



## **MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS**

For the three and six months ended June 30, 2022

Dated: August 12, 2022

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*This Management's Discussion and Analysis ("MD&A") of financial condition and results of operations for the three and six months ended June 30, 2022 should be read in conjunction with the consolidated financial statements of Talon Metals Corp. ("Talon" or the "Company") and notes thereto for the three and six months ended June 30, 2022. The MD&A enables readers to assess material changes in financial condition and results of operations in comparison to the corresponding prior-year periods.*

Unless otherwise indicated, all monetary statements in this document are in Canadian dollars.

## **FORWARD-LOOKING INFORMATION**

This MD&A contains certain "forward-looking information". All information, other than information pertaining to historical fact, which addresses activities, events or developments that the Company believes, expects or anticipates will or may occur in the future, including, among other things, the completion and timing of the Company's objectives, including exploration plans, drilling plans, geophysical work, including using geophysical surveys to identify targets outside of the resource area, mine plans and environmental test work, metallurgical test work, engineering studies, waste characterization studies, the completion of trade-off studies, feasibility studies, mine planning studies, metallurgy studies and engineering studies and the costs and timing thereof, payments to Kennecott (defined below) pursuant to the 2018 Option Agreement (defined below), the supply of nickel concentrate to Tesla Inc. and a copper concentrate to one or more smelters, estimates in respect of mineral resource quantities, mineral resource qualities, the Company's targets, goals, objectives and plans, the Company's business plans, priorities and budget, projections in respect of capital expenditures and the Company's liquidity and capital resources (including, the Company's expected uses of working capital) and the earn-in under the Option Agreement (defined below), is forward-looking information.

Forward-looking information reflects the current expectations or beliefs of the Company based on information currently available to the Company. With respect to forward-looking information contained in this MD&A, the Company has made assumptions regarding, among other things, future currency and interest rates, the regulatory framework (including tax and trade laws and policies) in the countries in which the Company conducts its business, and the Company's ability to obtain suitably qualified staff and equipment in a timely and cost-efficient manner to meet the Company's needs.

Forward-looking information is 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 information, 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 the Company. Factors that could cause actual results or events to differ materially from current expectations include, but are not limited to: the failure of exploration programs to identify mineralization, the failure to establish estimated mineral resources and any reserves; the grade, quality and recovery of mineral resources varying from estimates; risks related to the exploration stage of the Company's properties; the possibility that future exploration results and metallurgical testing will not be consistent with the Company's expectations; changes in nickel, copper and/or PGE prices; COVID-19; the war in Ukraine; increased global uncertainty; increasing interest rates; delays in obtaining or failures to obtain necessary regulatory permits and approvals from government authorities, including approval of applications for licences/permits required to conduct field based programs; uncertainties involved in interpreting drilling results, and the beneficiation process and other geological and product related data; changes in the anticipated demand for nickel, copper,

cobalt and/or gold and PGEs; changes in equity and debt markets; inflation; changes in exchange rates; declines in U.S., Canadian and/or global economies; uncertainties relating to the availability and costs of financing needed to complete exploration activities and demonstrate the feasibility of the Company's projects; exploration costs varying significantly from estimates; delays in the exploration, mineral processing and development of, and/or commercial production from the properties Talon has an interest in; equipment failure; unexpected geological or hydrological conditions; political risks; imprecision in preliminary resource estimates; success of future exploration and development initiatives; the existence of undetected or unregistered interests or claims, whether in contract or in tort, over the property of Talon or the Tamarack Project; changes in government regulations and policies; risks relating to labour; other exploration, development and operating risks; liability and other claims asserted against Talon; volatility in prices of publicly traded securities; and other risks involved in the mineral exploration and development industry and risks specific to the Company, including the risks discussed in this MD&A under "*Risks and Uncertainties*".

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

The mineral resource figures referred to in this MD&A are estimates, and no assurances can be given that the indicated levels of minerals will be produced. Such estimates are expressions of judgment based on knowledge, mining experience, analysis of drilling results, beneficiation tests 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 included in this MD&A 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.***

*Additional information relating to the Company, including the Company's Annual Information Form for the year ended December 31, 2021, is available on SEDAR at [www.sedar.com](http://www.sedar.com).*

## **GOING CONCERN**

The consolidated financial statements of the Company have been prepared on a going concern basis which contemplates that the Company will continue in operations for the foreseeable future and will be able to realize its assets and discharge its liabilities in the normal course of business. The Company's ability to continue as a going concern is dependent on its ability to raise financing, as needed, and/or develop the Tamarack Project into a profitable mine. There can be no assurance that the Company will be successful in raising financing, as needed, or developing the Tamarack Project into a profitable mine to meet the Company's commitments.

The Company has not earned any revenue to date from its operations. The Company, and its joint venture partner, Kennecott Exploration Company ("**Kennecott**"), are in the process of exploring the Tamarack Project (defined below) and the Company has not yet determined whether the Tamarack Project contains ore reserves that are economically recoverable. The recoverability of the Company's property carrying value and of the related deferred exploration expenditures depends on the Company's ability to maintain an interest in the Tamarack Project, discover economically recoverable reserves and on the Company's ability to obtain necessary financing to complete the development and to establish profitable production in the future, or the receipt of sufficient proceeds on disposal of its interest in the Tamarack Project.

As of June 30, 2022, the Company had working capital of \$31.0 million (December 31, 2021 – \$23.1 million) and shareholders' equity of \$160.5 million (December 31, 2021 – \$122.0 million). Working capital is defined as current assets less current liabilities.

## **COVID-19**

The COVID-19 pandemic had minimal effect on the Tamarack Project during the second quarter of 2022. The Tamarack Project experienced fewer positive test results amongst staff than in previous quarters, with mitigation efforts limited to home isolation, testing and mask usage. During the quarter, there were no positive COVID-19 cases reported from the Tamarack Project drilling crews.

Please see "*Financial Condition, Cash Flow, Liquidity and Capital Resources – Liquidity and Capital Resources*" and "*Financial Instruments – Liquidity Risk*" for further important information regarding the potential impact of COVID-19. Please also see "*Risks and Uncertainties – COVID-19 Coronavirus Outbreak*".

## **SUMMARY OF QUARTERLY RESULTS**

The following table provides selected quarterly consolidated financial information for the periods ending as indicated. It is derived from the unaudited interim consolidated financial statements and the audited annual consolidated financial statements of the Company. All numbers below are unaudited.

	2022		2021				2020	
	June 30	March 31	Dec 31	Sept 30	June 30	March 31	Dec 31	Sept 30
Interest Income	4,693	7,292	6,112	4,918	3,638	674	175	7
Net income (loss)	(109,931)	(1,229,742)	(1,094,946)	(1,479,437)	(2,153,190)	(818,239)	(1,388,911)	(492,611)
Basic and diluted net income (loss) per share*	(0.00)	(0.00)	(0.00)	(0.00)	(0.01)	(0.00)	(0.01)	(0.00)
Comprehensive income (loss)	3,541,582	(2,910,492)	(1,544,400)	728,478	(3,102,115)	(1,635,613)	(4,191,530)	(1,661,133)

\*Total of quarterly amounts may not reconcile to annual amount due to rounding

Quarterly trends in interest income reflect for the most part interest received on cash balances. Trends in quarterly expenses are driven primarily by administration expenses (defined above) and stock option compensation. Generally, the most variable component of total expenses over the past eight quarters has been fair value adjustments, foreign currency translation and stock option compensation.

## **REVIEW OF QUARTERLY RESULTS**

Certain amounts in the consolidated statements of loss and comprehensive loss have been reclassified to conform to the current year's presentation and, as such, the discussion that follows below takes into account such reclassification.

### **Interest income**

Interest income is earned on the Company's cash and cash equivalents balance. Interest income for the three months ended June 30, 2022 was \$4,693 compared to \$3,638 during the same period in the prior year. Interest income for the six months ended June 30, 2022 was \$11,985 compared to \$4,312 during the same period in the prior year. The increase in interest income for the current periods compared to the prior year periods were the result of higher cash balances and higher interest rates.

### **Expenses**

Salaries, benefits, consulting and board fees were \$226,982 and \$624,535 for the three and six months ended June 30, 2022 compared to \$438,852 and \$761,533 for the three and six months ended June 30, 2021. The decrease was primarily due to the payment in Q1 2021 of deferred salary amounts from 2016 to 2018 to the CEO and President of the Company.

Professional fees decreased to \$109,132 and \$120,707 for the three and six months ended June 30, 2022 compared to \$140,412 and \$231,571 for the three and six months ended June 30, 2021. The decrease was primarily the result of a reversal of a provision for legal fees that is no longer expected to be incurred, along with higher legal fees incurred in 2021 relating to a possible secondary U.S. stock exchange listing. The Company continues to perform legal and tax work in-house whenever possible.

Office and general expenses and insurance expenses remained relatively constant for the three and six months ended June 30, 2022 compared to the same period in the prior year.

Marketing increased to \$105,915 and \$231,786 for the three and six months ended June 30, 2022 compared to \$60,985 and \$126,977 for the three and six months ended June 30, 2021. The increase was the result of additional investor marketing and conferences.

Listing, filing and shareholder communications expenses increased to \$68,807 and \$215,238 for the three and six months ended June 30, 2022 compared to \$50,903 and \$144,342 for the three and six months ended June 30, 2021 primarily due to (i) the Company becoming a reporting issuer in additional jurisdictions in Canada, (ii) an increase in annual fees charged by the securities regulatory authorities in Canada and increased TSX annual fees, both due in most part to a higher market capitalization of the Company, (iii) additional costs associated with the Company's Annual General Meeting due to a larger shareholder base, and (iv) costs associated with administering the Company's stock option plan.

Stock option compensation expense was \$411,715 and \$1,057,509 for the three and six months ended June 30, 2022 compared to \$1,154,409 and \$1,856,058 during the same periods in the prior year. The decrease was the result of fewer options being issued to officers and directors which are more typically expensed on the income statement, compared to employees whose compensation expense is capitalized. Stock option expense is amortized over the vesting periods of stock options, most commonly 12 months.

## Royalty

On March 7, 2019, Talon Nickel (defined below) granted a net smelter returns royalty to TF R&S Canada Ltd. (formerly 10782343 Canada Limited) (the "**Royalty Holder**"), a subsidiary of Triple Flag Precious Metals Corp, in consideration of the payment of US\$5.0 million. The Company, together with its subsidiaries, Cloudmine Holdings Limited and Talon Metals (USA) Inc., agreed to guarantee the payment and performance obligations under the royalty agreement (the "**Royalty Agreement**"). The royalty granted was 3.5% of net smelter returns and will be based on Talon Nickel's participating interest in the Tamarack Project, except (i) where Talon Nickel's interest reduces below 51%, in which case it will be paid assuming Talon Nickel's interest is unchanged at 51%; or (ii) where Talon Nickel has vested at 60% and Talon Nickel's interest reduces below 60%, in which case it will be paid assuming Talon Nickel's interest is unchanged at 60%.

