# WESTERN ATLAS RESOURCES INC. 1700 – 666 Burrard Street Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada V6C 2X8 Phone: (604) 256-4777

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

AND

**INFORMATION CIRCULAR** 

(As at April 4, 2024 except as indicated)

Neither the TSX Venture Exchange Inc. nor any securities regulatory authority has in any way passed upon the merits of the transaction described in this information circular.

#### WESTERN ATLAS RESOURCES INC.

#### NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Annual General Meeting (the "**Meeting**") of the holders of the common shares (collectively, the "**Shareholders**" or individually, a "**Shareholder**") of Western Atlas Resources Inc. (the "**Company**") will be held at Crowe MacKay, LLP, 1100 – 1177 West Hastings Street, Vancouver, British Columbia, V6E 4T5 on Monday, May 6, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. (Pacific Daylight Time) for the following purposes:

- 1. To receive the audited financial statements of the Company for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2022, together with the auditor's report thereon;
- 2. To set the number of the Company's directors at four (4);
- 3. To elect the board of directors of the Company until the next Annual General Meeting of Shareholders;
- 4. To reappoint Crowe MacKay as the auditor of the Company to hold office until the close of the next annual general meeting of shareholders of the Company, and to authorize the directors of the Company to fix the auditor's remuneration:
- 5. To reapprove and ratify the Company's 10% rolling Stock Option Plan;
- 6. To transact such other business as may properly be brought before the Meeting or any adjournment or adjournments thereof.

Accompanying this Notice of the Annual General Meeting of Shareholders is an information circular, a form of proxy for registered Shareholders, and a voting instruction form for beneficial Shareholders. The information circular provides information relating to the matters to be addressed at the Meeting. Any adjourned or postponed meeting resulting from an adjournment or postponement of the Meeting will be held at a time and place to be specified either by the Company before the meeting or at the discretion of the chair at the Meeting.

A Shareholder wishing to be represented by proxy at the Meeting or any adjournment thereof must deposit his, her or its duly executed form of proxy with the Company's transfer agent and registrar, Computershare, Proxy Department, PO Box 4588, Station A, Toronto, Ontario, M5W 4X1 on or before 10:00 am, Pacific Standard Time, Thursday, May 2, 2024 or deliver it to the chairman of the Meeting on the day of the Meeting or any adjournment thereof prior to the time of voting.

Shareholders who are unable to be present personally at the Meeting are urged to sign, date and return the enclosed form of proxy in the envelope provided for that purpose. If you plan to be present personally at the Meeting, you are requested to bring the enclosed form of proxy for identification. The record date for the determination of those Shareholders entitled to receive the Notice of Annual General Meeting of Shareholders and to vote at the Meeting is the close of business on March 27, 2024.

Dated at Vancouver, British Columbia this 4th day of April, 2024.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD

(signed) "Fabio Capponi"

Fabio Capponi Chief Executive Officer and Director

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#### **GENERAL PROXY INFORMATION**

Western Atlas Resources Inc. ("Western Atlas", the "Company") is providing this Information Circular and a form of proxy (the "Proxy") in connection with management's solicitation of proxies for use at the annual general meeting (the "Meeting") of shareholders of the Company ("Shareholders") to be held on Monday, May 6, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. (Vancouver time), and at any adjournments. The Company will conduct its solicitation by mail and officers and employees of the Company may, without receiving special compensation, also telephone or make other personal contact. The Company will pay the cost of solicitation.

# **Appointment of Proxyholders**

The purpose of a proxy is to designate persons who will vote the proxy on a Shareholder's behalf in accordance with the instructions given by the Shareholder in the proxy. The persons whose names are printed in the enclosed form of proxy are officers or directors of the Company (the "Management Proxyholders").

A Shareholder has the right to appoint a person or company other than a Management Proxyholder, to represent the Shareholder at the Meeting by striking out the names of the Management Proxyholders and by inserting the desired person's name in the blank space provided or by executing a proxy in a form similar to the enclosed form. A proxyholder need not be a Shareholder.

## **Proxy Instructions**

Only registered Shareholders whose names appear on the records of the Company as registered holders of shares or duly appointed proxyholders are permitted to vote at the Meeting. Common Shares represented by a properly executed proxy will be voted or be withheld from voting on each matter referred to in the Notice of Meeting in accordance with the instructions of the Shareholder on any ballot that may be called for and if the Shareholder specifies a choice with respect to any matter to be acted upon, the shares will be voted accordingly.

