
Accretion of mine closure and rehabilitation provision		105		106		112
Sustaining capital expenditure		3,013		4,547		2,296
Sustaining lease payments		1,660		1,559		822
Royalties and production taxes		338		262		204
AISC	\$	11,772	\$	12,919	\$	9,609

	2023 - Q1		20	022 - Q4	20	22 - Q1
Costs						
Mining	\$	2,567	\$	2,311	\$	3,218
Processing		1,905		2,067		1,698
Indirect		1,052		1,009		782
Production costs		5,524		5,387		5,698
Smelting and refining costs		76		61		42
By-product credits		(176)		(199)		(124)
C1 cash costs	\$	5,424	\$	5,249	\$	5,616
Site general and administrative		1,232		1,196		559
Accretion of mine closure and rehabilitation provision		105		106		112
Sustaining capital expenditure		3,013		4,547		2,296
Sustaining leases		1,660		1,559		822
Royalties and production taxes		338		262		204
AISC	\$	11,772	\$	12,919	\$	9,609
Costs per ounce						
Payable gold produced (ounces)		12,443		11,786		8,796
Mining	\$	206	\$	196	\$	366
Processing	\$	153	\$	175	\$	193
Indirect	\$	85	\$	86	\$	89
Smelting and refining	\$	6	\$	5	\$	5
By-product credits	\$	(14)	\$	(17)	\$	(15)
C1 cash costs of gold produced (per ounce)	\$	436	\$	445	\$	638
AISC of gold produced (per ounce)	\$	946	\$	1,096	\$	1,092
					-	

# Realized Gold Price (per ounce)

Realized Gold Price (per ounce) is a non-IFRS ratio that is calculated as gross gold revenue divided by ounces of gold sold during the period. Management believes measuring Realized Gold Price (per ounce) enables investors to better understand performance based on the realized gold sales in each reporting period. The following table provides a calculation of Realized Gold Price (per ounce) and a reconciliation to gold segment revenues, its most directly comparable IFRS measure.

(in '000s except for ounces and price per ounce)	20	2023 - Q1		2022 - Q4		022 - Q1
NX Gold revenue	\$	23,655	\$	18,352	\$	15,215
less: by-product credits		(176)		(199)		(124)
Gold revenue, net	\$	23,479	\$	18,153	\$	15,091
add: smelting, refining, and other charges		468		365		279
Gold revenue, gross	\$	23,947	\$	18,518	\$	15,370
- spot (cash)	\$	18,677	\$	14,391	\$	11,209
- stream (cash)	\$	1,231	\$	785	\$	803
- stream (amortization of deferred revenue)	\$	4,039	\$	3,342	\$	3,358
Total gold ounces sold		13,097		10,583		8,013
- spot		9,787		8,321		5,863
- stream		3,310		2,262		2,150
Realized gold price (per ounce)	\$	1,828	\$	1,750	\$	1,918
- spot	\$	1,908	\$	1,729	\$	1,912
- stream (cash + amort. of deferred revenue)	\$	1,592	\$	1,824	\$	1,935
- cash (spot cash + stream cash)	\$	1,520	\$	1,434	\$	1,499

# Earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation, and amortization ("EBITDA") and Adjusted EBITDA

EBITDA and adjusted EBITDA are non-IFRS performance measures used by management to evaluate its debt service capacity and performance of its operations. EBITDA represents earnings before finance expense, income taxes, depreciation and amortization. Adjusted EBITDA is EBITDA before the pre-tax effect of adjustments for non-cash and/or non-recurring items required in determination of EBITDA for covenant calculation purposes.

The following table provides a reconciliation of EBITDA and Adjusted EBITDA to net income, its most directly comparable IFRS measure.

Reconciliation:	20	2023 - Q1		2022 - Q4		022 - Q1
Net Income	\$	24,500	\$	22,472	\$	52,486
Adjustments:						
Finance expense		6,526		12,290		5,496
Income tax expense		4,666		7,540		8,606
Amortization and depreciation		16,083		16,361		11,504
EBITDA	\$	51,775	\$	58,663	\$	78,092
Foreign exchange gain		(8,621)		(4,569)		(18,709)
Share based compensation		5,017		4,123		1,990
Incremental COVID-19 costs		_				1,004
Adjusted EBITDA	\$	48,171	\$	58,217	\$	62,377