The Royalty Agreement contained a one-time put right pursuant to which the Royalty Holder had an option, exercisable within 10 calendar days of March 7, 2022, to cause Talon Nickel to repurchase the entire net smelter returns royalty for a cash payment of US\$8.6 million ("**Royalty Put Option**"). In the event the Royalty Holder did not exercise the one-time put right, Talon Nickel had a one-time option to reduce the percentage of the net smelter returns royalty to 1.85% in exchange for cash in the amount of US\$4.5 million. On February 15, 2022, Talon Nickel entered into an amending agreement with the Royalty Holder pursuant to which the Royalty Holder waived

the put right and completed the early exercise <sup>1</sup>of Talon Nickel's right to reduce the royalty on Talon Nickel's interest in the Tamarack Project from 3.5% to 1.85% in exchange for the payment by Talon Nickel of US\$4.5 million to the Royalty Holder.

Talon and its related entities have provided security to the Royalty Holder to support the payment and performance obligations related to the royalty and the guarantees. In connection with the royalty agreement, Talon issued the Royalty Holder 5,000,000 warrants ("**Royalty Warrants**") exercisable to acquire one common share until March 7, 2022 at an exercise price of C\$0.0826 per share (which were exercised in December 2021). In connection with the sale of the royalty, the Company paid a 6% commission and issued 4,944,375 warrants to a broker ("**Royalty Broker Warrants**") with the same terms as the Royalty Warrants.

The Company has designated the Royalty Put Option as a financial instrument at fair value through profit or loss. The Royalty Put Option was initially recorded at fair value and revalued at period end with changes in fair value being recorded through profit and loss. Transaction costs have been expensed.

As of December 31, 2021, the Royalty Put Option was valued using a probability-adjusted discounted cash flow methodology with the following estimates: a risk-free discount rate of 0.05% and a probability that the option will be exercised of 5%. The change on the consolidated statement of loss and comprehensive loss reflects the change excluding foreign exchange translation.

On February 15, 2022, the Company paid US\$4.5 million to reduce the royalty and extinguish the Royalty Put Option.

### **Foreign Currency Translation**

Foreign currency translation resulted in gains of \$853,602 and \$440,178 for the three and six months ended June 30, 2022 compared to losses of \$344,222 and \$396,501 for the three and six months ended June 30, 2021. This balance is highly variable due to the volatility of exchange rates and the changing and relatively high level of the Company's cash and cash equivalents balance.

### **Net Loss**

Net loss for the three and six months ended June 30, 2022 was \$0.1 million and \$1.3 million or \$nil per share (basic and diluted). The net loss was primarily the result of administration expenses and stock option compensation offset by foreign currency gains. This compares to a net loss of \$2.2 million and \$3.0 million or \$nil per share (basic and diluted) for the three and six months ended June 30, 2021, which was primarily the result of administration expenses and stock option compensation.

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<sup>1</sup> "administration expenses" include the following expenses: Office and General; Professional Fees; Salaries, Benefits, Consulting and Board Fees; Insurance; Travel; Listing, Filing and Shareholder Communications.



## **Comprehensive Gain/Loss**

During the three and six months ended June 30, 2022, the Company recognized an other comprehensive gain of \$3.7 million and \$2.0 million. During the three and six months ended June 30, 2021, the Company recognized an other comprehensive loss of \$0.9 million and \$1.8 million. Both the gains and losses were related to the foreign exchange conversion from United States dollars to Canadian dollars of the assets and liabilities of Talon Nickel, a U.S. subsidiary of the Company. This IFRS accounting requirement manifests itself on the balance sheet as a change in the value of Resource properties and deferred expenditures where the Talon Nickel US-denominated balance at the end of the reporting period is converted to Canadian dollars at the foreign exchange rate at the end of the reporting period. The foreign exchange rate can vary significantly from period to period so at times this loss (or gain) may be very volatile.

## **COMPANY OVERVIEW**

The Company is a mineral exploration company currently focused on the exploration and development of the Tamarack nickel-copper-cobalt project (the "**Tamarack Project**") in Minnesota, USA (which comprises the "**Tamarack North Project**" and the "**Tamarack South Project**"). As of the date hereof, the only material property of the Company is the Tamarack North Project.

### **Tamarack Project**

#### **Tamarack Earn-in Agreement**

On June 25, 2014, Talon's wholly owned indirect subsidiary, Talon Nickel (USA) LLC ("**Talon Nickel**"), entered into an exploration and option agreement (the "**Tamarack Earn-in Agreement**") with Kennecott, part of the Rio Tinto Group, pursuant to which Talon Nickel received the right to acquire an interest in the Tamarack Project.

On January 4, 2016, pursuant to the terms of the Tamarack Earn-in Agreement, as amended, Talon Nickel earned an 18.45% interest in the Tamarack Project by making payments totalling US\$25,520,800 broken down as follows:

Option payments	\$ 1,000,000
Exploration	21,200,000
Land purchases	3,320,800
	<u>\$ 25,520,800</u>

On December 16, 2016, Talon Nickel entered into an amending agreement with Kennecott (the "**Tamarack Earn-in Third Amending Agreement**") in respect of the Tamarack Earn-in Agreement (as amended). The Tamarack Earn-in Third Amending Agreement provided, among other things, that Kennecott may elect at any time up to and including September 25, 2017 to grant Talon Nickel the option to purchase the Tamarack Project for a total purchase price of US\$114 million (the "**Tamarack Purchase Option**") or proceed with a joint venture (the "**Tamarack Joint Venture**") in respect of the Tamarack Project (the "**Kennecott Decision Deadline**").

On the Kennecott Decision Deadline, Talon Nickel received notification from Kennecott that it had decided to grant Talon Nickel the Tamarack Purchase Option on the terms of the Tamarack Earn-in Agreement (as amended).

On November 16, 2017, Talon Nickel elected not to exercise the Tamarack Purchase Option. As such, pursuant to the terms of the Tamarack Earn-in Agreement (as amended), Talon Nickel and Kennecott had 90 days to enter into the Mining Venture Agreement (defined below) governing the terms of the Tamarack Joint Venture.

On January 11, 2018, Talon Nickel and Kennecott entered into a fifth amending agreement (the "**Tamarack Earn-in Fifth Amending Agreement**") in respect of the Tamarack Earn-in Agreement (as amended), pursuant to which they agreed to (i) enter into the Mining Venture Agreement with immediate effect, and (ii) accelerate the timing of the approval process for the 2018 winter exploration program so that the 2018 winter exploration program was approved with immediate effect.

Following the Tamarack Earn-in Fifth Amending Agreement, Talon Nickel elected to not financially participate in any further funding made in respect of the Tamarack Project while Kennecott was the operator/manager of the Tamarack Project. This resulted in dilution of its interest from 18.45% to 17.56% (which was later increased to 51% and may increase further to 60%). Going forward, Talon Nickel is required to fund the Tamarack Project in accordance with the 2018 Option Agreement (defined below).

### **Tamarack Joint Venture**

On January 11, 2018, Talon Nickel and Kennecott entered into the mining venture agreement in respect of the Tamarack Project (the "**Mining Venture Agreement**").

During the term of the 2018 Option Agreement (defined below), the Mining Venture Agreement is in abeyance and the terms of the 2018 Option Agreement govern the relationship between Talon Nickel and Kennecott in respect of the Tamarack Project.

### **2018 Option Agreement**

On November 7, 2018, Talon Nickel entered into an exploration and option agreement (the "**2018 Option Agreement**") with Kennecott which provides Talon Nickel with the right to acquire up to a 60% interest in the Tamarack Project. The 2018 Option Agreement has an effective date of March 13, 2019.

Pursuant to the terms of the 2018 Option Agreement, Talon Nickel has taken over operatorship of the Tamarack Project and Talon had the right to acquire a 51% interest in the Tamarack Project upon:

- (1) the payment of US\$6 million in cash to Kennecott (the "**Initial Cash Payment**");
- (2) the issuance of US\$1.5 million worth of common shares of Talon to Kennecott (the "**Share Payment**");

- (3) within 3 years of the effective date of the 2018 Option Agreement (March 13, 2022), Talon Nickel either spending US\$10 million or completing a pre-feasibility study on the Tamarack Project; and
- (4) within 3 years of the effective date of the 2018 Option Agreement (March 13, 2022), Talon Nickel paying Kennecott an additional US\$5 million in cash.

In late September 2021, approximately 6 months ahead of schedule, Talon completed all of the requirements and earned a 51% interest in the Tamarack Project. Rather than receiving US\$5 million in cash, Kennecott agreed to accept 10,543,333 units of Talon (each a "**KEX Earn-in Unit**") at a deemed issuance price of C\$0.60 per KEX Earn-in Unit in full satisfaction of the US\$5 million cash obligation. Each KEX Earn-in Unit was comprised of one common share of Talon and one-half of one purchase warrant. Each whole warrant is exercisable to acquire a Talon common share until September 29, 2022 at an exercise price of \$0.80 per share.

Talon Nickel has the right to increase its interest in the Tamarack Project by 9% to a total of 60% by:

- (1) completing a feasibility study on the Tamarack Project within 7 years of the effective date of the 2018 Option Agreement (March 13, 2026); and
- (2) paying Kennecott US\$10 million in cash on or before the seventh anniversary of the effective date of the 2018 Option Agreement (March 13, 2026).

Upon Talon Nickel vesting with its applicable joint venture interest in the Tamarack Project, the parties have agreed to enter into a new joint venture agreement, pursuant to which, so long as Talon Nickel has a majority interest, Talon Nickel will continue to act as operator of the Tamarack Project. In the event Talon Nickel has delivered a feasibility study on the Tamarack Project, upon the completion thereof, the parties have agreed to fund the Tamarack Project in accordance with their respective ownership interests or be subject to dilution.

### **Tamarack North Project**

The Tamarack North Project is located adjacent to the town of Tamarack in north-central Minnesota approximately 100 km west of Duluth and 200 km north of Minneapolis, in Aitkin County.

The Tamarack Igneous Complex ("**TIC**"), which sits within the Tamarack North Project boundaries, is an ultramafic intrusion that is associated with the early evolution of the failed, Midcontinental Rift (dated at 1105ma +/- 1.2). This age is significantly older than the Duluth Complex Intrusions which consistently date at 1099ma and is consistent with other earlier intrusions of the Midcontinental Rift that are often characterised by more primitive melts.

The TIC has intruded into Thomson Formation siltstones and sandstones of the Animikie Group and is preserved beneath shallow Quaternary glacial sediments.

To date, exploration by Kennecott and Talon has included diamond drilling and sampling, as well as a range of geophysical surveys, including, airborne magnetic and electromagnetic (EM, MegaTEM and AeroTEM), ground magnetic and EM, magnetotelluric (MT), gravity, seismic, resistivity/induced polarization and downhole EM.