If a registered Shareholder does not specify a choice and the registered Shareholder has appointed one of the Management Proxyholders as proxyholder, the Management Proxyholder will vote in favour of the matters specified in the Notice of Meeting and in favour of all other matters proposed by management at the Meeting.

The enclosed form of proxy also gives discretionary authority to the person named therein as proxyholder with respect to amendments or variations to matters identified in the Notice of the Meeting and with respect to other matters which may properly come before the Meeting. At the date of this Information Circular, management of the Company knows of no such amendments, variations, or other matters to come before the Meeting.

# **Completion and Return of Proxy**

Completed forms of proxy must be deposited at the office of the Company's registrar and transfer agent, Computershare, Proxy Department, PO Box 4588, Station A, Toronto, Ontario M5W 4X1 (Fax: within North America: 1-866-249-7775; outside North America: 1-416-263-9524), on or before 10:00 am Pacific Standard Time Thursday May 2, 2024, unless the chairman of the Meeting elects to exercise his discretion to accept proxies received subsequently.

# **Non-Registered Holders**

Only registered Shareholders whose names appear on the records of the Company as the registered holders of shares or duly appointed proxyholders are permitted to vote at the Meeting. Most Shareholders of the Company are "non-registered" Shareholders because the shares they own are

not registered in their names but are instead registered in the name of a nominee such as a brokerage firm through which they purchased the shares; a bank, trust company, trustee or administrator of self-administered RRSPs, RRIFs, RESPs and similar plans; or a clearing agency such as The Canadian Depository for Securities Limited (a "**Nominee**"). If you purchased your shares through a broker, you are likely a non-registered holder.

In accordance with securities regulatory policy, the Company has distributed copies of the Notice of Meeting, this Information Circular, and the Proxy (the "**Meeting Materials**"), to the Nominees for distribution to non-registered holders.

Nominees are required to forward the Meeting Materials to non-registered holders to seek their voting instructions in advance of the Meeting. Common Shares held by Nominees can only be voted in accordance with the instructions of the non-registered holder. The Nominees often have their own form of proxy, mailing procedures and provide their own return instructions. If you wish to vote by proxy, you should carefully follow the instructions from the Nominee, in order that your shares are voted at the Meeting.

If you, as a non-registered holder, wish to vote at the Meeting in person, you should appoint yourself as proxyholder by writing your name in the space provided on the request for voting instructions or proxy provided by the Nominee and return the form to the Nominee in the envelope provided. Do not complete the voting section of the form, as your vote will be taken at the Meeting.

The Company is sending proxy-related materials directly to non-objecting beneficial owners under NI 54-101 – *Communication with Beneficial Owners of Securities of a Reporting Issuer* ("NI 54-101"). As a result, non-objecting beneficial owners ("NOBOs") can expect to receive a scannable Voting Instruction Form ("VIF") from our transfer agent, Computershare Trust Company of Canada ("Computershare"). The VIF is to be completed and returned to Computershare as set out in the instructions provided on the VIF. Computershare will tabulate the results of the VIFs received from NOBOs and will provide appropriate instructions at the Meeting with respect to the shares represented by the VIFs they receive.

These Meeting Materials are being sent to both registered and non-registered Shareholders of the Company. If you are a non-registered Shareholder, and the Company or its agent has sent these materials directly to you, your name, address and information about your holdings of securities, were obtained in accordance with applicable securities regulatory requirements from the intermediary holding common shares of the Company ("Common Shares") on your behalf.

By choosing to send these materials to you directly, the Company (and not the intermediary holding securities on your behalf) has assumed responsibility for (i) delivering these materials to you, and (ii) executing your proper voting instructions. Please return your VIF as specified in the request for voting instructions that was sent to you.

## **Revocability of Proxy**

Any registered Shareholder who has returned a proxy may revoke it at any time before it has been exercised. In addition to revocation in any other manner permitted by law, a registered Shareholder, their attorney authorized in writing or, if the registered Shareholder is a corporation, a corporation under its corporate seal or by an officer or attorney thereof duly authorized, may revoke a proxy by instrument in writing, including a proxy bearing a later date. The instrument revoking the proxy must be deposited at the offices of the Company's transfer agent, Computershare Trust Company of Canada, at any time up to and including the last business day preceding the date of the Meeting, or any adjournment thereof, or with the chairman of the Meeting on the day of the Meeting. Only registered Shareholders have the right to revoke a proxy. Non-registered holders may revoke a proxy or voting instruction form which has been given to a Nominee by written notice to the Nominee. In order to ensure that a Nominee acts upon a revocation of proxy form or voting instruction form, the written notice should be received by the Nominee well in advance of the Meeting or any adjournment thereof.

