#### **CHARTER OF**

#### THE AUDIT COMMITTEE

# 1. Purpose

The Audit Committee shall assist the Board of Directors (the Board) in overseeing and monitoring, among other things, the:

- Company's financial accounting and reporting process;
- integrity of the financial statements;
- Company's internal control over financial reporting;
- external financial audit process;
- compliance by the Company with legal and regulatory requirements; and
- independence and performance of the Company's internal and external auditor.

To fulfill its purpose, the Audit Committee has been delegated certain authorities by the Board that it may exercise on behalf of the Board.

# 2. Roles and Responsibilities

## I. Appointment of the Company's External Auditor

Subject to confirmation by the external auditor of their compliance with Canadian and U.S. regulatory registration requirements, the Audit Committee shall recommend to the Board the appointment of the external auditor, such appointment to be confirmed by the Company's shareholders at each annual meeting. The Audit Committee shall also recommend to the Board the compensation to be paid to the external auditor for audit services. The Audit Committee shall also be directly responsible for the oversight of the work of the external auditor (including resolution of disagreements between management and the external auditor regarding financial reporting) for the purpose of preparing or issuing an audit report or related work. The external auditor shall report directly to the Audit Committee.

The Audit Committee shall review and approve the audit plan of the external auditor. The Audit Committee shall also receive periodic reports from the external auditor regarding the auditor's independence, discuss such reports with the auditor, consider whether the provision of non-audit services is compatible with maintaining the auditor's independence and take appropriate action to satisfy itself of the independence of the external auditor. In addition, to further satisfy itself of audit quality and the independence of the external auditor, the Audit Committee shall undertake a Periodic Comprehensive Review of the External Auditor at least once every five years.

# II. Oversight in Respect of Financial Disclosure

The Audit Committee shall, to the extent it deems it necessary or appropriate:

- (a) review, discuss with management and the external auditor and recommend to the Board for approval, the Company's audited annual consolidated financial statements, annual information form, management's discussion and analysis (MD&A), all financial information in prospectuses and other offering memoranda, financial statements required by securities regulators, all prospectuses and all documents which may be incorporated by reference into a prospectus, including, without limitation, the annual management information circular, but excluding any pricing or prospectus supplement relating to the issuance of debt securities of the Company;
- (b) review, discuss with management and the external auditor and approve, the release to the public of the Company's interim reports, including the consolidated financial statements, MD&A and news releases on quarterly financial results;
- (c) review and discuss with management and the external auditor the use of non-GAAP information and the applicable reconciliation;
- (d) review and discuss with management any financial outlook or future-oriented financial information disclosure in advance of its public release; provided, however, that such discussion may be done generally (consisting of discussing the types of information to be disclosed and the types of presentations to be made). The Audit Committee need not discuss in advance each instance in which the Company may provide financial projections or presentations to credit rating agencies;
- (e) review with management and the external auditor major issues regarding accounting policies and auditing practices, including any significant changes in the Company's selection or application of accounting policies, as well as major issues as to the adequacy of the Company's internal controls and any special audit steps adopted in light of material control deficiencies that could significantly affect the Company's financial statements;
- (f) review and discuss quarterly findings reports from the external auditor on:
  - (i) all critical accounting policies and practices to be used;
  - (ii) all alternative treatments of financial information within generally accepted accounting principles that have been discussed with management, ramifications of the use of such alternative disclosures and treatments, and the treatment preferred by the external auditor;
  - (iii) other material written communications between the external auditor and management, such as any management letter or schedule of unadjusted differences;
- (g) review with management and the external auditor the effect of regulatory and accounting developments on the Company's financial statements;
- (h) review with management and the external auditor the effect of any off-balance sheet

structures on the Company's financial statements;

- (i) review with management, the external auditor and, if necessary, legal counsel, any litigation, claim or contingency, including arbitration and tax assessments, that could have a material effect upon the financial position of the Company, and the manner in which these matters have been disclosed in the financial statements;
- (j) review disclosures made to the Audit Committee by the Company's Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and Chief Financial Officer (CFO) during their certification process for the periodic reports filed with securities regulators about any significant deficiencies in the design or operation of internal controls or material weaknesses therein and any fraud involving management or other employees who have a significant role in the Company's internal controls;
- (k) discuss with management the Company's material financial risk exposures and the steps management has taken to monitor and control such exposures, including the Company's risk assessment and risk management policies;

