# TAMARACK NORTH PROJECT HIGH-GRADE NICKEL-COPPER-COBALT IN THE USA



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# FORWARD-LOOKING INFORMATION

This presentation contains certain "forward-looking statements". All statements, other than statements of historical fact that address activities, events or developments that Talon believes, expects or anticipates will or may occur in the future are forward-looking statements. These forward-looking statements reflect the current expectations or beliefs of Talon based on information currently available to Talon. Such forward-looking statements include, among other things, statements relating to future exploration potential at the Tamarack North Project, including the potential expansion thereof, whether using techniques such as Borehole Electro-Magnetic (BHEM) surveys, Magno-Metric Resistivity (MMR) surveys or otherwise; infill drilling the Massive Sulphide Unit to move resources from the inferred to indicated category; near-term growth potential to increase mine life from (i) resources in the 138 Zone, (ii) resources not included in mine plan in the Upper SMSU, (iii) "CGO bend" area north of the Upper SMSU, and (iv) recent drill results are potentially expanding the MSU; the Company's ability to complete an earn-in up to a 60% ownership interest in the Tamarack Project (comprised of the Tamarack North Project and the Tamarack South Project); the Company's planned work program for the Tamarack North Project, including potential drill results; the Company's investigations into producing concentrates for smelters and producing sulphates for Electric Vehicle batteries; the results of a metallurgical study being completed to determine if disseminated mineralization can be incorporated into the mine plan; the Company's expectations with respect to the electric vehicle and related battery market; the Company's expectations relating to timing of future studies; the Company's expectations of demand for Nickel; the Company's expectations concerning ongoing and future metallurgical test work; the Company's expectations concerning the economic viability of the Tamarack Project; the Company's expectations with respect to it

Forward-looking statements are subject to significant risks and uncertainties and other factors that could cause the actual results to differ materially from those discussed in the forward-looking statements, and even if such actual results are realized or substantially realized, there can be no assurance that they will have the expected consequences to, or effects on Talon. Factors that could cause actual results or events to differ materially from current expectations include, but are not limited to: changes in commodity prices, including nickel; the Company's inability to raise capital and/or pay Kennecott Exploration Company pursuant to the Option Agreement dated November 7, 2018 (and the amendments thereto); the lack of electric vehicle adoption or in the event of such adoption, such not resulting in an increased demand for nickel or there being a nickel deficit; negative metallurgical results; changes in interest rates; risks inherent in exploration results, timing and success, including the failure to identify mineral resources or mineral reserves; the uncertainties involved in interpreting DHEM and MMR surveys, drilling results and other geological data; inaccurate geological and metallurgical assumptions (including with respect to the size, grade and recoverability of mineral reserves and mineral resources); uncertainties relating to the financing needed to further explore and develop the Tamarack North Project or to put a mine into production; the costs of commencing production varying significantly from estimates; unexpected geological conditions; changes in power prices; unanticipated operational difficulties (including failure of plant, equipment or processes to operate in accordance with specifications, cost escalation, unavailability of materials, equipment and third-party contractors, inability to obtain or delays in receiving government or regulatory approvals, industrial disturbances or other job action, and unanticipated events related to health, safety and environmental matters); political r

Any forward-looking statement speaks only as of the date on which it is made and, except as may be required by applicable securities laws, Talon disclaims any intent or obligation to update any forward-looking statement, whether as a result of new information, future events or results or otherwise. Although Talon believes that the assumptions inherent in the forward-looking statements are reasonable, forward-looking statements are not guarantees of future performance and accordingly undue reliance should not be put on such

## TECHNICAL REFERENCE

The mineral resource figures disclosed in this presentation are estimates and no assurances can be given that the indicated levels of nickel, copper, cobalt, platinum, palladium and gold will be produced. Such estimates are expressions of judgment based on knowledge, mining experience, analysis of drilling results and industry practices. Valid estimates made at a given time may significantly change when new information becomes available. While the Company believes that the resource estimates disclosed in this presentation are well established, by their nature resource estimates are imprecise and depend, to a certain extent, upon statistical inferences which may ultimately prove unreliable. If such estimates are inaccurate or are reduced in the future, this could have a material adverse impact on the Company.

Mineral resources are not mineral reserves and do not have demonstrated economic viability. Inferred mineral resources are estimated on limited information not sufficient to verify geological and grade continuity or to allow technical and economic parameters to be applied. Inferred mineral resources are too speculative geologically to have economic considerations applied to them to enable them to be categorized as mineral reserves. There is no certainty that mineral resources can be upgraded to mineral reserves through continued exploration.

Please see the technical report entitled "NI 43-101 Technical Report Updated Preliminary Economic Assessment (PEA) of the Tamarack North Project – Tamarack, Minnesota" with an effective date of March 12, 2020 (the "**Updated PEA**") prepared by independent "Qualified Persons" (as that term is defined in National Instrument 43-101 ("NI 43-101")) Leslie Correia (Pr. Eng.), Andre-Francois Gravel (P. Eng.), Tim Fletcher (P. Eng.), Daniel Gagnon (P. Eng.), David Ritchie (P. Eng.), Oliver Peters (P. Eng.), Christine Pint (P.G.) and Brian Thomas (P. Geo.) for information on the QA/QC, data verification, analytical and testing procedures at the Tamarack Project. Copies are available on the Company's website (www.talonmetals.com) or on SEDAR at (www.sedar.com). The laboratory used is ALS Minerals who is independent of the Company.