#### INTEREST OF CERTAIN PERSONS OR COMPANIES IN MATTERS TO BE ACTED UPON

No person who has been a director or executive officer of the Company at any time since the beginning of the Company's last financial year, no proposed nominee of management of the Company for election as a director of the Company and no associate or affiliate of the foregoing persons, has any material interest, direct or indirect, by way of beneficial ownership or otherwise, in matters to be acted upon at the Meeting other than the election of directors.

## **VOTING SECURITIES AND PRINCIPAL HOLDERS OF VOTING SECURITIES**

The Company is authorized to issue an unlimited number of Common Shares without nominal or par value, of which 117,853,398 Common Shares were issued and outstanding as of March 27, 2024 (the "**Record Date**"). Only persons who are registered Shareholders at the close of business on the Record Date will be entitled to receive notice of and vote at the Meeting or any adjournment thereof and will be entitled to one vote for each share held.

To the knowledge of the directors and executive officers of the Company, as at the date of this Information Circular, the only persons or companies who beneficially own, directly or indirectly, or control or direct shares carrying 10% or more of the voting rights attached to all outstanding shares of the Company are as follows:

	Number of Shares Owned				
	(Percentage of Class and Type of Ownership)				
Name	Common Shares	Percentage of Voting Rights			
Fabio Capponi	16,109,253	13.7%			
Aris Mining Corporation	29,910,588	25.4%			

## **VOTES NECESSARY TO PASS RESOLUTIONS**

A simple majority of affirmative votes cast at the Meeting is required to pass the resolutions described herein.

If there are more nominees for election as directors or appointment of the Company's auditor than there are vacancies to fill, those nominees receiving the greatest number of votes will be elected or appointed until all such vacancies have been filled. If the number of nominees for election or appointment is equal to the number of vacancies to be filled all such nominees will be declared elected or appointed by acclamation.

#### STATEMENT OF EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

#### **Named Executive Officers**

In this section, "Named Executive Officer" or "NEO" means (a) each individual who acted as Chief Executive Officer ("CEO") during any part of the most recently completed financial year, (b) each individual who acted as Chief Financial Officer ("CFO") during any part of the most recently completed financial year, (c) the most highly compensated executive officers, or the most highly compensated individuals acting in a similar capacity, other than the CEO and CFO, at the end of the most recently completed financial year whose total compensation was, individually, more than \$150,000; and (d) each individual who would be

an NEO under (c) but for the fact that the individual was neither an executive officer of the Company, nor acting in a similar capacity, at the end of that financial year.

The Company presently has two Named Executive Officers, namely Fabio Capponi, the CEO, and Susan Rubin, the CFO.

## **Compensation Discussion & Analysis**

Through its executive compensation practices, the Company seeks to provide value to its Shareholders through a strong executive leadership. Specifically, the Company's executive compensation structure seeks to attract and retain talented and experienced executives necessary to achieve the Company's strategic objectives, motivate and reward executives whose knowledge, skills and performance are critical to the Company's success, and align the interests of the Company's executives and Shareholders by motivating executives to increase Shareholder value.

Compensation to Named Executive Officers consists of fixed salary and benefits, annual short-term incentive plans and long-term incentive awards including option-based compensation. In determining executive compensation, the Company relies on the experience and knowledge of the Board of Directors in terms of determining appropriate compensation for executive officers.

The Board of Directors has not conducted a formal evaluation of the implications of the risks associated with the Company's compensation policies. Risk management is a consideration of the Board of Directors when implementing its compensation policies and the Board of Directors do not believe that the Company's compensation policies result in unnecessary or inappropriate risk taking including risks that are likely to have a material adverse effect on the Company.

The Compensation and Corporate Governance Committee are responsible for ensuring that an appropriate plan for executive compensation is in place and for making recommendations to the Board with respect to the compensation of the Company's executive officers. The Board ensures that the total compensation paid to all Named Executive Officers is fair and reasonable and is consistent with the Company's compensation philosophy. This compensation philosophy is intended to ensure that executive compensation is reflective of prevailing market rates and is designed to create incentives to executive performance to achieve the Company's strategic objectives and increase the value to Shareholders.