# Adjusted net income attributable to owners of the Company and Adjusted net income per share attributable to owners of the Company

"Adjusted net income attributable to owners of the Company" is net income attributed to shareholders as reported, adjusted for certain types of transactions that, in management's judgment, are not indicative of our normal operating activities or do not necessarily occur on a recurring basis. "Adjusted net income per share attributable to owners of the Company" ("Adjusted EPS") is calculated as "adjusted net income attributable to owners of the Company" divided by weighted average number of outstanding common shares in the period. The Company believes that, in addition to conventional measures prepared in accordance with IFRS, the Company and certain investor and analysts use these supplemental non-IFRS performance measures to evaluate the normalized performance of the Company. The presentation of Adjusted EPS is not meant to substitute the net income (loss) per share attributable to owners of the Company ("EPS") presented in accordance with IFRS, but rather it should be evaluated in conjunction with such IFRS measures.

The following table provides a reconciliation of Adjusted net income attributable to owners of the Company and Adjusted EPS to net income attributable to the owners of the Company, its most directly comparable IFRS measure.

Reconciliation:	2023 - Q1		2022 - Q4		2022 - Q1			
Net income as reported attributable to the owners of the Company	\$	24,154	\$	22,159	\$	52,107		
Adjustments:								
Share based compensation		5,017		4,123		1,990		
Unrealized foreign exchange gain on USD denominated balances in MCSA		(4,753)		(1,782)		(1,337)		
Unrealized foreign exchange gain on foreign exchange derivative contracts		(3,152)		(3,017)		(24,615)		
Incremental COVID-19 costs		—		—		998		
Tax effect on the above adjustments		1,208		731		3,808		
Adjusted net income attributable to owners of the Company	\$	22,474	\$	22,214	\$	32,951		
Weighted average number of common shares								
Basic	92	,294,045	91,522,358		522,358 90,2			
Diluted	93,218,281		92,551,916		92,551,916		92	2,050,104
Adjusted EPS								
Basic	\$	0.24	\$	0.24	\$	0.37		
Diluted	\$	0.24	\$	0.24	\$	0.36		

## Net (Cash) Debt

Net (cash) debt is a performance measure used by the Company to assess its financial position and ability to pay down its debt. Net (cash) debt is determined based on cash and cash equivalents, short-term investments, net of loans and borrowings as reported in the Company's condensed consolidated interim financial statements. The following table provides a calculation of net (cash) debt based on amounts presented in the Company's condensed consolidated interim financial statements as at the periods presented.

	Ν	March 31, 2023		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		December 31, 2022	I	March 31, 2022		
Current portion of loans and borrowings	\$	9,221	\$	15,703	\$	8,740				
Long-term portion of loans and borrowings		401,595		402,354		402,345				
Less:										
Cash and cash equivalents		(209,908)		(177,702)		(365,465)				
Short-term investments		(26,739)		(139,700)		(100,018)				
Net debt (cash)	\$	174,169	\$	100,655	\$	(54,398)				

# Working Capital and Available Liquidity

Working capital is calculated as current assets less current liabilities as reported in the Company's condensed consolidated interim financial statements. The Company uses working capital as a measure of the Company's short-term financial health and ability to meet its current obligations using its current assets. Available liquidity is calculated as the sum of cash and cash equivalents, short-term investments and the undrawn amount available on its revolving credit facilities. The Company uses this information to evaluate the liquid assets available. The following table provides a calculation for these based on amounts presented in the Company's condensed consolidated interim financial statements as at the periods presented.

	Ν	March 31, 2023			·				March 31, 2022
Current assets	\$	331,241	\$	392,427	\$	546,439			
Less: Current liabilities		(112,448)		(129,121)		(102,743)			
Working capital	\$	218,793	\$	263,306	\$	443,696			
Cash and cash equivalents		209,908		177,702		365,465			
Short-term investments		26,739		139,700		100,018			
Available undrawn revolving credit facilities <sup>(1)</sup>		150,000		75,000		75,000			
Available liquidity	\$	386,647	\$	392,402	\$	540,483			

(1) In January 2023, the Company amended its Senior Credit Facility to increase its limit from \$75.0 million to \$150.0 million and extended the maturity from March 2025 to December 2026.

# Disclosure Controls and Procedures and Internal Control over Financial Reporting

The Company's management, with the participation of the CEO and CFO, is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate disclosure controls and procedures ("DC&P") and internal control over financial reporting ("ICFR") using Internal Control – Integrated Framework (2013) issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission ("COSO") as its internal control framework.