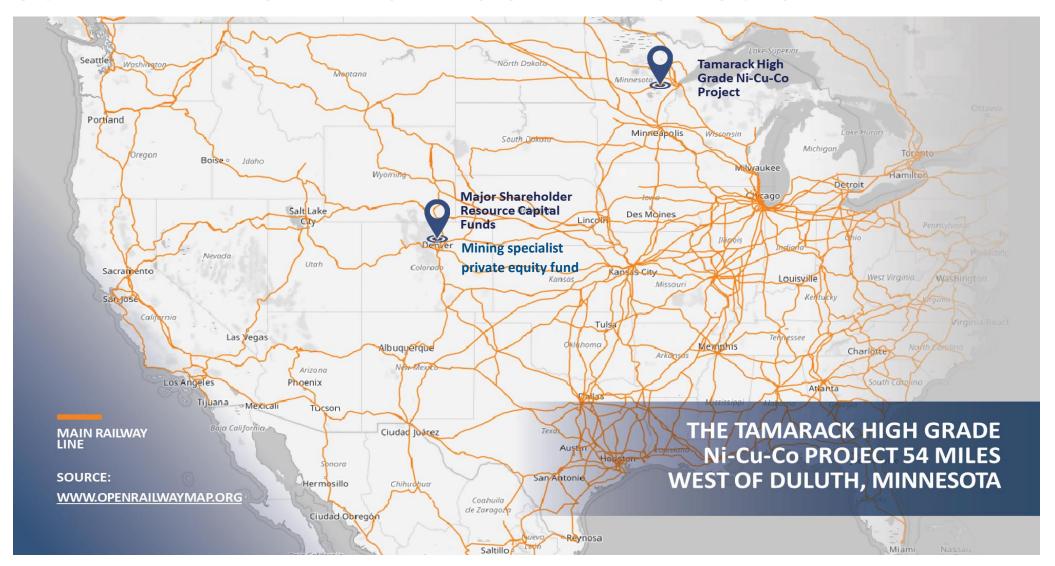
The Updated PEA is preliminary in nature. The Updated PEA includes inferred mineral resources. Inferred mineral resources are considered too speculative geologically to have economic considerations applied to them that would enable them to be categorized as mineral reserves. There is no certainty that the Updated PEA will be realized.

The mineral resource estimate contained in this presentation was prepared by or under the supervision of Mr. Brian Thomas (P.Geo.), who is a geologist independent of Talon and an employee of Golder Associates Ltd. In addition, Mr. Thomas has reviewed the sampling, analytical and test data underlying such information and has visited the site and reviewed and verified the QA/QC procedures used at the Tamarack North Project and found them to be consistent with industry standards. For further detail please see the Technical Report entitled "Second Independent Technical Report on the Tamarack North Project – Tamarack, Minnesota", dated March 26, 2018, which is available under the Company's issuer profile on SEDAR (www.sedar.com) or on the Company's website (www.talonmetals.com).

Dr. Etienne Dinel, Vice President, Exploration of Talon, is a Qualified Person within the meaning of NI 43-101. Dr. Dinel is satisfied that the analytical and testing procedures used are standard industry operating procedures and methodologies, and he has reviewed, approved and verified the technical information in this presentation, including sampling, analytical and test data underlying the technical information.

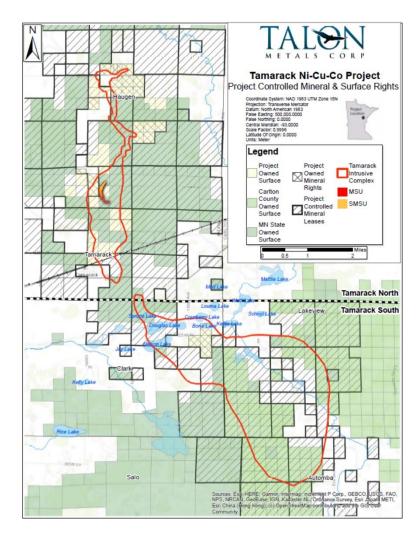
Lengths in this presentation are drill intersections and not necessarily true widths. True widths cannot be consistently calculated for comparison purposes between holes because of the irregular shapes of the mineralized zones.

#### LOCATED IN THE UNITED STATES ON INFRASTRUCTURE



# RIO TINTO, THROUGH SUBSIDIARY KENNECOTT EXPLORATION COMPANY (KEX), IS OUR ACTIVE JOINT VENTURE PARTNER

- The Tamarack Project is comprised of the Tamarack North Project and the Tamarack South Project with 31,000 acres of Private Land and State Leases
- To earn a 51% interest in the Tamarack Project, Talon is required to (by March 2022):
  - Pay US\$6 million in cash and US\$1.5 million in shares to KEX (completed in March 2019);
  - Spend US\$10 million on exploration & development and pay US\$5 million to KEX
- To earn an additional 9% interest for a total of 60% (by March 2026):
  - Complete a feasibility study and pay US\$10 million to KEX
- Under the Option Agreement, Talon is appointed as the operator of the Tamarack Project, with certain KEX employees being seconded to Talon on a full-time basis