The Compensation and Corporate Governance Committee periodically reviews the compensation paid to the Company's Directors and executive officers and ensures that the total compensation paid to all of the Named Executive Officers is fair, reasonable and competitive with the industry and is consistent with the Company's compensation philosophy and is aligned with the Company's overall business objectives and with Shareholders' interests.

The Compensation and Corporate Governance Committee is responsible for the review and assessment of compensation arrangements for the Company's executive officers and is authorized to approve terms of employment, salaries, bonuses, option grants and other incentive arrangements for the Company's executive officers, and, where appropriate, any severance arrangements. The Compensation and Corporate Governance Committee will work in conjunction with Western Atlas' President and CEO on the review and assessment of executive officers in accordance with the Company's compensation policies and practices.

In addition to informal industry comparables from publicly available information, the Compensation and Corporate Governance Committee considers a variety of factors when determining both compensation policies and programs, and individual compensation levels. These factors include the long-range interests of the Company and its Shareholders, overall financial and operating performance of the Company and the Compensation and Corporate Governance Committee's assessment of each executive's individual performance and contribution toward meeting corporate objectives.

The Company's Compensation and Corporate Governance Committee and Board of Directors consider annually the risks associated with the Company's compensation policies and practices including such risks as the retention of qualified executive staff during an economic downturn in the market. The CEO together with the Compensation and Corporate Governance Committee, will review and discuss on an annual basis the risks and provide oversight of the Company's compensation policies and practices, and discuss with the Compensation and Corporate Governance Committee any additional practices that the Company may use to identify and mitigate compensation policies and practices that could encourage an NEO or individual at a principle business unit or division to take inappropriate or excessive risks. s part of this annual review, the President and CEO discuss with the Compensation and Corporate Governance Committee any risks arising from the Company's compensation policies and practices that are reasonably likely to have a material adverse effect on the Company.

Due to the small size of the Company and the expected level of the Company's activity, the Board of Directors and the Compensation and Corporate Governance Committee are able to closely monitor and consider any risks which may be associated with the Company's compensation policy and practices. Risks, if any, will be identified and mitigated through regular Board meetings, during which financial and other information pertaining to the Company will be reviewed, including executive compensation.

No NEO or Director is permitted by the Company to purchase financial instruments, including, but not limited to, prepaid variable forward contracts, equity swaps, collars, or units of exchange funds that are designed to hedge or offset a decrease in market value of the Company's equity securities granted as compensation or held, directly or indirectly, by the NEO or Director.

The Compensation and Corporate Governance Committee periodically review the management development and succession program and the organizational structure for management of the Company. The Compensation and Corporate Governance Committee report to the Board on the committee's functions and on the results of its reviews and any recommendations.

The members of the Compensation and Corporate Governance Committee are Jose Francisco Arata and Fabio Capponi. Jose Francisco Arata is considered independent for the purposes of NI 58-101. The Compensation and Corporate Governance Committee members have direct experience in their past executive and board positions that are relevant to their responsibilities as members of the Compensation and Corporate Governance Committee. They have been Directors or executive members of many public companies which enables the Compensation and Corporate Governance Committee to make decisions on the suitability of the Company's compensation policies and practices.

# **Executive Compensation Principles**

Compensation plays an important role in achieving short and long-term business objectives that ultimately drive business success. The Company's compensation philosophy is to foster entrepreneurship at all levels of the organization through, among other things, the granting of stock options as a significant component of executive compensation. This approach is based on the opinion of the Company and the Compensation and Corporate Governance Committee that the performance of the Company's share price over the long term is an important indicator of the Company's long term performance and the performance of its executive officers.

The Company's compensation philosophy is based on the following fundamental principles:

- Alignment with Shareholder interests the Company believes that the goals of its executives should be aligned with the maximization of long-term Shareholder value;
- Performance sensitivity compensation paid to executive officers should be linked to the operating and market performance of the Company and fluctuate with such performance; and;
- Offer market competitive compensation to attract and retain talent the compensation program should provide market competitive pay in terms of value and structure in order to

retain, motivate and reward existing employees who are performing according to their objectives and should also serve to attract new individuals of the highest calibre.

The objectives of the compensation program in compensating all Named Executive Officers were developed based on the above-mentioned compensation philosophy and are as follows:

- to attract and retain highly qualified executive officers;
- to encourage and reward outstanding performance by those people who are in the best position to enhance the Company's near-term results and long-term prospects;
- to align the interests of executive officers with Shareholders' interests and with the execution of the Company's business strategy;
- to evaluate executive performance on the basis of key measurements of exploration management and business plan implementation that correlate to long-term Shareholder value; and
- to tie compensation directly to those measurements based on achieving and exceeding predetermined competitive compensation.