The Company's DC&P are designed to provide reasonable assurance that material information related to the Company is identified and communicated on a timely basis.

The Company's ICFR is a process designed to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with IFRS. Any system of ICFR, no matter how well designed, has inherent limitations and cannot provide absolute assurance that all misstatements and instances of fraud, if any, within the Company have been prevented or detected. The Company's ICFR is designed to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with IFRS.

There were no changes in the Company's DC&P and ICFR that materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, ICFR during the three months ended March 31, 2023.

## NOTE REGARDING SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL INFORMATION

Unless otherwise indicated, scientific and technical information in this MD&A relating to Ero's properties ("Technical Information") is based on information contained in the following:

The report prepared in accordance with National Instrument 43-101, *Standards of Disclosure for Mineral Projects* ("NI 43-101") and entitled "2022 Mineral Resources and Mineral Reserves of the Caraíba Operations, Curaçá Valley, Bahia, Brazil", dated December 22, 2022 with an effective date of September 30, 2022, prepared by Porfirio Cabaleiro Rodrigues, FAIG, Bernardo Horta de Cerqueira Viana, FAIG, Fábio Valério Câmara Xavier, MAIG and Ednie Rafael Moreira de Carvalho Fernandes, MAIG all of GE21 Consultoria Mineral Ltda. ("GE21"), Dr. Beck Nader, FAIG of BNA Mining Solutions ("BNA") and Alejandro Sepulveda, Registered Member (#0293) (Chilean Mining Commission) of NCL Ingeniería y Construcción SpA ("NCL") (the "Caraíba Operations Technical Report"). Each a "qualified person" and "independent" of the Company within the meanings of NI 43-101.

The press release dated March 28, 2023, and where applicable, the report prepared in accordance with NI 43-101 and entitled "Mineral Resource and Mineral Reserve Estimate of the NX Gold Mine, Nova Xavantina", dated January 8, 2021 with an effective date of September 30, 2020, prepared by Porfirio Cabaleiro Rodrigues, FAIG, Leonardo de Moraes Soares, MAIG, Bernardo Horta de Cerqueira Viana, FAIG, and Paulo Roberto Bergmann, FAusIMM, each of GE21 and a "qualified person" and "independent" of the Company within the meanings of NI 43-101 (the "Xavantina Operations Technical Report").

The report prepared in accordance with NI 43-101 and entitled "Boa Esperança Project NI 43-101 Technical Report on Feasibility Study Update", dated November 12, 2021 with an effective date of August 31, 2021, prepared by Kevin Murray, P. Eng., Erin L. Patterson, P.E. and Scott C. Elfen, P.E. all of Ausenco Engineering Canada Inc. (or its affiliate Ausenco Engineering USA South Inc. in the case of Ms. Patterson), Carlos Guzmán, FAusIMM RM CMC of NCL and Emerson Ricardo Re, MSc, MBA, MAusIMM (CP) (No. 305892), Registered Member (No. 0138) (Chilean Mining Commission) and Resource Manager of the Company on the date of the report (now of HCM Consultoria Geologica Eireli ("HCM")) (the "Tucumã Project Technical Report"). Each of Kevin Murray, P. Eng., Erin L. Patterson, P.E. and Scott C. Elfen, P.E., Carlos Guzmán, FAusIMM RM CMC and Emerson Ricardo Re, MAusIMM (CP), is a "qualified person" of the Company within the meanings of NI 43-101. Each of Kevin Murray, P. Eng., Erin L. Patterson, P.E. and Scott C. Elfen, P.E. and Scott C. Elfen, P.E., and Carlos Guzmán, FAusIMM RM CMC are "independent" of the Company within the meaning of NI 43-101. Emerson Ricardo Re, MAusIMM (CP), as Resource Manager of the Company (on the date of the report and now of HCM), was not "independent" of the Company on the date of the report, within the meaning of NI 43-101.

Reference should be made to the full text of the Caraíba Operations Technical Report, the Xavantina Operations Technical Report and the Tucumã Project Technical Report, each of which is available for review on the Company's website at www.erocopper.com and under the Company's profile on SEDAR at www.sedar.com, and EDGAR at www.sec.gov.