On February 4, 2021, Talon released an updated preliminary economic assessment as part of an updated independent technical report prepared in accordance with National Instrument 43-101 – *Standards of Disclosure for Minerals Projects* (“**NI 43-101**”) in respect of the Tamarack North Project (the “**Updated PEA**”). The Updated PEA is entitled “NI 43-101 Technical Report Updated Preliminary Economic Assessment (PEA) #3 of the Tamarack North Project – Tamarack, Minnesota” with an effective date of January 8, 2021.

Included in the Updated PEA is an updated independent mineral resource estimate prepared in accordance with NI 43-101 (the “**Resource Estimate**”). The Resource Estimate has an effective date of January 8, 2021, was prepared by independent “Qualified Person” (as that term is defined in NI 43-101) Mr. Brian Thomas of Golder Associates Ltd. (“**Golder**”) and is summarized below.

Domain	Classification	%Ni Cut-Off	Tonnes (000)	Ni (%)	Cu (%)	Co (%)	Pt (g/t)	Pd (g/t)	Au (g/t)	NiEq (%)
USMSU	Indicated Resource	0.5	1,462	1.32	0.78	0.04	0.17	0.11	0.11	1.81
LSMSU	Indicated Resource	0.5	2,340	2.08	1.10	0.05	0.55	0.34	0.25	2.87
MSU	Indicated Resource	0.5	124	5.72	2.36	0.12	0.60	0.46	0.23	7.23
<b>Total</b>	<b>Indicated Resource</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>3,926</b>	<b>1.91</b>	<b>1.02</b>	<b>0.05</b>	<b>0.41</b>	<b>0.26</b>	<b>0.20</b>	<b>2.62</b>
USMSU	Inferred Resource	0.5	2,652	0.76	0.47	0.02	0.25	0.14	0.12	1.10
LSMSU	Inferred Resource	0.5	115	0.86	0.51	0.02	0.57	0.36	0.24	1.34
MSU	Inferred Resource	0.5	443	5.93	2.52	0.12	0.70	0.52	0.26	7.53
138	Inferred Resource	0.5	3,953	0.82	0.63	0.02	0.21	0.12	0.14	1.21
<b>Total</b>	<b>Inferred Resource</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>7,163</b>	<b>1.11</b>	<b>0.68</b>	<b>0.03</b>	<b>0.26</b>	<b>0.16</b>	<b>0.14</b>	<b>1.57</b>

All resources reported at a 0.5% Ni cut-off.

No modifying factors have been applied to the estimates.

Tonnage estimates are rounded to the nearest 1,000 tonnes.

Metallurgical recovery factored into the reporting cut-off.

NiEq grade based on base case metal prices of \$8.00/lb Ni, \$3.00/lb Cu, \$25.00/lb Co, \$1,000/oz Pt, \$1,000/oz Pd and \$1,300/oz Au using the following formula:  $NiEq\% = Ni\% + Cu\% \times \$3.00/\$8.00 + Co\% \times \$25.00/\$8.00 + Pt [g/t]/31.103 \times \$1,000/\$8.00/22.04 + Pd [g/t]/31.103 \times \$1,000/\$8.00/22.04 + Au [g/t]/31.103 \times \$1,300/\$8.00/22.04$ . No adjustments were made for recovery or payability.

The Updated PEA was prepared by independent “Qualified Persons” (as that term is defined in NI 43-101) Leslie Correia (Pr. Eng.) of Paterson & Cooke Canada Inc, Andre-Francois Gravel (P. Eng.) of DRA Americas Inc. (“**DRA**”), Tim Fletcher (P. Eng.) of DRA, Daniel Gagnon (P. Eng.) of DRA, Volodymyr Liskovych (P. Eng.) of DRA, David Ritchie (P. Eng.) of SLR Consulting (Canada) Ltd., Oliver Peters (P. Eng.) of Metpro Management Inc., Andrea Martin (P.E.) of Foth Infrastructure & Environment, LLC and Brian Thomas (P. Geo.) of Golder.

Please refer to the Updated PEA for further information, including the QA/QC, analytical and testing procedures employed at the Tamarack North Project. The Updated PEA is available under Talon’s SEDAR profile at [www.sedar.com](http://www.sedar.com) and on the Company’s website at [www.talonmetals.com](http://www.talonmetals.com).

### Work Completed/Expenditures – Tamarack North Project and Tamarack South Project

During the three and six months ended June 30, 2022, the Company incurred \$11.8 million and \$28.0 million of expenditures, substantially all on the Tamarack North Project, including \$5.7 million or US\$4.5 million to reduce the royalty from 3.5% to 1.85% held by the Royalty Holder over Talon Nickel's interest in the Tamarack Project, as detailed in the following table:

Category	Three months ended Mar 31, 2022	Three months ended June 30, 2022	Six months ended June 30, 2022
Exploration, drilling and assays	\$5,297,112	\$3,900,303	\$9,197,415
Geophysics	409,904	728,527	1,138,431
Mining, engineering and geotechnical studies	453,989	1,819,030	2,273,019
Metallurgical testing	272,803	222,860	495,663
Environmental, permitting, community and government relations	2,928,818	3,427,839	6,356,657
Economic studies	256,407	(37,132)	219,275
Mineral leases, property tax and land purchases	236,615	326,752	563,367
Professional fees	159,022	1,298,403	1,457,425
Site costs, travel and general	586,818	117,939	704,757
Site remediation	(123,458)	(7,278)	(130,736)
Payment to reduce royalty	5,733,450	-	5,733,450
<b>Total*</b>	<b>\$16,211,480</b>	<b>\$11,797,243</b>	<b>\$28,008,723</b>

\*May not total due to rounding

The above spending was in the connection with the following: (i) continuous drilling to expand and infill the current resource, with a focus on expansion to potentially deliver an updated resource estimate; (ii) geophysical work to identify new prospective drilling targets at the Tamarack Project; (iii) work towards feasibility studies; (iv) additional metallurgical test work and downstream processing options; and (v) the payment of \$5.7 million equivalent to US\$4.5 million to reduce the royalty held by the Royalty Holder over Talon Nickel's interest in the Tamarack Project from 3.5% to 1.85%.

In July 2020, the Company entered into a cost-effective lease-to-own agreement in respect of a drill rig. Following this, the Company hired a full-time dedicated team of drillers, some with specific drilling experience at the Tamarack Project, with the primary objective of materially increasing the number of meters drilled at the Tamarack Project at a substantially reduced cost while maintaining first-in-class health and safety standards. Given the Company's positive experience with running its own drill rig and a full-time dedicated drill team, in October 2020, the Company entered into a second cost-effective lease-to-own agreement in respect of a second drill rig, which arrived at the Tamarack Project site in November 2020. The Company also retained a full-time dedicated team of drillers to run this second drill rig. In February 2021, the Company purchased outright the two drill rigs. In early 2022, the Company purchased an additional three new drill rigs. These new drill rigs are planned to be deployed to expand Talon's exploration of the Tamarack Intrusive Complex for additional high-grade nickel deposits. One drill rig was received in July 2022 and has begun exploration work and the two remaining drill rigs are expected to be delivered in Q3 2022.

### **Upcoming Work – Tamarack North Project**

The Company is focused on the advancement of the Tamarack North Project. As of August 12, 2022, the Company had working capital of approximately \$26.0 million.

The Company intends to further advance the Company's objective of completing a series of trade-off studies and mine planning, metallurgy, and engineering studies on the Tamarack North Project during 2022 and early-to-mid 2023.

During 2022, the Company successfully delineated two areas with mixed massive sulphide mineralization below a thicker zone of disseminated sulphide mineralization. These areas are referred to as CGO East and CGO West. These areas are shallower than the present Tamarack North Project mineral resource and, as such, could potentially reduce the timeline to production. The Company also completed infill drilling of the massive sulphide in 2022 which is a unit that forms part of the present Tamarack North Project mineral resource.

During 2022, the Company continued to deploy several geophysical survey methods over the present Tamarack North Project mineral resource. The Company also completed a purchase of magneto-telluric survey equipment which will be used to survey over the Tamarack Intrusive Complex in 2022 and continuing into 2023. In 2022, the Company plans to also deploy new geophysical methods such as passive seismic tomography to help guide the drilling of priority targets that lie outside of the present Tamarack North Project mineral resource area. The ultimate objective is to discover and delineate high-grade nickel deposits that can be accessed underground from the present Tamarack North Project mineral resource area. If successful, this would constitute a continuation of underground mining to extend the mine life, with potentially no impact to surface infrastructure.

During 2022, the Company expanded its environmental baseline work, and such work will continue throughout 2023. The Company has commenced waste characterization studies, which will also continue throughout 2023.

In January 2022, Talon Nickel entered into an agreement with Tesla for the supply and purchase of 75,000 metric tonnes (165 million lbs) of nickel in concentrate. Talon Nickel has agreed to use commercially reasonable efforts to achieve commercial production on or before January 1, 2026, which may be extended by the parties for up to 12 months following which Tesla has the right to terminate the agreement and Talon Nickel may elect to sell to other parties. Given the agreement with Tesla, during 2022, the Company intends to focus its metallurgical testing with the objective of producing a nickel concentrate for Tesla and a copper concentrate for selling to one or more smelters.

There is no assurance that the various drill, test and study programs will be completed in this timeline (or at all). The exploration, development and construction of mineral projects are subject to a number of risks and uncertainties. See section below entitled "*Risks and Uncertainties*".

### **January 2022 Prospectus Offering and January 2022 Concurrent Private Placement**

On January 31, 2022, the Company completed the January 2022 Prospectus Offering (defined below) and Concurrent Private Placement (defined below). The Company intends to use the majority of the net proceeds from the January 2022 Prospectus Offering and the January 2022 Concurrent Private Placement for advancing its planned exploration and development program

at the Tamarack North Project and for general corporate and working capital purposes during 2022 and early-to-mid 2023. The Company intends to use the net proceeds from the January 2022 Prospectus Offering and January 2022 Concurrent Private Placement, together with available funds (including remaining net proceeds from the March 2021 Prospectus Offering), as disclosed in the section titled "Use of Net Proceeds" in the Company's prospectus supplement dated January 24, 2022 to the 2021 Base Shelf Prospectus (the "**January 2022 Prospectus**") that has been filed on SEDAR. The table below is a comparison of the "Use of Net Proceeds" with the amount spent to the end of the first quarter of 2022. The budget was for the period commencing January 1, 2022.

<b>Category</b>	<b>Budget or "Use of Net Proceeds" from January 2022 Prospectus</b>	<b>Approximate Expenditures as of June 30, 2022</b>	<b>Approximate Expenditures Remaining as of June 30, 2022</b>
Exploration	\$24,200,000	\$9,131,300	\$15,068,700
Mine planning, metallurgy and engineering	11,100,000	2,513,314	8,586,686
Environmental baseline, assessment and engineering	8,800,000	5,555,183	3,244,817
Mineral leases and land	1,500,000	566,004	933,996
Marketing, finance, legal and admin	2,300,000	636,129	1,663,871
Payment to Triple Flag	5,600,000	5,733,450	(133,450)
Public company costs	1,100,000	627,927	472,073
General corporate and working capital	996,544	519,539	477,005
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$55,596,544</b>	<b>\$25,282,846</b>	<b>\$30,313,698.</b>

To June 30, 2022, \$25.3 million of the budgeted \$55.6 million "Use of Net Proceeds" has been expended. Of the \$25.3 million expended, \$9.1 million has been incurred on exploration which includes exploration drilling, geophysics, infill drilling, data management and local site costs that support exploration. The focus on exploration is necessary to determine the size or bounds of the mineralization prior to completing certain detailed work associated with feasibility studies and because exploration provides potentially the greatest return on investment. The remaining funds expended largely related to studies and testing to support feasibility studies and permitting.