Aggregate compensation for each Named Executive Officer is designed to be competitive with the market. The Compensation and Corporate Governance Committee reviews compensation practices of similarly situated companies in determining appropriate compensation and makes its suggestions to the Board of Directors. Although the Compensation and Corporate Governance Committee reviews each element of compensation for market competitiveness and may weigh a particular element more heavily based on the Named Executive Officer's role within the Company, it is primarily focused on remaining competitive in the market with respect to total compensation.

The Board of the Company reviews data related to compensation levels and programs of various companies that are similar in size to the Company and operate within the mining exploration and development industry, prior to making its decisions.

Base salaries for each calendar year are determined in the fourth quarter of the fiscal year and any incentive awards, which will be based on a financial year, are also determined in the fourth quarter of each year. In the event that a decision is made by the Compensation and Corporate Governance Committee to consider an increase in the compensation of any Named Executive Officer, the Compensation and Corporate Governance Committee will conduct a review of the compensation programs of peer group companies, in order to:

- understand the competitiveness of the Company's current pay levels for each executive position relative to companies with similar revenues and business characteristics;
- identify and understand any gaps that may exist between the Company's actual compensation levels and market compensation levels; and
- establish a basis for developing salary adjustments and short-term and long-term incentive awards for Board approval.

# Aligning the Interests of the Named Executive Officers with the Interests of the Company's Shareholders

The Company believes that transparent, objective and easily verified corporate goals, combined with individual performance goals, play an important role in creating and maintaining an effective compensation strategy for the Named Executive Officers. The Company's objective is to establish benchmarks and targets for its Named Executive Officers which, if achieved, will enhance Shareholder value. These

benchmarks relate to completion of exploration programs on the basis of pre-established budgets and exploration success, as well as completion of equity financings on terms beneficial to the Company. In addition, the compensation strategy will take into consideration the Company's current state of development and performance, the individual's performance and the Company's overall financial status.

The Compensation and Corporate Governance Committee will review annually key corporate performance indicators such as finance and project advancement but will not set specific performance goals for each NEO. The Company is an exploration stage mining company and will not be generating revenues from operations for a significant period of time. As a result, the use of traditional performance standards, such as corporate profitability and earnings per share, are not relevant in the evaluation of NEO performance. Instead, the Compensation and Corporate Governance Committee will take into account the stage of development of the Company and available capital, as well as the particular officer's level of responsibility, duties, amount of time dedicated to the affairs of the Company and contribution to the Company's long term success. No specific formulas will be developed to assign a specific weighting to each of these components. Instead, the Compensation and Corporate Governance Committee will consider the Company's performance and determine compensation based on the total assessment.

A combination of fixed and variable compensation is used to motivate the Company's executives to achieve overall corporate goals. The three basic components of the Company's executive compensation program are:

- fixed salary and benefits;
- annual short-term incentive plan (cash bonus); and
- long-term incentive awards (option-based compensation).

Fixed salary and benefits comprise a portion of the total cash-based compensation; however, annual incentives and option-based compensation represents compensation that is "at risk" and thus may or may not be paid to the respective executive officer depending on: (i) whether the executive officer is able to meet or exceed his or her applicable performance targets; and (ii) success in financing the Company and market performance of the Company's Common Shares. It is not expected that any specific formulae will be developed to assign a specific weighting to each of these components. Instead, the Compensation and Corporate Governance Committee considers each performance target and the Company's performance and assign compensation based on this assessment.

Each element of the total targeted compensation is reviewed on an annual basis by the Compensation Committee for each Named Executive Officer, to ensure that the incentives are designed and implemented to align compensation with short-term and long-term key corporate objectives and performance by the relevant Named Executive Officer.

# Fixed Salary and Benefits

The Company also provides various employee benefit programs to key employees, including medical, health insurance, dental insurance, and life insurance.

## Annual Incentive Plan

The Company's annual incentive plan is intended to provide incentives to enhance the growth and development of the Company's employees and motivate such employees to maintain high standards of individual performance with the objective of achieving the goals of the Company. Awards under the Company's annual incentive plan will be made by way of cash bonuses, which are approved by the Compensation Committee and the Board of Directors at its discretion, in accordance with the Company's compensation policies and practices which is structured to reward the results of the most recently completed financial year.