Plan view of the Tamarack Intrusive Complex (TIC) showing the intrusions, the Semi-Massive Sulphide Unit (SMSU) and the Massive Sulphide Unit (MSU)

#### A COMBINED TALON AND RIO TINTO\* TEAM

# Henri van Rooyen CEO B. Com (Hons), CA (SA)

Previously COO at Tau Capital. Secured and managed large exploration projects across 3 continents since 2007. Started working with Rio Tinto's KEX/Tamarack team in 2014. Responsible for strategy and project delivery

#### **Brian Goldner**

Head of Exploration (Seconded from Rio Tinto together with the Tamarack team) (Bachelors in Geology and Geography, Masters in Geology) Exploration Geologist with Rio Tinto since 2006. Completed a MSc degree on the Tamarack Intrusive Complex (TIC) in 2012. Seconded by Rio Tinto to lead exploration at the TIC

# Brian Bengert Head of Geophysics (B.Sc Geophysics, M.Sc)

Geophysicist 15 years- Inco (now Vale). Major responsibility was Voisey's Bay nickel project. Principal member of the team that discovered the underground deposit

#### **Dr. Etienne Dinel**

VP Geology (Bachelor of Geology, Physics (Honours), PH.D, Economic Geology) Twenty years of experience in structural geology, petrology and geochemistry. Since 2014, he has been instrumental in predicting massive sulphide extensions at the TIC

# Sean Werger President, Head of Investor

Relations (LL.B, MBA) Previously General Counsel and Director of Mergers & Acquisitions at Tau Capital, with project divestments of mining projects totalling in excess of C\$700M. Started working with Rio Tinto's KEX/Tamarack team in 2014. Responsible for corporate and legal matters and investor relations.

#### Dr. Anthony J. Naldrett

Talon Technical Committee Member and Director) (PH.D, Geology) Globally acknowledged as the leading authority on magmatic sulphide deposits: His research has covered nearly all of the world's magmatic sulphide ores with 254 referenced publications and writing or editing of 7 books. Presently Professor Emeritus at the University of Toronto

#### **Mark Groulx**

VP Mine Engineering (B.Sc.E Mine Engineering, MBA)

Mining engineer with more than 20 years of global mining experience that includes mine operations, consulting and project execution. Previously held senior positions with Rio Tinto, Amec Foster Wheeler and PT Freeport Indonesia.

#### **Oliver Peters**

Head of Metallurgy
(Masters in Engineering, MBA)

Previously Falconbridge (now Glencore). Experience with over twenty Ni, Cu and PGM projects. Started part-time at the Tamarack Project since 2016, moving towards fulltime since March 2019



<sup>\*</sup> Through subsidiary Kennecott Exploration Company (KEX)

# **CAPITAL STRUCTURE**

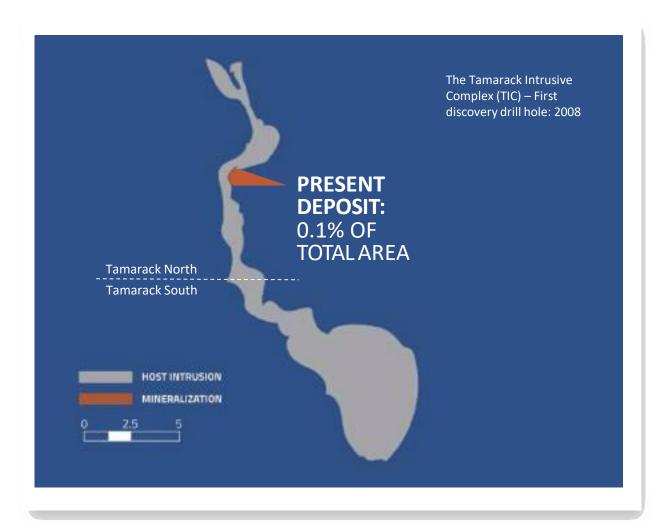
Shares issued	494.3M
Warrants outstanding	32.0M
Options outstanding	56.4M
Fully diluted	582.8M
Share price (Feb. 28/20)	\$0.10
Exchange symbol	TLO:TSX
Market capitalization	C\$49M
Cash (Feb. 27/20)	C\$4.8M

Major shareholders*	
Resource Capital Funds	48.3%
Rio Tinto	6.1%
Management and directors	3.8%

<sup>\*</sup>Based on publicly available information



# THE TAMARACK INTRUSIVE COMPLEX (TIC) STRIKES OVER APPROXIMATELY 18 KM. FOLLOW-UP DRILLING TO THE FIRST DISCOVERY HOLE CULMINATED IN A RESOURCE\*



\*Tamarack North Project NI 43-101 Mineral Resource Estimate (February 15, 2018) - Tamarack and 138 Zones