# III. Oversight in Respect of Legal and Regulatory Matters

(a) review with the Company's General Counsel legal matters that may have a material impact on the financial statements, the Company's compliance policies and any material reports or inquiries received from regulators or governmental agencies;

### IV. Oversight in Respect of Internal Audit

- (a) review and approve the audit plans of the internal auditor of the Company including the degree of coordination between such plans and those of the external auditor and the extent to which the planned audit scope can be relied upon to detect weaknesses in internal control, fraud or other illegal acts;
- (b) review the significant findings prepared by the internal audit department and recommendations issued by it or by any external party relating to internal audit issues, together with management's response thereto;
- (c) review compliance with the Company's policies and avoidance of conflicts of interest;
- (d) review the report prepared by the internal auditor on officers' expenses and aircraft usage;
- (e) review the adequacy of the resources of the internal auditor to ensure the objectivity and independence of the internal audit function, including
  - (i) receive reports from the internal audit department on its audit process with subsidiaries and affiliates; and
  - (ii) review the Internal Audit Charter and as needed, approve any substantive changes.
- (f) ensure the internal auditor has access to the Chair of the Audit Committee, the Board and the CEO and meet separately with the internal auditor to review with him or her any problems or difficulties he or she may have encountered and specifically:

- (i) any difficulties which were encountered in the course of the audit work, including restrictions on the scope of activities or access to required information, and any disagreements with management;
- (ii) any changes required in the planned scope of the internal audit;
- (iii) the internal audit department responsibilities, budget and staffing;

and to report to the Board on such meetings;

# V. Oversight in Respect of the External Auditor

- (a) review any letter, report or other communication from the external auditor in respect of any identified weakness in internal control or unadjusted difference and management's response and follow-up, inquire regularly of management and the external auditor of any significant issues between them and how they have been resolved, and intervene in the resolution if required;
- (b) receive and review annually the external auditor's formal written statement of independence delineating all relationships between itself and the Company;
- (c) meet separately with the external auditor to review any problems or difficulties the external auditor may have encountered and specifically:
  - (i) any difficulties which were encountered in the course of the audit work, including any restrictions on the scope of activities or access to required information, and any disagreements with management;
  - (ii) any changes required in the planned scope of the audit;

and to report to the Board on such meetings;

- (d) meet with the external auditor prior to the audit to review the planning and staffing of the audit;
- (e) receive and review annually the external auditor's written report on their own internal quality control procedures; any material issues raised by the most recent internal quality control review, or peer review, of the external auditor, or by any inquiry or investigation by governmental or professional authorities, within the preceding five years, and any steps taken to deal with such issues;
- (f) review and evaluate the external auditor, including the lead partner of the external auditor team;
- (g) ensure the rotation of the lead (or coordinating) audit partner having primary responsibility for the audit and the audit partner responsible for reviewing the audit as required by law, but at least every five years;

#### VI. Oversight in Respect of Audit and Non-Audit Services

(a) pre-approve all audit services (which may entail providing comfort letters in connection with

securities underwritings) and all permitted non-audit services, other than non-audit services where:

- (i) the aggregate amount of all such non-audit services provided to the Company that were not pre-approved constitutes not more than five percent of the total fees paid by the Company and its subsidiaries to the external auditor during the fiscal year in which the non-audit services are provided;
- (ii) such services were not recognized by the Company at the time of the engagement to be non-audit services;
- (iii) such services are promptly brought to the attention of the Audit Committee and approved, prior to the completion of the audit, by the Audit Committee or by one or more members of the Audit Committee to whom authority to grant such approvals has been delegated by the Audit Committee;
- (b) approval by the Audit Committee of a non-audit service to be performed by the external auditor shall be disclosed as required under securities laws and regulations;
- (c) the Audit Committee may delegate to one or more designated members of the Audit Committee the authority to grant pre-approvals required by this subsection. The decisions of any member to whom authority is delegated to pre-approve an activity shall be presented to the Audit Committee at its first scheduled meeting following such pre-approval;
- (d) if the Audit Committee approves an audit service within the scope of the engagement of the external auditor, such audit service shall be deemed to have been pre-approved for purposes of this subsection;