The success of Named Executive Officers in achieving their individual objectives and their contribution to the Company in reaching its overall goals are factors in the determination of their annual bonus. The Board will assess each Named Executive Officer's performance on the basis of his or her respective contribution to the achievement of the predetermined corporate objectives, as well as to the needs of the Company that arise on a day to day basis. This assessment is also used by the Board with respect to the determination of annual bonuses for the Named Executive Officers.

## Compensation and Measurements of Performance

Each Named Executive Officer receives a partial or full incentive payment depending on the number of the predetermined targets met and the Board's assessment of overall performance. The determination as to whether a target has been met is ultimately made by the Board and it reserves the right to make positive or negative adjustments to any bonus payment if it considers an adjustment to be appropriate.

## Long Term Incentive Awards

The Company's long term incentive awards consist of stock options granted pursuant to the Company's Stock Option Plan in the last quarter of each year and Restricted Share Units, Performance Share Units and Deferred Share Units granted pursuant to the Company's Long Term Incentive Plan (LTIP). The Compensation Committee believes that granting stock options, Restricted Share Units (RSU), Performance Share Units (PSU) and Deferred Share Units (DSU) to executive officers and Directors aligns the interests of the executive officers and Directors with the Company's Shareholders by linking a component of executive compensation to the longer term performance of the Company's Common Shares. The Company emphasizes stock options in executive compensation as they allow the NEOs to share in the Company's results in a manner that is relatively cost effective despite the effects of treating stock options as a compensation expense. The Compensation Committee provides recommendations to the Board with respect to option grants to NEOs.

When considering the grant of stock options to the Company's executive officers, the Compensation and Governance Committee take into account the level of stock options granted by comparable companies to executives with similar levels of responsibility and considers each executive officer based on reports received from management, its own observations on individual performance (where possible) and its assessment of individual contribution to Shareholder value and the individual performance objectives set for the executive officer. The scale of options is generally commensurate to the appropriate level of base compensation for each level of responsibility. In order to determine the number of options to grant to an executive officer, the Compensation and Governance Committee and the Board of Directors also consider a number of additional factors, including position and length of service, recommendations by senior executive officers and previous grants of options to the executive officer.

In addition to determining the number of options, RSU, PSU and DSU to be granted pursuant to the methodology outlined above, the Compensation and Governance Committee also makes the following determinations:

- the executive officers and Directors who are entitled to participate in the stock option plan and LTIP:
- the exercise price for each stock option granted, subject to the provision that the exercise price cannot be lower than the market price on the date of grant;
- the date on which each option, RSU, PSU and/or DSU is granted;
- the vesting period for each stock option, RSU, PSU and/or DSU; and
- the other material terms and conditions of each stock option, RSU, PSU and/or DSU grant.

The Compensation and Governance Committee make these determinations subject to and in accordance with the provisions of the Company Stock Option Plan and LTIP. Generally, once each year, or more often

as may be deemed appropriate, the Board of Directors meet to review the recommendations of the Compensation and Governance Committee and consider and, if appropriate, approve a grant of options, RSU, PSU and/or DSU to those employees eligible for consideration for options under the terms of the Company's overall compensation plan.

## **Summary of Director and Named Executive Officer Compensation**

The following table contains information about the compensation paid to, or earned by, the Named Executive Officers and Directors during the financial years ended December 31, 2022, December 31, 2021, and December 31, 2020:

Name	Year	Salary,	Bonus	Committee	Value of	Value of all	Total
and position		consulting fee, retainer or commission (\$)	(\$)	or meeting fees (\$)	perquisites (\$)	other compensation (\$)	compensation (\$)
Fabio Capponi	2022	168,000	Nil	Nil	Nil	4,918	172,918
President, CEO	2021	181,000	Nil	Nil	Nil	4,847	185,847
& Director	2020	175,000	Nil	Nil	Nil	4,510	179,510
Susan Rubin CFO & Corporate Secretary	2022 2021 2020	112,800 119,800 122,900	Nil Nil Nil	Nil Nil Nil	Nil Nil Nil	3,680 3,640 3,397	116,480 123,440 126,297
Jose Francisco	2022	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Arata	2021	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
<i>Director</i>	2020	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Stephen	2022	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Wilkinson (1)	2021	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Director	2020	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Serafino Iacono Chairman <sup>(2)</sup>	2022 2021 2020	Nil Nil Nil	Nil Nil Nil	Nil Nil Nil	Nil Nil Nil	Nil Nil Nil	Nil Nil Nil
Miguel de la	2022	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Campa <sup>(3)</sup>	2021	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Director	2020	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Lombardo	2022	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Paredes <sup>(4)</sup>	2021	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Director	2020	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