Domain	Resource Classification	Tonnes (000)	Ni (%)	Cu (%)	Co (%)	Pt (g/t)	Pd (g/t)	Au (g/t)	Calc NiEq (%)	
SMSU	Indicated Resource	3,639	1.83	0.99	0.05	0.42	0.26	0.20	2.45	
TOTAL	Indicated Resource	3,639	1.83	0.99	0.05	0.42	0.26	0.20	2.45	
SMSU	Inferred Resource	1,107	0.90	0.55	0.03	0.22	0.14	0.12	1.25	
MSU	Inferred Resource	570	5.86	2.46	0.12	0.68	0.51	0.25	7.24	*
138 Zone	Inferred Resource	2,705	0.95	0.74	0.03	0.23	0.13	0.16	1.38	
TOTAL	Inferred Resource	4,382	1.58	0.92	0.04	0.29	0.18	0.16	2.11	

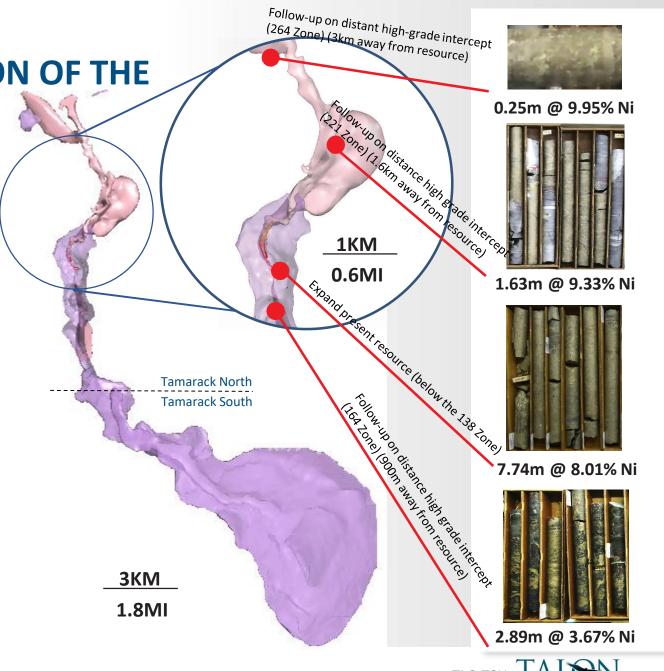
Effective date of resource estimate February 15th 2018. All resources reported at a 0.83% NiEq cut-off. No modifying factors have been applied to the estimates. Tonnage estimates are rounded to the nearest 1,000 tonnes. Metallurgical recovery factored in to the reporting cut-off. Where used in the Mineral Resource Estimate, NiEq% = Ni%+ Cu% x \$3.00/\$8.00 + Co% x \$12.00/\$8.00 + Pt [g/t]/31.103 x \$1,300/\$8.00/22.04 + Pd <math>[g/t]/31.103 x \$700/\$8.00/22.04 + Au <math>[g/t]/31.103 x \$1,200/\$8.00/22.04

See Technical Reference slide for further information regarding the Initial PEA, which is available under the Company's issuer profile on SEDAR (www.sedar.com)

TALON'S FOCUS IS ON EXPANSION OF THE MASSIVE SULPHIDE UNIT (MSU)

 TWO WAYS TO POTENTIALLY EXPAND:

- (1) Expand present resource
- (2) Follow-up on distant high-grade intercepts
- WE ARE PURSUING BOTH THROUGH:
  - (1) Effective drilling techniques
  - (2) Advanced geophysical methods



#### (1) EXPAND THE PRESENT RESOURCE

#### Massive Sulphide Unit (MSU) Tamarack

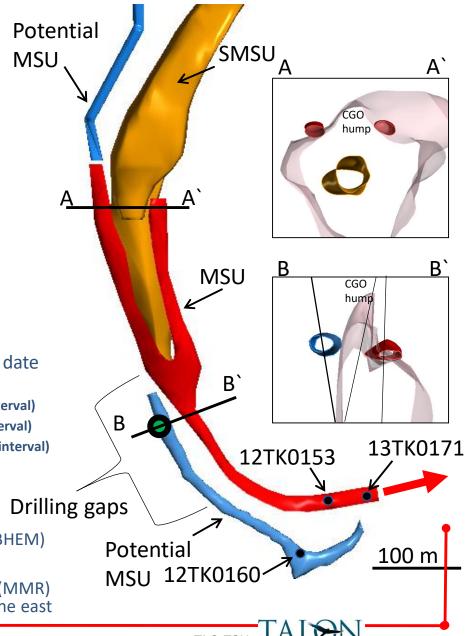
- MSU has grown over time and remains open in all directions:
  - Western MSU discovered in 2008
  - 138 Zone MSU discovered in 2012
  - Eastern MSU discovered in 2015
- Drill hole 12TK0160 intersected 6.67m of MMS outside of the MSU trend
- There is a 250m long gap in drilling where the western MSU is modeled

#### Massive Sulphide Unit (MSU) 138 Zone

- The last three MSU intercepts in the 138 Zone MSU were three of the best intercepts to date (included in the Initial PEA)
  - 12TK0153: **6.16% Ni**, 2.72% Cu, 0.11%Co, 0.11g/t Au, 0.44g/t Pt, 0.45g/t Pd from 554.5m to 568.05 **(13.55m interval)**
  - 12TK0153: **6.69% Ni**, 2.25% Cu, 0.12% Co, 0.31g/t Au, 0.79g/t Pt,0.5g/t Pd from 572.75m to 575.25m **(2.5m interval)**
  - 13TK0171: **8.01% Ni**, 2.87% Cu, 0.14% Co, 0.21g/t Au, 0.41 g/t Pt, 0.54 g/t Pd from 573.3m to 581.04m **(7.74m interval)** 
    - Contains highest grade sample collected on the project at 10.1% Ni