#### VII. Oversight in Respect of Certain Policies

- (a) review and recommend to the Board for approval the implementation of, and significant amendments to, policies and program initiatives deemed advisable by management or the Audit Committee with respect to the Company's code of business ethics (COBE), risk management and financial reporting policies;
- (b) obtain reports from management, the Company's senior internal auditing executive and the external auditor and report to the Board on the status and adequacy of the Company's efforts to ensure its businesses are conducted and its facilities are operated in an ethical, legally compliant and socially responsible manner, in accordance with the Company's COBE;
- (c) establish a non-traceable, confidential and anonymous system by which callers may ask for advice or report any ethical or financial concern, ensure that procedures for the receipt, retention and treatment of complaints in respect of accounting, internal controls and auditing matters are in place, and receive reports on such matters as necessary;
- (d) annually review and assess the adequacy of the Company's public disclosure policy;
- (e) review and approve the Company's hiring policy for partners, employees and former partners and employees of the present and former external auditor (recognizing the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 does not permit the CEO, controller, CFO or chief accounting officer to have participated in the Company's audit as an employee of the external auditor

during the preceding one-year period) and monitor the Company's adherence to the policy;

# VIII. Oversight in Respect of Financial Aspects of the Company's Canadian Pension Plans (the Company's pension plans), specifically:

- (a) review and approve as needed the Statement of Investment Beliefs for the Company's pension plans;
- (b) delegate the ongoing administration and management of the financial aspects of the Canadian pension plans to the Pension Committee comprised of members of the Company's management team appointed by the Human Resources Committee, in accordance with the Pension Committee Charter, which terms shall be approved by both the Audit Committee and the Human Resources Committee, and the terms of the Statement of Investment Beliefs;
- (c) monitor the financial management activities of the Pension Committee and receive updates at least annually from the Pension Committee on the investment of the Plan assets to ensure compliance with the Statement of Investment Beliefs;
- (d) provide advice to the Human Resources Committee on any proposed changes in the Company's pension plans in respect of any significant effect such changes may have on pension financial matters;
- (e) review and consider financial and investment reports and the funded status relating to the Company's pension plans and recommend to the Board on pension contributions;
- (f) receive, review and report to the Board on the actuarial valuation and funding requirements for the Company's pension plans;
- (g) approve the initial selection or change of actuary for the Company's pension plans;
- (h) approve the appointment or termination of the pension plans' auditor;

#### IX. U.S. Stock Plans

(a) review and approve the engagement and related fees of the auditor for any plan of a U.S. subsidiary that offers Company stock to employees as an investment option under the plan;

#### X. Oversight in Respect of Internal Administration

- (a) review annually the reports of the Company's representatives on certain audit committees of subsidiaries and affiliates of the Company and any significant issues and auditor recommendations concerning such subsidiaries and affiliates;
- (b) oversee succession planning for the senior management in finance, treasury, tax, risk, internal audit and the controllers' group;

#### XI. Information Security

(a) review quarterly, the report of the Chief Information Officer (or such other appropriate Company representative) on information security controls, education and awareness.

## XII. Oversight Function

While the Audit Committee has the responsibilities and powers set forth in this Charter, it is not the duty of the Audit Committee to plan or conduct audits or to determine that the Company's financial statements and disclosures are complete and accurate or are in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles and applicable rules and regulations. These are the responsibilities of management and the external auditor. The Audit Committee, its Chair and any of its members who have accounting or related financial management experience or expertise, are members of the Board, appointed to the Audit Committee to provide broad oversight of the financial disclosure, financial risk and control related activities of the Company, and are specifically not accountable nor responsible for the day to day operation of such activities. Although designation of a member or members as an "audit committee financial expert" is based on that individual's education and experience, which that individual will bring to bear in carrying out his or her duties on the Audit Committee, designation as an "audit committee financial expert" does not impose on such person any duties, obligations or liability that are greater than the duties, obligations and liability imposed on such person as a member of the Audit Committee and Board in the absence of such designation. Rather, the role of any audit committee financial expert, like the role of all Audit Committee members, is to oversee the process and not to certify or guarantee the internal or external audit of the Company's financial information or public disclosure.