- (1) Became a director of the Company on May 2. 2023
- (2) Ceased to be a director of the Company January 17, 2023
- (3) Ceased to be a director of the Company April 30, 2023
- (4) Became a director of the Company January 10, 2020 and ceased to be a director of the Company February 9, 2023

## Stock options and other compensation securities

The following two tables set forth details of all stock options and other compensation securities awarded to each Named Executive Officer and Director and exercised during the financial year ended December 31, 2022:

	Compensation Securities							
Name and position	Type of compensation security	Number of compensation securities, number of underlying securities, and percentage of class	Date of issue or grant	Issue, conversion or exercise price (\$)	Closing price of security or underlying security on date of grant (\$)	Closing price of security or underlying security at year end (\$)	Expiry date	
Fabio Capponi President, CEO & Director	Options	500,000	January 28, 2022	\$0.085	\$0.07	\$0.04	January 28, 2024	
	Options	400,000	December 15, 2022	\$0.05	\$0.04	\$0.04	December 15, 2024	
Jose Francisco	Options	500,000	January 28, 2022	\$0.085	\$0.07	\$0.04	January 28, 2024	
Arata	Options	400,000	December 15, 2022	\$0.05	\$0.04	\$0.04	December 15, 2024	
Director	RSUs	300,000	February 1, 2022	\$0.07	\$0.065	\$0.04	NA	
Stephen Wilkinson <sup>(1)</sup> Director	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	
Serafino Iacono (2) Chairman	Options	500,000	January 28, 2022	\$0.085	\$0.07	\$0.04	January 28, 2024	
	Options	500,000	December 15, 2022	\$0.05	\$0.04	\$0.04	December 15, 2024	
	RSUs	300,000	February 1, 2022	\$0.07	\$0.065	\$0.04	NA	
Miguel de la	Options	500,000	January 28, 2022	\$0.085	\$0.07	\$0.04	January 28, 2024	
Campa <sup>(3)</sup>	Options	400,000	December 15, 2022	\$0.05	\$0.04	\$0.04	December 15, 2024	
Director	RSUs	300,000	February 1, 2022	\$0.07	\$0.065	\$0.04	NA	
Lombardo	Options	500,000	January 28, 2022	\$0.085	\$0.07	\$0.04	January 28, 2024	
Paredes <sup>(4)</sup>	Options	400,000	December 15, 2022	\$0.05	\$0.04	\$0.04	December 15, 2024	
<i>Director</i>	RSUs	300,000	February 1, 2022	\$0.07	\$0.065	\$0.04	NA	
Susan Rubin CFO & Corporate Secretary	Options Options	150,000 300,000	January 28, 2022 December 15, 2022	\$0.085 \$0.05	\$0.07 \$0.04	\$0.04 \$0.04	January 28, 2024 December 15, 2024	

- Became a director of the Company on May 2. 2023
   Ceased to be a director of the Company January 17, 2023 at which time his options expired
   Ceased to be a director of the Company April 30, 2023 at which time his options expired
- (4) Became a director of the Company January 10, 2020 and ceased to be a director of the Company February 9, 2023 at which time his options expired

Exercise of Compensation Securities by Directors and NEOs							
Name and position	Type of compensation security	Number of underlying securities exercised	Exercise price per security (\$)	Date of exercise	Closing price per security on date of exercise (\$)	Difference between exercise price and closing price on date of exercise (\$)	Total value on exercise date (\$)
Fabio Capponi President, CEO & Director	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Jose Francisco Arata Director	RSUs	300,000	Nil	February 1, 2022	\$0.065	Nil	\$21,000
Stephen Wilkinson <sup>(1)</sup> Director	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Serafino Iacono (2) Chairman	RSUs	300,000	Nil	February 1, 2022	\$0.065	Nil	\$21,000
Miguel de la Campa (3) Director	RSUs	300,000	Nil	February 1, 2022	\$0.065	Nil	\$21,000
Lombardo Paredes (4) Director	RSUs	300,000	Nil	February 1, 2022	\$0.065	Nil	\$21,000
Susan Rubin CFO & Corporate Secretary	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