Capitalized expenditures during the six months ended June 30, 2022 on the Tamarack Project outlined above in the section titled "Work Completed/Expenditures – Tamarack North Project and Tamarack South Project" of \$28.0 million differs from the \$25.3 million "Approximate Expenditures as of June 30, 2022" from the January 2022 Prospectus reconciliation primarily due to (i) non-cash items such as capitalized stock options related to the portion of stock option cost directly attributable to work on the Tamarack Project, (ii) the acquisition of fixed assets, and (iii) public company and general corporate costs.

Overall, spending is on track and working capital of \$31.0 million as of June 30, 2022 was sufficient to cover the approximate expenditures remaining of \$30.3 million as of June 30, 2022.

### **Qualified Persons**

Etienne Diné, Vice President, Geology of Talon is a Qualified Person within the meaning of NI 43-101. Dr. Diné has reviewed, approved and verified the technical information disclosed in this MD&A (other than the Resource Estimate), including sampling, analytical and test data underlying the technical information.

The Qualified Person who is responsible for the Resource Estimate in this MD&A is Mr. Brian Thomas, senior resource geologist at Golder and independent of Talon. Mr. Thomas has reviewed, approved and verified the data disclosed in this MD&A relating to the Resource Estimate including, sampling, analytical and test data underlying the Resource Estimate 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.

### **CAPITAL EXPENDITURES ON EXPLORATION PROJECTS**

Deferred exploration and development expenditures of the Company are comprised as follows:

	Dec 31, 2021	2022 Additions	Purchase of royalty interest	Foreign Exchange	June 30, 2022
<i>Mineral properties - Resource properties and deferred expenditures (presented in Canadian dollars)</i>					
Tamarack Project	\$98,753,932	\$22,275,273	\$5,733,450	\$1,984,691	\$128,747,346

As detailed in the table above under "Tamarack Project - Work Completed/Expenditures – Tamarack North Project and Tamarack South Project" amounts incurred on the exploration of mineral properties for the six months ended June 30, 2022 amounted to \$28.0 million in respect of the Tamarack Project, comprised of \$22.3 million in accordance with the 2018 Option Agreement and \$5.7 million to reduce the royalty interest held by the Royalty Holder.

The foreign exchange gain of \$2.0 million is a non-cash item that is the result of fluctuations in the Canadian dollar denominated carrying value of the project which has been converted from United States dollars, as a result of the change in the Canadian dollar/United States dollar exchange rate from 1.2678 at December 31, 2021 to 1.2886 at June 30, 2022. IFRS requires that the year-end or period-end United States dollar balance of Resource properties and deferred expenditures be converted to Canadian dollars at the year-end or period-end exchange rate.

Amounts incurred on the exploration of mineral properties for the six months ended June 30, 2021 amounted to \$14.1 million and was the result of amounts incurred by Talon in respect of the Tamarack Project in accordance with the 2018 Option Agreement, primarily for exploration, drilling, geophysics and payments required pursuant to mineral leases.

### **FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS**

	June 30, 2022	Dec 31, 2021
<i>Held for trading, measured at fair value:</i>		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$10,934,070	\$21,049,265
Treasury bills and term deposits	21,271,971	4,016,510
Royalty Put Option	-	545,105

Talon is exposed to various risks related to its financial assets and liabilities. The most significant of these risks are discussed below and are managed on an ongoing basis.



## **Credit Risk Management**

Certain of the Company's financial assets are exposed to a degree of credit risk. The Company endeavors to mitigate credit risk by holding its cash and cash equivalents as cash deposits, short-term government treasury bills, money market funds and term deposits with major commercial banks.

Credit risk relating to accounts receivable arises from the possibility that any counterparty to an instrument fails to perform. The Company does not feel there is significant counterparty risk that could have an impact on the fair value of cash and cash equivalents and receivables.

## **Liquidity Risk**

**Liquidity** risk is the risk that the Company will not be able to meet its financial obligations as they fall due or at reasonable cost. The Company has in place a planning and budgeting process to help determine the funds required to support the Company's normal operating requirements on an ongoing basis and its capital, development and exploration expenditures.

As of June 30, 2022, the Company had a cash, cash equivalents, treasury bills and term deposits balance of \$32.2 million, (December 31, 2021 – \$25.1 million) to settle current liabilities of \$2.5 million (December 31, 2021 – \$2.4 million).

In order to meet future working capital requirements, the Company will need to raise financing as needed and/or develop the Tamarack Project into a profitable mine. There can be no assurance that the Company will be successful in raising financing as needed or developing the Tamarack Project into a profitable mine to meet the Company's future working capital requirements.

On March 18, 2021, the Company closed the March 2021 Prospectus Offering.

On January 31, 2022, the Company closed the January 2022 Prospectus Offering and January 2022 Concurrent Private Placement.

The outbreak of the novel strain of coronavirus, specifically identified as COVID-19 has resulted in governments worldwide enacting emergency measures to combat the spread of the virus. These measures, which include the implementation of travel bans, self-imposed quarantine periods and social distancing, have caused material disruption to business globally. Global equity markets have experienced significant volatility and periods of weakness. Governments and central banks have reacted with significant monetary and fiscal interventions designed to stabilize economic conditions. The ultimate duration and impact of COVID-19 is unknown at this time, as is the efficacy of the government and central bank interventions. It is not possible to reliably estimate the length and severity of these developments and the impact on the financial results and condition of the Company and its subsidiaries in future periods.

COVID-19 may have a significant negative impact on the Company's ability to raise capital and on operations.

Other world events, including the war in Ukraine, increasing interest rates, high inflation and declining capital markets have resulted in increased volatility and may also have a significant negative impact on the Company's ability to raise capital and on operations.

See “*Financial Condition, Cash Flow, Liquidity and Capital Resources – Liquidity and Capital Resources*”, “*Risks and Uncertainties*” and “*Outlook*” for further important information.

### **Market Risk**

Market risk is the risk that changes in market prices, including foreign exchange rates and interest rates will affect the Company's income or the value of its financial instruments.

The Company records its investments using the closing price at the end of the reporting period. Changes in the closing price will affect the fair value of these investments.

As of June 30, 2022 and December 31, 2021, the Company held no investments other than cash and cash equivalents, treasury bills and term deposits which management considers to not be materially susceptible to market risks.

### **Foreign Exchange Risk**

The Company is exposed to movements in the United States dollar. Payments made to Kennecott and substantially all of the costs associated with the operatorship of the Tamarack Project are denominated in United States dollars. Talon's head-office salaries, administrative costs and fees to Canadian-based consultants are denominated in Canadian dollars. Talon's financing activities have been primarily in Canadian dollars.

Given the above, the Company maintains funds in both Canadian and U.S. dollars taking into account cash needs over the medium term.

As of June 30, 2022, Talon was exposed to movements in the United States dollar as a result of cash on hand, certain accounts payable and the majority of costs associated with the development of the Tamarack Project.

At June 30, 2022, the Company had net monetary assets in United States dollars of \$20.0 million (Canadian dollar equivalent). If foreign exchange rates had changed by 5% on the last day of the period with all other facts/assumptions held constant, there would be a change in the net income or loss of the Company for the six months ended June 30, 2022 of approximately \$1.0 million.

COVID-19 and other world events, including the war in Ukraine, increasing interest rates, high inflation and declining capital markets have resulted in increased volatility of the Canadian/U.S. dollar exchange rate which, may increase the Canadian dollar denominated cost of the Company's operations since a majority of costs associated with the development of the Tamarack Project are denominated in United States dollars.

### **Interest Rate Risk**

Interest rate risk is the risk that the fair value of future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market interest rates. The Company is exposed to interest rate risk to the extent of its interest income on holding of cash equivalents, government treasury bills, money market funds and term deposits.

The cash equivalents, government treasury bills, money market funds and term deposits typically have a term to maturity of three to nine months. It is management's opinion that the Company is

not exposed to significant interest or credit risks arising from the cash equivalents, government treasury bills, money market funds and term deposits due to their short maturities and high credit ratings of the counterparty. The Company mitigates its risk by holding investments that are low in risk and have a relatively short term to maturity.

The carrying values of the Company's financial instruments approximate their fair values unless otherwise noted.

The Company's financial instruments are classified as current assets or liabilities on the statement of financial position of the Company. For receivables/payables with a remaining life of less than one year, the notional amount is deemed to reflect the fair value.

### **Fair Value Hierarchy**

The fair value hierarchy establishes three levels to classify inputs to the valuation techniques used to measure fair value. Level 1 inputs are quoted market prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities. Level 2 inputs are inputs other than quoted market prices included in Level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly, such as prices, or indirectly (derived from prices). Level 3 inputs are unobservable (supported by little or no market activity), such as non-corroborative indicative prices for a particular instrument provided by a third party.

The Company has classified its financial assets and liabilities as follows at June 30, 2022:

Level 1	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$10,934,070
Treasury bills and term deposits	21,271,971

## **FINANCIAL CONDITION, CASH FLOW, LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES**

### **Cash Flow Highlights**

	<b>Six months ended June 30, 2022</b>	<b>Six months ended June 30, 2021</b>
Operating activities	(\$971,644)	\$(2,491,288)
Investing activities	(42,354,964)	(10,128,954)
Financing activities	33,260,820	34,810,063
Increase (decrease) in cash & cash equivalents	(10,065,788)	22,189,821
Effect of foreign exchange on consolidation	(49,407)	(82,859)
Beginning cash & cash equivalents	21,049,265	15,355,958
Ending cash & cash equivalents	\$10,934,070	\$37,462,920

### ***Operating Activities***

Operating activities for the six months ended June 30, 2022 consumed \$1.0 million of cash primarily due to net operating expenses and a reduction in working capital. This compares to \$2.5 million consumed during the six months ended June 30, 2021. The decrease was primarily due to foreign exchange gains during the current year period compared to losses in the prior year period.

### ***Investing Activities***

Investing activities for the six months ended June 30, 2022 consumed \$42.4 million compared to \$10.1 million in the same period in the prior year. The increase was the result of net investments in treasury bills and term deposits of \$17.2 million. Excluding the investments in treasury bills and term deposits, investing activities for the six months ended June 30, 2022 consumed \$25.1 million primarily relating to capitalized exploration costs. For the six months ended June 30, 2021, investing activities primarily related to capitalized exploration costs. For details on the spending during the six months ended June 30, 2022, see the section titled “*Work Completed/Expenditures – Tamarack North Project and Tamarack South Project*”, with the difference due to non-cash expenditures, working capital adjustments, and capitalized fixed assets that are being depreciated to Resource properties and deferred expenditures.