#### Methodology

- Previous expansion of the MSU has successfully relied on Borehole Electromagnetic Surveys (BHEM)
  with a significant increase in MSU as a result
- Talon plans to further increase the effectiveness of BHEM by using Magnetometric Resistivity (MMR) in combination with BHEM. A previous MMR survey pointed to a possible MSU extension to the east of the 138 Zone (see red arrow pointing east)



#### (2) FOLLOW UP ON DISTANT HIGH-GRADE INTERCEPTS

High grade intercepts from drill holes\* show potential for resource expansion over a large distance

#### 264 Zone

Drill hole 18TK0264 : 9.95% Ni, 5.4% Cu, 0.16% Co, 1.66 g/t Pd, 0.8 g/t Pt, 0.22 g/t Au over 0.25 m starting at 539.04 m



Last drill hole prior to Talon's March 2019 agreement with Rio Tinto (KEX)

#### **221 Zone**

Drill holes 15TK0229: 9.4% Ni, 5.47% Cu, 0.18% Co, 1.42 g/t Pd, 2.41 g/t Pt, 0.86 g/t Au over 0.71 m starting at 702.04 m

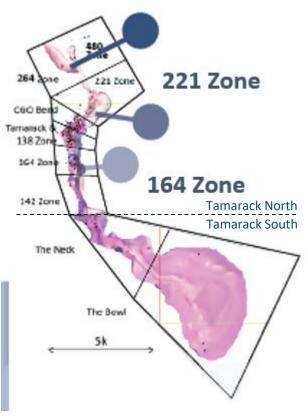


#### **164 Zone**

Drill hole: 12TK0164: 3.67% Ni, 1.97% Cu, 814 ppm Co, 0.12 g/t Pt, 0.11 g/t Pd and 0.10 g/t Au from 473.43 m to 476.32 m in the flank of the FGO keel





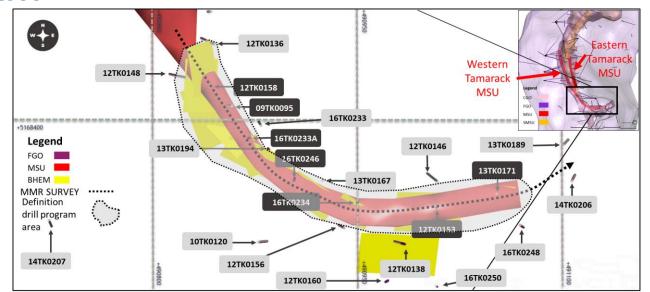


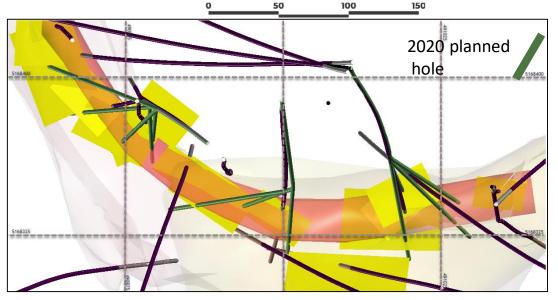
We are using various geophysical techniques over the Tamarack Zone where the Massive Sulphide Unit (MSU) exists. These techniques will then be tested in satellite areas where Kennecott has previously intersected massive sulphides.