#### 3. Composition of Audit Committee

The Audit Committee shall consist of three or more directors, a majority of whom are resident Canadians (as defined in the Canada Business Corporations Act), and all of whom are unrelated and/or independent for the purposes of applicable Canadian and United States securities law and applicable rules of any stock exchange on which the Company's securities are listed. Each member of the Audit Committee shall be financially literate and at least one member shall have accounting or related financial management expertise (as those terms are defined from time to time under the requirements or guidelines for audit committee service under securities laws and the applicable rules of any stock exchange on which the Company's securities are listed for trading or, if it is not so defined, as that term is interpreted by the Board in its business judgment).

# 4. Appointment of Audit Committee Members

The members of the Audit Committee shall be appointed by the Board from time to time on the recommendation of the Governance Committee and shall hold office until the next annual meeting of shareholders or until their successors are earlier appointed or until they cease to be directors of the Company.

### 5. <u>Vacancies</u>

Where a vacancy occurs at any time in the membership of the Audit Committee, it may be filled by the Board on the recommendation of the Governance Committee.

#### 6. Audit Committee Chair

The Board shall appoint a Chair of the Audit Committee who shall:

(a) review and approve the agenda for each meeting of the Audit Committee and, as appropriate, consult with members of management;

- (b) preside over meetings of the Audit Committee;
- (c) make suggestions and provide feedback from the Audit Committee to management regarding information that is or should be provided to the Audit Committee;
- (d) report to the Board on the activities of the Audit Committee relative to its recommendations, resolutions, actions and concerns; and
- (e) meet as necessary with the internal and external auditor.

# 7. Absence of Audit Committee Chair

If the Chair of the Audit Committee is not present at any meeting of the Audit Committee, one of the other members of the Audit Committee present at the meeting shall be chosen by the Audit Committee to preside at the meeting.

#### 8. <u>Secretary of Audit Committee</u>

The Corporate Secretary shall act as Secretary to the Audit Committee.

## 9. Meetings

The Chair, or any two members of the Audit Committee, or the internal auditor, or the external auditor, may call a meeting of the Audit Committee. The Audit Committee shall meet at least quarterly. The Audit Committee shall meet periodically with management, the internal auditor and the external auditor in separate executive sessions.

#### 10. Quorum

A majority of the members of the Audit Committee, present in person or by telephone or other telecommunication device that permit all persons participating in the meeting to speak to each other, shall constitute a quorum.

## 11. Notice of Meetings

Notice of the time and place of every meeting shall be given in writing, facsimile communication or by other electronic means to each member of the Audit Committee at least 24 hours prior to the time fixed for such meeting; provided, however, that a member may in any manner waive a notice of a meeting. Attendance of a member at a meeting is a waiver of notice of the meeting, except where a member attends a meeting for the express purpose of objecting to the transaction of any business on the grounds that the meeting is not lawfully called.

# 12. Attendance of Company Officers and Employees at Meeting

At the invitation of the Chair of the Audit Committee, one or more officers or employees of the Company may attend any meeting of the Audit Committee.

### 13. Procedure, Records and Reporting

The Audit Committee shall fix its own procedure at meetings, keep records of its proceedings and report to the Board when the Audit Committee may deem appropriate but not later than the next

meeting of the Board.

## 14. Review of Charter and Evaluation of Audit Committee

The Audit Committee shall review its Charter annually or otherwise, as it deems appropriate and, if necessary, propose changes to the Governance Committee and the Board. The Audit Committee shall annually review the Audit Committee's own performance.

# 15. Outside Experts and Advisors

The Audit Committee is authorized, when deemed necessary or desirable, to retain and set and pay the compensation for independent counsel, outside experts and other advisors, at the Company's expense, to advise the Audit Committee or its members independently on any matter.

### 16. Reliance

Absent actual knowledge to the contrary (which shall be promptly reported to the Board), each member of the Audit Committee shall be entitled to rely on (i) the integrity of those persons or organizations within and outside the Company from which it receives information, (ii) the accuracy of the financial and other information provided to the Audit Committee by such persons or organizations and (iii) representations made by management and the external auditor, as to any information technology, internal audit and other non-audit services provided by the external auditor to the Company and its subsidiaries.