### ***Financing Activities***

On March 18, 2021, the Company closed an offering of 57,500,000 units (the “**March 2021 Prospectus Offering**”) at a price of \$0.60 per unit for aggregate gross proceeds of \$34,500,000 pursuant to a short form prospectus. Each unit consisted of one common share and one-half of a share purchase warrant of the Company. Each whole warrant entitled the holder to acquire one common share at a price of \$0.80 for a period of 12 months following closing of the offering.

On December 7, 2021, the Company filed a final short form base shelf prospectus (the “**2021 Base Shelf Prospectus**”) with the securities regulatory authorities in each of the provinces of Canada. Pursuant to the 2021 Base Shelf Prospectus, Talon may issue common shares, debt securities, subscription receipts or warrants or any combination of such securities as units, in amounts, at prices, and on terms to be determined based on market conditions at the time of sale and set forth in an accompanying prospectus supplement, for an aggregate offering amount of up to \$90 million during the 25-month period that the Base Shelf Prospectus remains effective. Talon filed the Base Shelf Prospectus to give it flexibility to take advantage of financing opportunities as they may arise and as the Company deems appropriate, subject to market conditions and other relevant factors.

On December 16, 2021, the Company filed a prospectus supplement to the 2021 Base Shelf Prospectus that established an at-the-market equity program (the “**ATM Program**”) that allows the Company to issue and sell up to \$25 million of common shares of the Company from treasury to the public from time to time, at the Company’s discretion. Any common shares of the Company issued pursuant to the ATM Program will be sold through the TSX or any other “marketplace” as defined under applicable securities laws, at the prevailing market price at the time of sale and, as such, prices may vary among purchasers during the period of the ATM Program. Sales under the ATM Program will be commenced at the Company’s discretion, and the net proceeds of any sales of Common Shares under the ATM Program, if any, will be used for general corporate purposes and working capital needs. The volume and timing of distributions under the ATM Program, if any, will be determined at the Company’s sole discretion. The Company is not obligated to make any sales under the ATM Program. The ATM Program will be effective until the earlier of the issuance and sale of all of the common shares of the Company issuable pursuant to the ATM Program and December 31, 2022, unless terminated prior to such date by the Company or the agents in accordance with the equity distribution agreement. To date, no sales of common shares of the Company have been made pursuant to the ATM Program.

On January 31, 2022, the Company closed a bought deal public offering of common shares of the Company pursuant to a prospectus supplement to the 2021 Base Shelf Prospectus (the "**January 2022 Prospectus Offering**"). Pursuant to the January 2022 Prospectus Offering, Talon issued 38,200,000 common shares at a price of \$0.72 per common share for aggregate gross proceeds of \$27,504,000. Concurrently with the closing of the January 2022 Prospectus Offering, the Company closed a non-brokered private placement of 8,953,013 common shares at a price of \$0.72 per common share for aggregate gross proceeds of \$6,446,169 ("**January 2022 Concurrent Private Placement**").

The Company evaluates possible financing activities on an ongoing basis, the Company's short and long-term budgets in respect of its projects and working capital requirements, as well as the availability and costs associated with raising additional capital.

### **Liquidity and Capital Resources**

As of June 30, 2022, the Company had a cash, cash equivalents, treasury bills and term deposits balance of \$32.2 million, (December 31, 2021 – \$25.1 million) to settle current liabilities of \$2.5 million (December 31, 2021 – \$2.4 million).

Working capital, which was augmented in March 2021 and January 2022 by the funds raised from the March 2021 Prospectus Offering and the January 2022 Prospectus Offering, is expected to be sufficient to meet the planned spending discussed in the section above "*Upcoming Work – Tamarack North Project*".

In order to meet future working capital requirements, the Company will need to raise financing as needed and/or develop the Tamarack Project into a profitable mine. There can be no assurance that the Company will be successful in raising financing as needed or developing the Tamarack Project into a profitable mine to meet the Company's future working capital requirements.

The Company's monthly cash outflows are dependent on whether and to what extent the Company is pursuing an active exploration program. The Company's monthly cash outflows are also dependent on the outlook for raising additional capital and the current amount of working capital. As such, the Company can reduce operating and investing spending to adjust for periods when access to financing is constrained.

Pursuant to an investment agreement dated November 7, 2018 between the Company and Resource Capital Fund VI L.P. ("**RCF**"), for as long as RCF and its affiliates, on a partially diluted basis, hold common shares of the Company equal to or exceeding 10% of all common shares issued and outstanding, RCF has the right to participate in any equity financings of the Company (other than certain exempt issuances) at the same price and on the same terms, on a pro rata basis, such that RCF is entitled to maintain its percentage interest in common shares of the Company on a partially diluted basis.

Effective July 25, 2019, the Company and RCF entered into a qualification rights agreement (the "**Qualification Rights Agreement**") pursuant to which, under certain circumstances and limitations, RCF has the right to require the Company to qualify shares of the Company held by RCF under a prospectus by way of secondary offering. These qualification rights expire July 25, 2022. Pursuant to the Qualification Rights Agreement, RCF can qualify certain of its shares in the capital of the Company under a prospectus offering initiated by the Company and, subject to certain limitations, can also require the Company to file a prospectus to complete a secondary

offering on a maximum of two occasions during the term of the Qualification Rights Agreement. The Company is entitled to postpone any such request by RCF for a period of up to 90 days in certain circumstances, including in the event that the Company is actively employing its best efforts to complete an equity offering, and also in the event that the request is made 60 days after the filing of a final prospectus by the Company.

See “*Financial Instruments – Liquidity Risk*” (including in respect of the potential impact of the COVID-19) and “*Risks and Uncertainties*” for further important information.

**A summary of Contributed Surplus for the period from January 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022 is as follows:**

Balance	December 31, 2020	\$18,334,102
Stock options	Stock option compensation	12,160,792
Stock options	Stock options exercised	(186,446)
Balance	December 31, 2021	30,308,448,
Stock options	Stock option compensation	4,581,588
Stock options	Stock options exercised	(553,207)
Warrants	Warrant expired	2,480,889
Balance	June 30, 2022	\$36,817,718

**DISCLOSURE OF OUTSTANDING SHARE DATA**

As of August 12, 2022, the Company had 759,390,231 common shares issued and outstanding.

The following table details the convertible securities of the Company which are outstanding as of August 12, 2022:

	Expiry Date	Exercise Price	Total
Common Shares			759,390,231
Stock Options	Mar 22, 2024	\$0.095	30,442,536
Stock Options	Jun 6, 2024	\$0.18	4,962,735
Stock Options	Oct 2, 2024	\$0.18	1,000,000
Stock Options	Oct 28, 2024	\$0.165	6,000,000
Stock Options	Dec 12, 2024	\$0.145	1,400,000
Stock Options	Mar 13, 2025	\$0.10	5,380,000
Stock Options	Jul 22, 2025	\$0.145	350,000
Stock Options	Jul 23, 2025	\$0.145	500,000
Stock Options	Aug 7, 2025	\$0.28	350,000
Stock Options	Aug 14, 2025	\$0.26	775,000
Stock Options	Aug 15, 2025	\$0.25	200,000
Stock Options	Oct 28, 2025	\$0.30	200,000
Stock Options	Dec 28, 2025	\$0.51	19,155,000
Stock Options	Mar 19, 2026	\$0.70	5,307,736
Stock Options	May 28, 2026	\$0.59	5,000,000
Stock Options	Jun 25, 2026	\$0.52	12,250,000
Stock Options	Oct 22, 2026	\$0.65	1,800,000
Stock Options	Jan 13, 2027	\$0.72	1,600,000
Stock Options	Feb 3, 2027	\$0.66	6,400,000
Stock Options	Feb 18, 2027	\$0.67	1,600,000

TALON METALS CORP.  
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS  
For the three and six months ended June 30, 2022

	<b>Expiry Date</b>	<b>Exercise Price</b>	<b>Total</b>
Stock Options	Mar 9, 2027	\$0.78	1,750,000
Stock Options	Apr 14, 2027	\$0.74	1,200,000
Stock Options	May 16, 2027	\$0.54	200,000
Stock Options	Jun 15, 2027	\$0.51	200,000
Stock Options	Jun 29, 2027	\$0.51	1,500,000
Stock Options	Jul 15, 2027	\$0.39	600,000
Warrants	Dec 11, 2022	\$0.30	823,017
Warrants	Sep 29, 2022	\$0.80	5,271,666
Total number of shares issuable on exercise:			875,607,921

As Talon Nickel expands its team given that it is now the operator of the Tamarack Project, stock options were issued by the Company during 2021 and 2022 primarily to new employees and consultants.

The following details the change in stock options outstanding of the Company during the six months ended June 30, 2022:

	<b>Options</b>	<b>Weighted Average Exercise Price</b>
Outstanding – beginning of year	99,515,074	\$0.31
Granted	1,600,000	0.72
Granted	6,400,000	0.66
Granted	1,900,000	0.67
Granted	1,750,000	0.78
Granted	1,400,000	0.74
Granted	200,000	0.54
Granted	200,000	0.51
Granted	1,500,000	0.51
Exercised	(1,571,987)	0.095
Exercised	(350,000)	0.145
Exercised	(330,000)	0.28
Exercised	(562,500)	0.51
Exercised	(100,000)	0.52
Exercised	(100,000)	0.65
Exercised	(202,580)	0.095
Exercised	(100,000)	0.145
Exercised	(625,000)	0.26
Exercised	(50,000)	0.51
Exercised	(50,000)	0.52
Cancelled	(200,000)	0.59
Cancelled	(300,000)	0.67
Cancelled	(200,000)	0.74
Outstanding – end of year or period	109,723,007	\$0.36

All of the stock options outstanding have been issued pursuant to the Company's stock option plan.

### Estimated fair value of stock options

The Company determined the fair value of the stock options issued during the three and six months ended June 30, 2022 and 2021 using the Black-Scholes option pricing model using the following assumptions:

	Three months ended June 30, 2022	2021	Six months ended June 30, 2022	2021
Share Price	Closing price on the day prior to the grant date			
Risk-free interest rate	2.64% - 3.56%	0.99%	1.52% - 3.56%	0.92% - 0.99%
Expected life	5 years	5 years	5 years	5 years
Expected volatility	60%	70%	60%	70%
Dividend yield	0%	0%	0%	0%
Forfeiture rate	0%	0%	0%	0%

Stock option compensation expense for the three and six months ended June 30, 2022 and 2021, presented in the table below, was recognized in the condensed interim consolidated statements of loss and comprehensive loss. In addition, amounts related to stock option compensation attributable to work carried out on the Tamarack Project were capitalized to Resource properties and deferred expenditures for the three months ended June 30, 2022 and 2021, also presented in the table below.