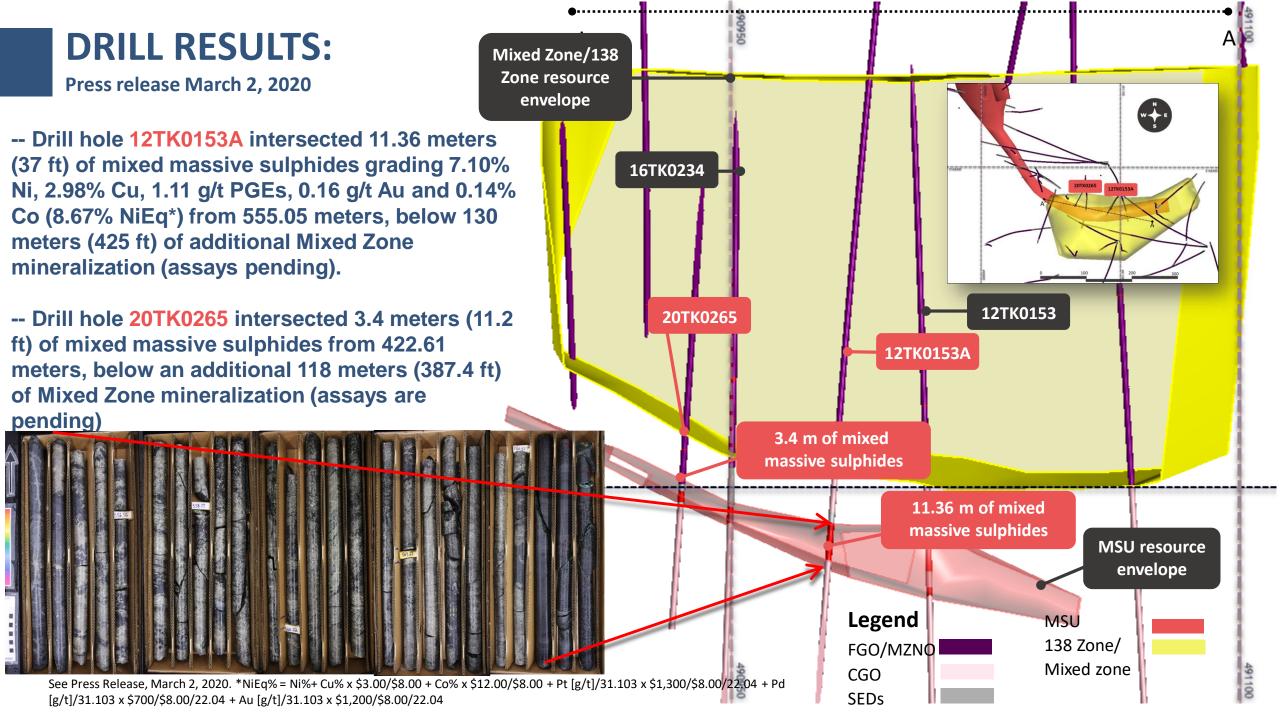


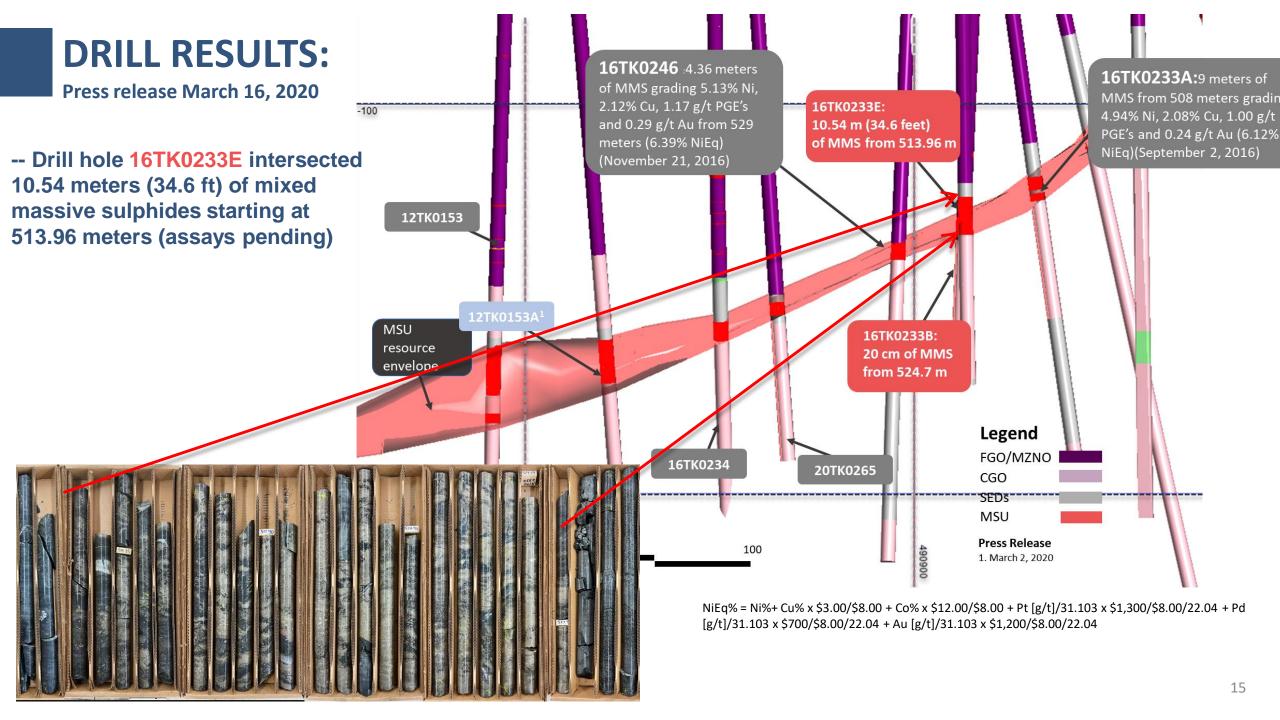
#### **WINTER 2020 DRILL PROGRAM**

- January 21, 2020: Talon begins multiple hole drilling program with 3 rigs mobilized on site
  - Goal 1: Convert resources from the "inferred" category to the "indicated" category in the high-grade MSU;
  - **Goal 2:** Utilize various geophysical techniques to identify new targets to grow the high-grade MSU
- Initial results from the drill program announced on March 2<sup>nd</sup> and March 16<sup>th</sup> -- Talon intersects massive sulphides!!!
- Additional drill results expected over the coming weeks
- Updated PEA results announced on March 5, 2020
- Geophysical techniques include borehole electromagnetic surveys (BHEM), magnometric resistivity (MMR) and radio imaging surveys (RIM)
- Evaluation to be completed based on results to determine next program
- Preconcentration (metallurgical) study being completed to determine if disseminated mineralization can be incorporated into the mine plan