The disclosure of Technical Information in this MD&A has been reviewed and approved by Cid Gonçalves Monteiro Filho, SME RM (04317974), MAIG (No. 8444), MAusIMM (No. 3219148) and Resource Manager of the Company who is a "qualified person" within the meanings of NI 43-101.

## **Cautionary Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements**

This MD&A contains "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of the United States Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 and "forward-looking information" within the meaning of applicable Canadian securities legislation (collectively, "forward-looking statements"). Forwardlooking statements include statements that use forward-looking terminology such as "may", "could", "would", "will", "should", "intend", "target", "plan", "expect", "budget", "estimate", "forecast", "schedule", "anticipate", "believe", "continue", "potential", "view" or the negative or grammatical variation thereof or other variations thereof or comparable terminology. Forward-looking statements may include, but are not limited to, statements with respect to the Company's production, operating cost and capital expenditure guidance, mineral reserve and mineral resource estimates; targeting additional mineral resources and expansion of deposits; capital and operating cost estimates and economic analyses (including cash flow projections), including those from the Caraíba Operations Technical Report, the Xavantina Operations Technical Report and the Tucumã Project Technical Report; the Company's expectations, strategies and plans for the Caraíba Operations, the Xavantina Operations and the Tucumã Project, including the Company's planned exploration, development, construction and production activities; the results of future exploration and drilling; estimated completion dates for certain milestones; successfully adding or upgrading mineral resources and successfully developing new deposits; the costs and timing of future exploration, development and construction including but not limited to the Deepening Extension Project at the Caraíba Operations and the Tucumã Project; the timing and amount of future production at the Caraíba Operations, the Xavantina Operations and the Tucumã Project; the timing, receipt and maintenance of necessary approvals, licenses and permits from applicable governments, regulators or third parties; the Company's expectations regarding planned capital expenditures for the Tucumã Project, the Deepening Extension Project and/or the Caraíba Mill expansion project falling within contingency levels; expectations regarding the Company's ability to manage risks related to future copper price fluctuations and volatility; future financial or operating performance and condition of the Company and its business, operations and properties, including expectations regarding liquidity, capital structure, competitive position and payment of dividends; expectations regarding future currency exchange rates; and any other statement that may predict, forecast, indicate or imply future plans, intentions, levels of activity, results, performance or achievements.

Forward-looking statements are subject to a variety of known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that could cause actual results, actions, events, conditions, performance or achievements to materially differ from those expressed or implied by the forward-looking statements, including, without limitation, risks discussed in this MD&A and in the AIF under the heading "*Risk Factors*". The risks discussed in this MD&A and in the AIF are not exhaustive of the factors that may affect any of the Company's forward-looking statements. Although the Company has attempted to identify important factors that could cause actual results, actions, events, conditions, performance or achievements to differ materially from those contained in forward-looking statements, there may be other factors that cause results, actions, events, conditions, performance to differ from those anticipated, estimated or intended.

Forward-looking statements are not a guarantee of future performance. There can be no assurance that forward-looking statements will prove to be accurate, as actual results and future events could differ materially from those anticipated in such statements. Forward-looking statements involve statements about the future and are inherently uncertain, and the Company's actual results, achievements or other future events or conditions may differ materially from those reflected in the forward-looking statements due to a variety of risks, uncertainties and other factors, including, without limitation, those referred to herein and in the AIF under the heading "*Risk Factors*".

The Company's forward-looking statements are based on the assumptions, beliefs, expectations and opinions of management on the date the statements are made, many of which may be difficult to predict and beyond the Company's control. In connection with the forward-looking statements contained in this MD&A and in the AIF, the Company has made certain assumptions about, among other things: favourable equity and debt capital markets; the ability to raise any necessary additional capital on reasonable terms to advance the production, development and exploration of the Company's properties and assets; future prices of copper, gold and other metal prices; the timing and results of exploration and drilling programs; the accuracy of any mineral reserve and mineral resource estimates; the geology of the Caraíba Operations, the Xavantina Operations and the Tucumã Project being as described in the respective technical report for each property; production costs; the accuracy of budgeted exploration, development and construction costs and expenditures; the price of other commodities such as fuel; future currency exchange rates and interest rates; operating conditions being favourable such that the Company is able to operate in a safe, efficient and effective manner; work force continuing to remain healthy in the face of prevailing epidemics, pandemics or other health risks (including COVID-19), political and regulatory stability; the receipt of governmental, regulatory and third party approvals, licenses and permits on favourable terms; obtaining required renewals for existing approvals, licenses and permits on favourable terms; requirements under applicable laws; sustained labour stability; stability in financial and capital goods markets; availability of equipment; positive relations with local groups and the Company's ability to meet its obligations under its agreements with such groups; and satisfying the terms and conditions of the Company's current loan arrangements. Although the Company believes that the assumptions inherent in forward-looking statements are reasonable as of the date of this MD&A, these assumptions are subject to significant business, social, economic, political, regulatory, competitive and other risks and uncertainties, contingencies and other factors that could cause actual actions, events, conditions, results, performance or achievements to be materially different from those projected in the forward-looking statements. The Company cautions that the foregoing list of assumptions is not exhaustive. Other events or circumstances could cause actual results to differ materially from those estimated or projected and expressed in, or implied by, the forward-looking statements contained in this MD&A.