	Three months ended June 30, 2022	Three months ended June 30, 2021	Six months ended June 30, 2022	Six months ended June 30, 2021
Stock option compensation - expensed	\$ 411,715	\$ 1,154,409	\$ 1,057,509	\$ 1,856,058
Stock option compensation - capitalized	1,843,879	2,782,271	3,524,079	4,376,863
Stock option compensation - total	\$ 2,255,594	\$ 3,936,680	\$ 4,581,588	\$ 6,232,921

### RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES

Talon is subject to a number of risk factors due to the nature of the mineral business in which it is engaged, the limited extent of its assets and its stage of development.

The exploration operations of the Company are speculative due to the high-risk nature of its business which is primarily focused on the acquisition, exploration and development of mineral projects. The Company's activities in pursuit of its objectives are subject to a number of risks and uncertainties.

The following is a summary of the most significant of those risks and uncertainties affecting or that could affect the financial condition or results of operations of the Company. For a further discussion of the risks and uncertainties facing the Company, please refer to the Company's Annual Information Form for the year ended December 31, 2021 under the heading "Risk Factors" available on SEDAR at [www.sedar.com](http://www.sedar.com). These risk factors could materially affect the Company's future operating results and could cause actual events to differ materially from those described in forward-looking statements relating to the Company. The Company may face additional risks and uncertainties, including, risks and uncertainties that are unknown to the Company or risks and uncertainties that the Company now believes to be unimportant, which could have a material adverse effect on the business of the Company. If any of the risks actually occur, the business, financial condition or results of operations of the Company could be negatively affected.



### *2018 Option Agreement*

Pursuant to the terms of the 2018 Option Agreement, Talon Nickel has the further right to acquire a 60% interest in the Tamarack Project, subject to the completion of certain conditions. In the event that Talon Nickel fails to meet the requirements to earn such interest in the Tamarack Project, in certain limited circumstances, Talon Nickel may revert to a minority interest in the Tamarack Project and cease to be the operator of the Tamarack Project. In such case, all future funding requirements for the Tamarack Project would be determined by Kennecott (in its capacity as operator), and any failure by Talon Nickel to fund its proportional share of such funding would result in dilution of its interest in the Tamarack Project.

In order for Talon Nickel to earn a 60% interest in accordance with the 2018 Option Agreement, the Company will be required to raise additional capital and there can be no assurance that the Company will be successful in raising such capital. If the Company is successful in raising capital, it could result in substantial dilution to existing shareholders of the Company.

### *Working Capital Requirements*

In order to meet future working capital requirements, the Company will need to raise additional capital. If the Company seeks to raise additional capital, it may not be available when needed, or if available, the terms of such capital might not be favourable to the Company. Global securities markets continue to experience volatility (and extreme volatility since the outbreak of COVID-19 and other world events, including the war in Ukraine, high inflation, increasing interest rates and fears of recession), which may result in difficulty raising equity capital and market forces may render it difficult or impossible for the Company to secure places to purchase any new share issuances at prices which will not lead to severe dilution to existing shareholders, or at all. There can be no assurance that the Company will be successful in raising additional capital, when needed, to meet the Company's future working capital requirements. If the Company is not successful in doing so (or in doing so sufficiently), it may have a material adverse effect on the Company's business, financial condition and results of operations (including, in certain circumstances, the ability of the Company to continue to operate as a going concern).

### *Ability to Continue as a Going Concern*

The Company believes that it has or will have sufficient funds to meet its obligations and planned expenditures for the ensuing twelve months as they fall due. In assessing whether the going concern assumption contained in the Company's financial statements for the three months ended June 30, 2022 is appropriate, the Company takes into account all available information about the future, which is at least, but not limited to, twelve months from the end of the reporting period. The Company's ability to continue future operations beyond June 30, 2023 may be dependent on the Company's ability to secure additional financing.

### *Governmental Regulation; Environmental Risks and Hazards*

The mineral exploration activities of the Company and Kennecott (in respect of the Tamarack Project) are subject to various laws governing prospecting, development, production, taxes, labour standards and occupational health, mine safety, toxic substances and other matters. Mining, beneficiation and exploration activities are also subject to various laws and regulations relating to the protection of the environment. Although the Company believes that its and Kennecott's (in respect of the Tamarack Project) exploration activities are currently carried out in

accordance with all applicable rules and regulations, no assurance can be given that new rules and regulations will not be enacted, including any limitation, or prohibition, on sulphide mining, or that existing rules and regulations will not be applied in a manner that could limit or curtail production or development of the Company's properties. Amendments to current laws and regulations governing the operations and activities of the Company or more stringent implementation thereof could have a material adverse effect on the Company's business, financial condition and results of operations and cause increases in exploration expenses, capital expenditures or production costs, reduction in levels of production at producing properties, or abandonment or delays in development of the Company's existing and/or new properties.

All phases of the Company's operations are subject to environmental regulation in the various jurisdictions in which it operates, including, as it relates to the Tamarack Project, the regulations applicable in Minnesota, USA. Environmental legislation is evolving in a manner that will require stricter standards and enforcement, increased fines and penalties for non-compliance, more stringent environmental assessments of proposed projects and a heightened degree of responsibility for companies and their officers, directors and employees. There is no assurance that existing or future environmental regulation will not materially adversely affect the Company's business, financial condition and results of operations. Environmental hazards may exist on the properties on which the Company holds interests that are unknown to the Company at present and that have been caused by previous or existing owners or operators of the properties.

In particular, existing and possible future environmental and social impact legislation, regulations and actions, including the regulation of air and water quality (including, changes to the regulations in Minnesota surrounding the protection of waters in which wild rice inhabits), mining reclamation, solid and hazardous waste handling and disposal, the promotion of occupational health and safety, the protection of wildlife and ecological systems and the protection of the societies and communities of indigenous peoples, could cause significant expense, capital expenditures, restrictions and delays in the Company's activities, the extent of which cannot be predicted and which may well be beyond its capacity to fund. Environmental and social impact studies may be required for some operations, and significant fines and clean-up responsibilities may be imposed for companies causing damage to the environment in the course of their activities.

In addition, the Company could incur substantial losses as a result of loss of life, severe damage to and destruction of property, natural resources and equipment, pollution and other environmental damage, clean-up responsibilities, regulatory investigation and penalties, suspension of operations and repairs to resume operations.

Government approvals and permits are currently, or may in the future be, required in connection with the Company's operations, including approvals that may be required for the Company to act as operator in respect of the Tamarack Project while the Tamarack Project exploration leases are in the name of Kennecott. To the extent such approvals are required and not obtained (or delayed), the Company may be curtailed or prohibited from proceeding with planned exploration or development of its properties, including the Tamarack Project.

Failure to comply with applicable laws, regulations and permitting requirements may result in enforcement actions thereunder, including orders issued by regulatory or judicial authorities causing operations to cease or be curtailed, and may include corrective measures requiring capital expenditures, installation of additional equipment, or remedial actions. Parties engaged in mining and beneficiation operations, including the Company, may be required to compensate those suffering loss or damage by reason of such activities and may have civil or criminal fines or

penalties imposed for violations of applicable laws or regulations, which may adversely affect the Company.

### *Exploration, Development and Operating Risks*

The exploration for and development of mineral deposits involves significant risks which even a combination of careful evaluation, experience and knowledge may not eliminate. While the discovery of an ore body may result in substantial rewards, few properties that are explored are ultimately developed into producing mines. Major expenses may be required to locate and establish mineral reserves, to develop metallurgical processes and to construct mining and processing facilities at a particular site. Actual exploration, development and/or other costs and economic returns may differ significantly from those the Company has anticipated. It is impossible to ensure that the exploration programs planned by Talon or Kennecott will result in a profitable commercial mining operation. Talon cannot give any assurance that its and Kennecott's (in respect of the Tamarack Project) current and future exploration activities and/or metallurgical testing will be consistent with the Company's expectations or result in any additional mineralization and/or a mineral deposit containing mineral reserves. Whether a mineral deposit will be commercially viable depends on a number of factors, some of which are: the particular attributes of the deposit, such as size, grade and proximity to infrastructure; commodity prices that are highly cyclical; and government regulations, including regulations relating to prices, taxes, royalties, land tenure, land use, importing and exporting of minerals and environmental protection. The exact effect of these factors cannot be accurately predicted, but the combination of these factors may result in Talon not receiving an adequate return on invested capital.

Although Talon's present activities are directed towards the financing, exploration and development of mineral projects, its activities may also ultimately include mining operations. Mining and exploration operations generally involve a high degree of risk. Talon's operations (and Kennecott's as they may relate to the Tamarack Project) are subject to all the hazards and risks normally encountered in the exploration, development, production and beneficiation of nickel, copper and platinum, including unusual and unexpected geologic formations, seismic activity, cave-ins, flooding and other conditions involved in the drilling and removal of material, any of which could result in damage to, or destruction of, mines and other producing facilities, damage to life or property, environmental damage and possible legal liability. Although adequate precautions to minimize risk will be taken, mining and exploration operations are subject to hazards such as equipment failure or failure of retaining dams around tailings disposal areas which may result in environmental pollution and consequential liability.

The economic viability of mineral projects, including projects such as the Tamarack Project, may be affected, in part, by the ability of the operator to mine, beneficiate and, to the extent the Company has not already done so, enter into off-take agreements with potential end users. No assurance can be made that Talon (or, if applicable, Kennecott as it relates to the Tamarack Project) will be successful in entering into off-take agreements in respect of local and/or export sales or, if necessary, in accessing local smelting facilities.

### *Market Price of Common Shares; Impact of Volatility; Litigation resulting from Volatility*

Securities of small-cap companies have experienced substantial volatility in the past, often based on factors unrelated to the financial performance or prospects of the companies involved. These factors include macroeconomic developments in North America and globally and market perceptions of the attractiveness of particular industries. In the past several years and more

recently with the outbreak of COVID-19, the war in Ukraine and an overall economic downturn, worldwide securities markets have experienced a high level of price and volume volatility, and the market price of securities of many companies, particularly those considered exploration or development stage companies, have experienced declines in price which have not necessarily been related to the operating performance, underlying asset values or prospects of such companies.

The price of Talon's common shares may also be affected by short-term changes in nickel or other relevant mineral prices or in its financial condition or results of operations. Other factors unrelated to the Company's performance that may have an effect on the price of Talon's common shares include the following: COVID-19, the war in Ukraine, the economy, the fact that RCF and Pallinghurst Nickel International Ltd. own or may sell a large number of common shares of the Company; the extent of analytical coverage available to investors concerning the Company's business may be limited if investment banks with research capabilities do not follow the Company's securities; lessening in trading volume and general market interest in the Company's securities may affect an investor's ability to trade significant numbers of Talon's common shares; the size of the Company's public float may limit the ability of some institutions to invest in the Company's securities; and a substantial decline in the price of Talon's common shares that persists for a significant period of time could cause the Company's securities to be delisted, further reducing market liquidity.