# RESULTS OF UPDATED PRELIMINARY ECONOMIC ASSESSMENT (PEA)



# EXCELLENT METALLURGICAL RECOVERIES AND LOW DELETERIOUS ELEMENTS IN CONCENTRATES

Ni 83.4%

**RECOVERY** 

13.3% Grade

Cu 94.4%

**TOTAL RECOVERY** 

28.9% Grade

# **EXCELLENT QUALITY**

- High quality nickel concentrates are in high demand. We expect this trend to continue
- We are therefore investigating two possibilities:
  - 1. Producing concentrates for smelters; or
  - 2. Producing nickel sulphates for the Electric Vehicle (EV) Market

## TAMARACK IS EXPECTED TO BE A LOW COST PRODUCER



THE UPDATED PEA
RESULTS SHOW
POSITIVE AND STRONG
ECONOMICS EVEN AT
LOW METAL PRICES

	Unit	Low	Base case	Incentive pricing
Ni	US\$/Ib	\$6.75	\$8.00	\$9.50
Cu	US\$/Ib	\$2.75	\$3.00	\$3.25
Со	US\$/Ib	\$20.00	\$30.00	\$40.00
Pt	US\$/oz	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000
Pd	US\$/oz	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000
Au	US\$/oz	<b>\$1,300</b>	\$1,300	\$1,300
C1 Costs	US\$/Ib of Ni	\$2.56	\$2.67	\$2.85
Payback period	Years (Pre/After-tax)	2.7/2.9	2.3/2.5	2.0/2.1
After-tax NPV	US\$ millions	\$191M	\$291M	\$398M

**AFTER-TAX IRR** 

27%

36%

45%

# **UPDATED PEA: SUMMARY OF RESULTS**

After tax NPV-7%	US\$291M
After tax IRR	36.0%
Payback (undiscounted)	2.3 years (pre-tax), 2.5 years (after-tax)
Mine life (excluding construction period)	8 years (7.5 years excl. partial years)
Production capacity	2,000 tpd
Total CAPEX over LOM	US\$258.73M
C1 costs	\$2.67/lb of nickel in concentrate
C1 costs + royalties	\$3.35/lb of nickel in concentrate
C1 cost + royalties + sustaining CAPEX ("All-in sustaining cost")	\$3.57lb of nickel in concentrate
C1 costs + royalties + total CAPEX	\$4.72/lb of nickel in concentrate
Ni recovery to Ni concentrate	83.4%
Cu recovery to Cu concentrate	80.2%
Overall Cu recovery	94.4%
Payable Ni production	21.2 million lbs/year; 140M lbs over LOM
Payable Cu production	13.3 million lbs/year; 88M lbs over LOM
Ni concentrate grades	13.3% Ni, 1.13% Cu, 0.36% Co
Cu concentrate grades	27.6% Cu, 2.91 g/t Au
Revenue split (% of NSR)	Ni 77%, Cu 19%, Co 3%, PGE-Au 1%

#### **CAPITAL COSTS (USD millions)**

OAI TIAL COSTS (COD IIIIIIOIIS)	
Initial mine	\$83.33
Initial process and surface facilities	\$122.32
Working capital	<u>\$12.95</u>
Total initial CAPEX	\$218.60
Sustaining CAPEX	<u>\$40.13</u>
Total CAPEX	\$258.73
OPERATING COSTS (USD/tonne of ore milled)	
Mining	\$50.34/tonne
Processing	\$14.69/tonne
Product handling	\$13.52/tonne
Co-mingled filtered tailings facility	\$1.67/tonne
G&A	<u>\$7.50/tonne</u>
Total	\$87.73/tonne

- Base case pricing assumed to be US\$8.00/lb nickel; US\$3.00/lb copper; US\$25/lb cobalt
- 2. C1 cost includes on-site costs, value of metal claimed by smelter (metal units, treatment charges & refining charges), insurance, losses and transportation costs, less by-products metals.

#### **UPDATED PEA: SENSITIVITY ANALYSIS**

The Updated PEA illustrates a high after-tax and pre-tax IRR, low C1 costs, low capital intensity and a quick payback.

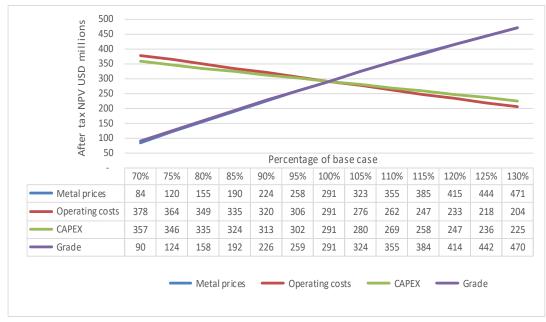
Capital intensity is \$21,000 per annual tonne of payable nickel equivalent and \$15,000 per annual tonne of nickel produced in concentrate (excluding the impact of ramp-up/partial years in the first and last two years of the mine plan).

The project economics are robust as illustrated by satisfactory IRR's at -30% metal prices and grade and +30% OPEX and CAPEX as illustrated in the graph on the bottom right.