Forward-looking statements contained herein are made as of the date of this MD&A and the Company disclaims any obligation to update or revise any forward-looking statement, whether as a result of new information, future events or results or otherwise, except as and to the extent required by applicable securities laws.

## **Cautionary Notes Regarding Mineral Resource and Reserve Estimates**

Unless otherwise indicated, all reserve and resource estimates included in this MD&A and the documents incorporated by reference herein have been prepared in accordance with Canadian National Instrument 43-101 - Standards of Disclosure for Mineral Projects ("NI 43-101") and the Canadian Institute of Mining, Metallurgy and Petroleum (the "CIM") — CIM Definition Standards on Mineral Resources and Mineral Reserves, adopted by the CIM Council, as amended (the "CIM Standards"). NI 43-101 is a rule developed by the Canadian Securities Administrators that establishes standards for all public disclosure an issuer makes of scientific and technical information concerning mineral projects. Canadian standards, including NI 43-101, differ significantly from the requirements of the United States Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC"), and reserve and resource information included herein may not be comparable to similar information disclosed by U.S. companies. In particular, and without limiting the generality of the foregoing, this MD&A and the documents incorporated by reference herein use the terms "measured resources," "indicated resources" and "inferred resources" as defined in accordance with NI 43-101 and the CIM Standards.

Further to recent amendments, mineral property disclosure requirements in the United States (the "U.S. Rules") are governed by subpart 1300 of Regulation S-K of the U.S. Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "U.S. Securities Act") which differ from the CIM Standards. As a foreign private issuer that is eligible to file reports with the SEC pursuant to the multi-jurisdictional disclosure system (the "MJDS"), Ero is not required to provide disclosure on its mineral properties under the U.S. Rules and will continue to provide disclosure under NI 43-101 and the CIM Standards. If Ero ceases to be a foreign private issuer or loses its eligibility to file its annual report on Form 40-F pursuant to the MJDS, then Ero will be subject to the U.S. Rules, which differ from the requirements of NI 43-101 and the CIM Standards.

Pursuant to the new U.S. Rules, the SEC recognizes estimates of "measured mineral resources", "indicated mineral resources" and "inferred mineral resources." In addition, the definitions of "proven mineral reserves" and "probable mineral reserves" under the U.S. Rules are now "substantially similar" to the corresponding standards under NI 43-101. Mineralization described using these terms has a greater amount of uncertainty as to its existence and feasibility than mineralization that has been characterized as reserves. Accordingly, U.S. investors are cautioned not to assume that any measured mineral resources, indicated mineral resources, or inferred mineral resources that Ero reports are or will be economically or legally mineable. Further, "inferred mineral resources" have a greater amount of uncertainty as to their existence and as to whether they can be mined legally or economically. Under Canadian securities laws, estimates of "inferred mineral resources" may not form the basis of feasibility or pre-feasibility studies, except in rare cases. While the above terms under the U.S. Rules are "substantially similar" to the standards under NI 43-101 and CIM Standards, there are differences in the definitions under the U.S. Rules and CIM Standards. Accordingly, there is no assurance any mineral reserves or mineral resources that Ero may report as "proven mineral reserves", "probable mineral reserves", "measured mineral resources", "indicated mineral resources" and "inferred mineral resources" under NI 43-101 would be the same had Ero prepared the reserve or resource estimates under the standards adopted under the U.S. Rules.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Additional information about Ero and its business activities, including the AIF, is available under the Company's profile at www.sedar.com and www.sec.gov.