As a result of any of these factors, the market price of Talon's common shares at any given point in time may not accurately reflect the Company's long-term value. Securities class action litigation often has been brought against companies following periods of volatility in the market price of their securities. The Company may in the future be the target of similar litigation. Securities litigation could result in substantial costs and damages and divert management's attention and resources.

#### *Increased Availability of Alternative Nickel Sources or Substitution of Nickel from End Use Applications*

Demand for primary nickel may be negatively affected by the direct substitution of primary nickel with other materials in current and future applications. In response to high nickel prices or other factors, producers of batteries may shift from batteries with high nickel content to batteries with either lower nickel content or no nickel content. In addition, in response to high nickel prices or other factors, producers and consumers of stainless steel may partially shift from stainless steel with high nickel content to stainless steels with either lower nickel content or no nickel content. One or both of these shifts may adversely affect demand for nickel.

#### *Changes in the Price of Nickel*

The ability to develop the Tamarack Project is directly related to the market price of nickel. Nickel is sold in an active global market and traded on commodity exchanges, such as the LME and the New York Mercantile Exchange. Nickel prices are subject to significant fluctuations (as was seen in March 2022 when the price of nickel spiked and the LME ceased trading of Nickel for a period of time as a consequence of the war in Ukraine) and are affected by many factors, including actual and expected macroeconomic and political conditions, levels of supply and demand, the availability and costs of substitutes, input costs, foreign exchange rates, inventory levels, investments by commodity funds and other actions of participants in the commodity markets. Nickel prices have fluctuated widely, particularly in recent years. Consequently, the economic

viability of the Tamarack Project cannot be accurately predicted and may be adversely affected by fluctuations in nickel prices.

#### *COVID-19 Coronavirus Outbreak*

The current and ongoing global uncertainty with respect to the spread of COVID-19, the rapidly evolving nature of the pandemic and local and international developments related thereto and its effect on the broader global economy and capital markets may have a negative effect on the Company and the advancement of the Tamarack Project. While the ultimate impact of the COVID-19 outbreak on the Company remains unknown, rapid spread of COVID-19 and declaration of the outbreak as a global pandemic has resulted in and may in the future result in travel advisories and restrictions, certain restrictions on business operations, social distancing precautions and restrictions on group gatherings which are having and may have direct impacts on businesses in the United States, Canada and around the world and could result in travel bans, closure of assay labs or delays in obtaining results from assay labs, work delays, restrictions on or shutting down of drilling operations, difficulties for contractors and employees getting to site, restrictions related to other mining related business and operations and the diversion of management attention all of which in turn could have a negative impact on development of the Tamarack Project and the Company generally. The spread of COVID-19 may also have a material adverse effect on global economic activity and could result in volatility and disruption to global supply chains and the financial and capital markets, which could affect the business, financial condition, results of operations, prospects and other factors relevant to the Company, including its ability to raise additional financing. There can be no assurance that COVID-19 or any other public health crises will not have a material adverse effect on the Company and its business and operations.

#### *War in Ukraine*

The military conflict in Ukraine has led to heightened volatility in the global markets, increased inflation, and turbulence in commodities markets, including nickel. More recently, in response to Russian military actions in Ukraine, several countries (including Canada, the United States and certain allies) have imposed economic sanctions and export control measures, and may impose additional sanctions or export control measures in the future, which have and could in the future result in, among other things, severe or complete restrictions on exports and other commerce and business dealings involving Russia, certain regions of Ukraine, and/or particular entities and individuals. While the Company does not have any direct exposure or connection to Russia or Ukraine, as the military conflict is a rapidly developing situation, it is uncertain as to how such events and any related economic sanctions will continue to impact the global economy and commodities markets. Any negative developments in respect thereof could have a material adverse effect on the Company's business, operations or financial condition.

#### *Litigation*

The outcome of outstanding, pending or future proceedings cannot be predicted with certainty and may be determined adversely against the Company or may delay the Company from proceeding with the Tamarack Project in a timely manner. Specifically, current litigation proceedings in Brazil, even in cases which the Company's legal counsel believes have a possible chance of success by the counterparty, may be determined, in whole or in part, against the Company. One or more of such determinations against the Company may adversely affect the Company's financial condition and may have a material adverse impact on the ability of the Company to carry on operations.

### *Uncertainty Relating to Inferred and Indicated Mineral Resources*

There is a risk that the inferred and indicated mineral resources currently reported for the Tamarack Project cannot be converted into mineral reserves as the ability to assess geological continuity is not sufficient to demonstrate economic viability. Due to the uncertainty that may attach to inferred and indicated mineral resources, there is no assurance that inferred and indicated mineral resources will be upgraded to resources with sufficient geological continuity to constitute proven and probable mineral reserves as a result of continued exploration.

### *Key Executives and Consultants*

The Company is dependent on the services of key executives, including the directors of the Company and a small number of highly skilled and experienced employees and consultants. Due to the relatively small size of the Company, the loss of these persons or the Company's inability to attract and retain additional highly skilled employees or consultants may adversely affect its business and future operations.

### *Exchange Rate Fluctuations*

Certain of the Company's financing activities are completed in Canadian dollars while the majority of the Company's non-working capital costs are in United States dollars and any payments made under the 2018 Option Agreement and the Royalty Agreement will be made in United States dollars. As such, the Company is exposed to movements in the United States dollar.

A depreciation of the Canadian dollar against the United States dollar may negatively affect the Company's current or future cash balance and may require the Company to raise additional capital to offset additional costs caused by exchange rate fluctuations. In addition, a depreciation of the Canadian dollar against the United States dollar may require the Company to raise more money than it otherwise would have been required to do. The Company may not be able to complete such a larger financing which may result in the Company not being able to meet its obligations in respect of the Tamarack Project. Such a failure may have a material adverse impact on the Company, including potential dilution of its interest in the Tamarack Project and its ability to continue operating.

### *Land Title*

With respect to the Tamarack Project, the mineral and surface interests are held in Kennecott's name through various Minnesota state leases, private agreements and fee ownership. Maintenance of all of such rights are subject to ongoing compliance with the terms of such licenses, agreements and contracts. While the Company intends to take all reasonable steps to maintain title to its mineral properties, there can be no assurance that it will be successful in extending or renewing mineral rights on or prior to the expiration of their term. The acquisition of title to mineral properties is a very detailed and time-consuming process. Title to, and the area of, mineral concessions may be disputed. Although the Company believes it has taken reasonable measures to ensure proper title to its properties (including, the Tamarack Project), there is no guarantee that title to any of its properties will not be challenged or impaired. Third parties may have valid claims underlying portions of the Company's interests, including prior unregistered liens, agreements, transfers or claims (including, native land claims) and title may be affected by, among other things, undetected defects. In addition, the Company may be unable to operate its properties as permitted or to enforce its rights with respect to its properties.

### *Insurance and Uninsured Risks*

Talon's business is subject to a number of risks and hazards generally, including adverse environmental conditions, industrial accidents, labour disputes, unusual or unexpected geological conditions, ground or slope failures, cave-ins, changes in the regulatory environment and natural phenomena such as inclement weather conditions, floods and earthquakes. Such occurrences could result in damage to mineral properties or production facilities, personal injury or death, environmental damage to the Company's properties (including, the Tamarack Project) or the properties of others, delays in mining, monetary losses and possible legal liability.

Although Talon maintains insurance to protect against certain risks in such amounts as it considers reasonable, its insurance will not cover all the potential risks associated with the Company's operations. Talon may also be unable to obtain or maintain insurance to cover risks at economically feasible premiums. Insurance coverage may not continue to be available or may not be adequate to cover any resulting liability. Moreover, insurance against risks such as environmental pollution or other hazards as a result of exploration and production is not generally available to Talon or to other companies in the mining industry on acceptable terms. Talon might also become subject to liability for pollution or other hazards that may not be insured against or that Talon may elect not to insure against because of premium costs or other reasons. Losses from these events may cause Talon to incur significant costs that could have a material adverse effect upon its financial performance and results of operations.

### *Political, Judicial, Administrative, Taxation or Other Regulatory Factors*

Talon may be adversely affected by changes in political, judicial, administrative, taxation or other regulatory factors in the areas in which Talon operates and/or holds interests. Such changes could have a material adverse effect on the Company's business, financial condition and results of operations and cause increases in exploration expenses, capital expenditures or production costs, or abandonment or delays in development of the Company's existing and/or new properties, including impacting decisions to continue with the funding of the Tamarack Project.

### *Possible Conflicts of Interest*

Certain of the directors and officers of the Company also serve as directors and/or officers of other companies involved in natural resource exploration and development and consequently there exists the possibility for such directors and officers to be in a position of conflict. The Company expects that any decision made by any of such directors and officers involving the Company will be made in accordance with their duties and obligations to deal fairly and in good faith with a view to the best interests of the Company and its shareholders, but there can be no assurance in this regard.

### *Triple Flag Royalty Financing*

Pursuant to the Royalty Agreement, Talon and its related entities have provided security to the Royalty Holder to support the payment and performance obligations related to the royalty and the guarantees. In the event Talon Nickel fails to meet such obligations, the Royalty Holder has the right to exercise its security and may, among other things, acquire Talon Nickel's entire interest in the Tamarack Project.

The Royalty Agreement contains restrictive covenants that limit the discretion of management with respect to certain business matters. These covenants place restrictions on, among other things, the ability of the Company to amend the 2018 Option Agreement, cease to be the operator of the Tamarack Project, sell or dispose of Talon Nickel's interest in the Tamarack Project, incur additional indebtedness, to create liens or other encumbrances, to sell or otherwise dispose of assets and merge or consolidate with another entity. A failure to comply with these obligations could result in an event of default (as defined under the Royalty Agreement) which, if not waived, could permit the Royalty Holder to exercise its security and, among other things, acquire Talon Nickel's entire interest in the Tamarack Project.

Pursuant to the Royalty Agreement, Talon Nickel is required to make payment to the Royalty Holder based on an assumed ownership percentage in the Tamarack Project of 51% or 60%, depending on the particular circumstances. In the event that Talon Nickel dilutes below the assumed ownership percentage, it will nevertheless still be required to make payment to the Royalty Holder at the assumed ownership percentage. Given this unique payment structure under the Royalty Agreement, there is a risk that the Company may not have enough money to make the required payments to the Royalty Holder. In such circumstance, the failure by Talon Nickel to make adequate payment to the Royalty Holder would constitute an event of default under the Royalty Agreement, thereby entitling the Royalty Holder to exercise its security and, among other things, acquire Talon Nickel's entire interest in the Tamarack Project.

#### **RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS AND BALANCES**

Related parties include directors and officers of the Company, close family members and enterprises which are controlled by these individuals as well as certain persons performing similar functions.

The spouse of the CEO provided recruiting services relating to new hires during the six months ended June 30, 2022 for fees of \$10,209 (year ended December 31, 2021 – \$25,672).