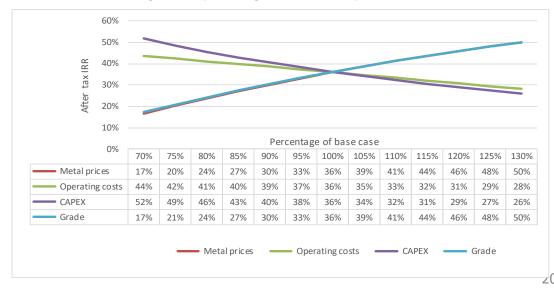
			After-tax		Pre-tax			
		Metal price scenario			Metal price scenario			
		Low	Base	Incentive	Low	Base	Incentive	
<u> </u>	NPV 7%	191	291	398	242	362	492	
Discount	<b>NPV</b> 8%	174	268	370	222	335	458	
Š	<b>NPV 10%</b>	142	227	318	185	287	397	
	IRR	27.3%	36.0%	44.6%	31.4%	41.0%	50.5%	
C1 Cost per lb of Ni in concentrate		\$2.56	\$2.67	\$2.85	\$2.56	\$2.67	\$2.85	
Payback from start o		2.9	2.5	2.1	2.7	2.3	2.0	

<sup>\*</sup> All amounts in U.S. dollars.

#### Sensitivity of Base Case after-tax NPV to changes in metal prices, grade, operating costs and capital costs



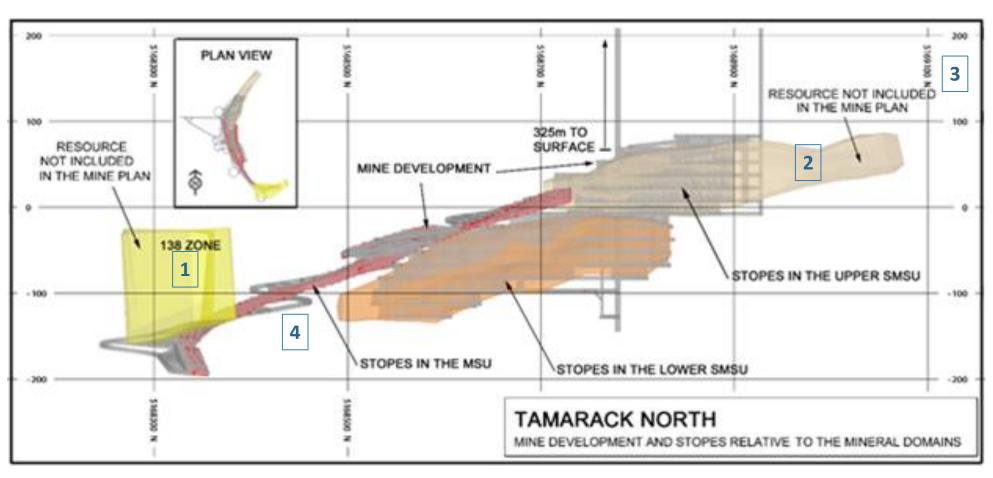
#### Sensitivity of Base Case After-tax IRR to changes in metal prices, grade, operating costs and capital costs



<sup>\*\*</sup> Metal prices assumptions are: Low: \$6.75 Ni, \$2.75 Cu, \$15.00 Co; Base: \$8.00 Ni, \$3.00 Cu, \$25.00 Co, Incentive: \$9.50 Ni, \$3.25 Cu, \$35.00 Co. All pricing scenarios use \$1,300 Au, \$1000 Pt, and \$1000 Pd.

<sup>\*\*\*</sup>C1 cost includes on-site costs, value of metal claimed by smelter (metal units, treatment charges & refining charges), insurance, losses and transportation costs, less by-products metals.

# OUR UPDATED PRELIMINARY ECONOMIC ASSESSMENT ASSUMED PRODUCTION OF NICKEL CONCENTRATES FOR <u>SMELTERS</u> FROM A <u>SUBSET</u> OF THE TOTAL RESOURCE



Near-term growth potential to increase mine life:

- 1. Resources in the 138 Zone
- 2. Resources not included in mine plan in the Upper SMSU
- 3. "CGO bend" area north of the Upper SMSU
- 4. Recent drill results are potentially expanding the MSU

Long section looking west showing the Updated PEA mine plan against the mineral resource domain outline

# POTENTIAL PRODUCTION OPTIONS

**OPTION 1:** Produce Concentrates for Smelters (Subject of Updated PEA)

MINE CONCENTRATE



2.10% Ni\*



13.3% Ni\*

67%

Is what the smelter traditionally pay the mine (of the London Metal Exchange (LME) nickel price)

**OPTION 2:** Produce Sulphates for Electrical Vehicle Batteries (At Site)

**MINE** 

**CONCENTRATE** 

PRODUCE SULPHATES AT SITE



2.10% Ni\*



13.3% Ni\*



120%

Of the LME nickel price is the estimated cost of nickel in nickel sulphates for batteries

22.2% Ni\*\*



<sup>\*</sup> Updated PEA

<sup>\* \*</sup> Estimates – numbers may vary for different processes and facilities

## IMMEDIATE VALUE CATALYSTS



Expand the Massive Sulphide Unit (MSU)



Conduct a metallurgical test program to try to develop a process for a domestic US supply chain of nickel sulphates



Start to infill drill the Massive Sulphide Unit with an intention of moving resources from the inferred to the indicated category

### **CONTACT INFORMATION**



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