The remuneration, including benefits, of directors and officers of the Company for the three and six months ended June 30, 2022 and 2021 was as follows:

	<b>Six months ended June 30,</b>		<b>Three months ended June 30,</b>	
	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
Salaries and benefits of officers	\$ 1,786,476	\$ 1,400,161	\$ 842,100	\$ 785,567
Board fees	40,563	31,250	20,625	15,625
Stock-based compensation	2,747,463	2,564,002	1,174,082	1,480,341
Total Aggregate Compensation	<u>\$ 4,574,502</u>	<u>\$ 3,995,413</u>	<u>\$ 2,036,807</u>	<u>\$ 2,281,533</u>

Capitalized portion included in Total Aggregate Compensation (capitalized to Resource properties and deferred expenditures):

Salaries and benefits of officers	\$ 1,461,481	\$ 997,732	\$ 768,794	\$ 645,768
Stock-based compensation	1,745,992	812,566	797,766	747,340
Total	<u>\$ 3,207,473</u>	<u>\$ 1,810,298</u>	<u>\$ 1,566,560</u>	<u>\$ 1,393,108</u>

Cash compensation and stock option compensation are recorded on the consolidated statements of loss and comprehensive loss in "Salaries, benefits, consulting and board fees" and on the consolidated statements of financial position in "Resource properties and deferred expenditures".



During Q4 2020, the Corporate Governance and Compensation Committee approved the payment of certain deferred consulting fees to the Company's Executive Chairman. These deferred consulting fees amounted to the sum of \$483,000 and related to the years 2015 to 2020. Pursuant to a consulting agreement dated December 1, 2015 between the Company and the Executive Chairman, such consulting fees were initially to be paid out to the Executive Chairman upon the earlier of a termination of the Executive Chairman's consulting agreement or a change of control. As of December 31, 2021, \$115,829 of consulting fees remained outstanding. In March 2022, the Corporate Governance and Compensation Committee approved an amendment to the Executive Chairman's consulting agreement which provided that all outstanding consulting fees be paid immediately and going forward his consulting fees would no longer be deferred but rather paid in the normal course. As of June 30, 2022, \$nil (December 31, 2021 - \$115,829) is payable to the Executive Chairman of the Company.

In Q2 2021, \$150,000 in deferred salaries relating to the years 2016 to 2018 (\$50,000 per year) were paid to each of the CEO and President of the Company. The CEO and President deferred their salaries during those years to preserve cash for the Company.

Except as otherwise noted herein, all options issued in 2021 and 2022 vest over one year and have an expiration date that is five years from the date of grant.

In March 2021, 607,736 options were issued to an officer with an exercise price of \$0.70.

In May 2021, 4,000,000 options were issued to officers and the board of directors with a term of 5 years, an exercise price of \$0.59.

In June 2021, 7,000,000 options were issued to an officer of the company with a term of 5 years and an exercise price of \$0.52 that vest 2,000,000 on September 2, 2021 and 5,000,000 over 2 years.

In January 2022, 1,600,000 options were issued to two new members of the board of directors with an exercise price of \$0.72.

In February 2022, 5,000,000 options were issued to officers with an exercise price of \$0.66 of which 2,500,000 options vest over one year and 2,500,000 options vest over two years.

In June 2022, 1,000,000 options were issued to an officer with an exercise price of \$0.51.

### **CRITICAL ACCOUNTING ESTIMATES AND CHANGES IN ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

The preparation of consolidated financial statements in conformity with IFRS requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and reported amounts of expenses during the reporting period. Actual outcomes could differ from these estimates. The consolidated financial statements include estimates which, by their nature, are uncertain. The impacts of such estimates are pervasive throughout the consolidated financial statements and may require accounting adjustments based on future occurrences. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognized in the period in which the estimate is revised and also in future periods when the revision affects both current and future periods.

Significant assumptions about the future and other sources of estimation uncertainty that management has made at the end of each reporting period and for the periods then ended, that could result in a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities, in the event that actual results differ from assumptions made, relate to, but are not limited to, the valuation of resource properties, the estimation of contingencies and the valuation of the asset retirement obligation.

The uncertainty regarding the valuation of resource properties arises as a result of estimates and judgments such as forecasts of metal prices, operating costs, capital costs and income taxes among numerous other valuation inputs, discount rates, comparability of the Company's properties to those of other market participants and the selection of market-participant assumptions used to determine recoverable value.

The uncertainty regarding the estimation of contingencies arises as result of the uncertainty as to legal proceedings that are before the courts, as well the amount and probability of a future payment or award.

The uncertainty regarding the valuation of the asset retirement obligation arises as result of certain key inputs such as future estimated costs, future inflation, the possibility of changing laws and requirements, including changes in constructive obligations and the discount rate used to present value the future estimated costs.

Talon considers the following accounting policies to be critical in the preparation of its financial statements:

*Resource properties and deferred exploration and evaluation costs*

Interests in mineral exploration properties are recorded at cost. Exploration expenditures relating to mineral properties in which an interest is retained are deferred and carried as an asset until the results of the projects are known. If the project is unsuccessful or if exploration has ceased because continuation is not economically feasible, the cost of the property and the related deferred exploration expenditures are written off.

The cost of mineral properties includes the cash consideration paid and the negotiated value of shares issued on the acquisition of properties. Properties acquired under option agreements, whereby option payments are made at the discretion of the company, are recorded in the financial statements at the time payments are made. The proceeds from options granted or royalties sold on properties are credited to the cost of the related property.

Deferred exploration costs are amortized over the estimated useful life of the related mineral property as commercial production commences. If the net carrying amount of the deferred exploration expenses is not recoverable, these costs are written down to net recoverable amount of the deferred exploration expense.

The amounts shown for mineral properties and deferred exploration costs represents cost to date, and do not necessarily represent present or future values as they are entirely dependent upon the economic recovery of future reserves.

The Company does not accrue the estimated future costs of maintaining its mineral properties in good standing.

### *Asset retirement obligations*

A provision is recognized on the consolidated statement of financial position when the Company has a present legal or constructive obligation as a result of a past event, and it is probable that an outflow of economic benefits will be required to settle the obligation. Provisions are determined by discounting the expected future cash flows at a pre-tax rate that reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and, where appropriate, the risks specific to the liability. The Company's asset retirement obligations arise from its obligations to undertake site reclamation and remediation in connection with its resource properties. The estimated costs of reclamation are based on current regulatory requirements and the present value of estimated reclamation costs at the future date of purchase. Future changes to those regulations and standards, as well as changes resulting from operations may result in actual reclamation costs differing from the estimate.

### **INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING**

No changes were made to the Company's internal control over financial reporting during the three months ended June 30, 2022 that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, the Company's internal control over financial reporting.

### **OPTION AGREEMENT - MICHIGAN**

On August 9, 2022, Talon entered into an option and earn-in agreement (the "**Option Agreement**") with UPX Minerals Inc. (a wholly-owned subsidiary of Sweetwater Royalties) ("**UPX**") to acquire up to an 80% ownership interest in the mineral rights over a land package comprised of approximately 400,000 acres located in the Upper Peninsula of the State of Michigan (the "**Michigan Nickel Properties**"). Pursuant to the terms of the Option Agreement, Talon has agreed to a minimum spending obligation of up to US\$5 million in exploration expenditures or drilling of at least 7,500 meters. Talon has five years (until August 2027) to complete these minimum requirements. Talon will earn a 51% undivided interest in the Michigan Nickel Properties upon the completion of 25,000 meters of drilling (the "**Stage One Requirement**"). Talon will have five years (until August 2027) to complete the Stage One Requirement, which may be extended in certain circumstances.

Talon will then have the option to earn an additional 29% interest in the Michigan Nickel Properties (resulting in an 80% ownership interest) upon delivering a Feasibility Study prepared in accordance with National Instrument 43-101 over a portion of the Michigan Nickel Properties (the "**Stage Two Requirement**"). In the event that Talon does not complete the Stage Two Requirement within eight-years (which may be extended in certain circumstances) of determining a "mineral resource" at the Michigan Nickel Properties, Talon's interest in the Michigan Nickel Properties will be reduced to 49%.

On execution of the Option Agreement, and as partial consideration for entering into the Option Agreement, Talon will issue Kennecott 15,321,933 common shares of Talon at a deemed price of \$0.51 per share (based on the 5-day VWAP of the Talon shares on the TSX) in satisfaction of US\$6 million in payment obligations of UPX to KEX as a previous owner of the Michigan Nickel Properties. This share issuance is subject to the approval of the Toronto Stock Exchange. Upon Talon completing the Stage Two Requirement, UPX will be granted a 2% NSR royalty on the Michigan Nickel Properties and have the right to participate in proportion to its participating 20%

joint venture interest. In the event UPX does not participate in proportion to its participating 20% joint venture interest, its interest in the joint venture will be subject to dilution, and in the event UPX's joint venture interest ultimately dilutes below 10%, UPX's interest in the joint venture will be reduced to 0% and UPX will be entitled to an additional 1% NSR royalty on the Michigan Nickel Properties.

## **OUTLOOK**

The Company is focused on the advancement of the Tamarack North Project. As of August 12, 2022, the Company had working capital of approximately \$27 million.

The Company intends to further advance the Company's objective of completing a series of trade-off studies and mine planning, metallurgy, and engineering studies on the Tamarack North Project during 2022 and early-to-mid 2023.

During 2022, the Company successfully delineated two areas with mixed massive sulphide mineralization below a thicker zone of disseminated sulphide mineralization. These areas are referred to as CGO East and CGO West. These areas are shallower than the present Tamarack North Project mineral resource and, as such, could potentially reduce the timeline to production. The Company also completed infill drilling of the massive sulphide in 2022 which is a unit that forms part of the present Tamarack North Project mineral resource.

During 2022, the Company continued to deploy several geophysical survey methods over the present Tamarack North Project mineral resource. The Company also completed a purchase of magneto-telluric survey equipment which will be used to survey over the Tamarack Intrusive Complex in 2022 and continuing into 2023. In 2022, the Company plans to also deploy new geophysical methods such as passive seismic tomography to help guide the drilling of priority targets that lie outside of the present Tamarack North Project mineral resource area. The ultimate objective is to discover and delineate high-grade nickel deposits that can be accessed underground from the present Tamarack North Project mineral resource area. If successful, this would constitute a continuation of underground mining to extend the mine life, with potentially no impact to surface infrastructure.

During 2022, the Company expanded its environmental baseline work, and such work will continue throughout 2023. The Company has commenced waste characterization studies, which will also continue throughout 2023.

In January 2022, Talon Nickel entered into an agreement with Tesla for the supply and purchase of 75,000 metric tonnes (165 million lbs) of nickel in concentrate. Talon Nickel has agreed to use commercially reasonable efforts to achieve commercial production on or before January 1, 2026, which may be extended by the parties for up to 12 months following which Tesla has the right to terminate the agreement and Talon Nickel may elect to sell to other parties. Given the agreement with Tesla, during 2022, the Company intends to focus its metallurgical testing with the objective of producing a nickel concentrate for Tesla and a copper concentrate for selling to one or more smelters.