- (1) Became a director of the Company on May 2. 2023
- (2) Ceased to be a director of the Company January 17, 2023
- (3) Ceased to be a director of the Company April 30, 2023
- (4) Became a director of the Company January 10, 2020 and ceased to be a director of the Company February 9, 2023

#### **Narrative Discussion**

#### Stock Option Plan

The Company's stock option plan (the "**Stock Option Plan**") was last approved by the Company's Shareholders at its annual general meeting on January 6, 2023. Under the Stock Option Plan, the Board is authorized to grant incentive stock options to certain directors, senior officers, employees and consultants of the Company entitling them to purchase Common Shares. The purpose of the Stock Option Plan is to attract and retain employees, consultants, officers or directors to the Company and to motivate them to advance the interests of the Company by affording them with the opportunity to acquire an equity interest in the Company through options granted under the Stock Option Plan to purchase shares.

The Compensation and Corporate Governance Committee periodically reviews (such review to be performed at least annually) the status of the Company's equity incentive plans and is responsible for providing any proposals and recommendations to the Board concerning the setting and amendment of any equity incentive plan and individual grants, such as stock option grants, under any equity incentive plan. When proposing new stock option grants to directors, officers and consultants, the Compensation and Corporate Governance Committee takes into consideration previous grants made as well as the number of shares reserved for issuance under the Stock Option Plan.

Some of the key provisions of the Stock Option Plan are as follows:

- (a) the Stock Option Plan reserves, for issuance pursuant to the exercise of stock options, a maximum number of Common Shares of the Company equal to up to a maximum of 10% of the issued Common Shares of the Company at the time of any stock option grant;
- (b) an Optionee must either be an Eligible Charitable Organization or a Director (which term includes a senior officer), Employee or Consultant of the Company at the time the option is granted in order to be eligible for the grant of a stock option to the optionee;
- (c) the aggregate number of options granted to any one Person (and companies wholly owned by that Person) in a 12 month period must not exceed 5% of the issued Common Shares of the Company calculated on the date an option is granted to the Person (unless the Company has obtained the requisite Disinterested Shareholder Approval);
- (d) the aggregate number of options granted to any one Consultant in a 12 month period must not exceed 2% of the issued Common Shares of the Company, calculated at the date an option is granted to the Consultant;
- (e) the aggregate number of options granted to all Persons retained to provide Investor Relations Activities must not exceed 2% of the issued Common Shares of the Company in any 12 month period, calculated at the date an option is granted to any such Person;
- (f) options issued to Persons retained to provide Investor Relations Activities must vest in stages over a period of not less than 12 months with no more than 1/4 of the options vesting in any 3 month period;
- (g) the minimum exercise price per Common Share of a stock option must not be less than the Market Price of the Common Shares of the Company, subject to a minimum exercise price of \$0.05;

- (h) options can be exercisable for a maximum of 10 years from the date of grant —subject to extension where the expiry date falls within a "blackout period" (see (o) below);
- (i) stock options (other than options held by a person involved in investor relations activities) will cease to be exercisable 90 days after the optionee ceases to be a Director (which term includes a senior officer), Employee, Consultant, Eligible Charitable Organization or Management Company Employee otherwise than by death, or for a "reasonable period" after the optionee ceases to serve in such capacity, as determined by the Board of Directors of the Company. Stock options granted to persons involved in Investor Relations Activities will cease to be exercisable 30 days after the optionee ceases to serve in such capacity otherwise than by death, or for a "reasonable period" after the optionee ceases to serve in such capacity, as determined by the Board of Directors of the Company;
- (j) all options are non-assignable and non-transferable;
- (k) Disinterested Shareholder Approval will be obtained for any reduction in the exercise price of a stock option if the optionee is an Insider of the Company at the time of the proposed amendment;
- (I) the Stock Option Plan contains provisions for adjustment in the number of Common Shares or other property issuable on exercise of a stock option in the event of a share consolidation, split, reclassification or other capital reorganization, or a stock dividend, amalgamation, merger or other relevant corporate transaction, or any other relevant change in or event affecting the Common Shares;
- (m) upon the occurrence of an Accelerated Vesting Event (as defined in the Stock Option Plan), the Board will have the power, at its sole discretion and without being required to obtain the approval of Shareholders or the holder of any stock option, to make such changes to the terms of stock options as it considers fair and appropriate in the circumstances, including but not limited to: (a) accelerating the vesting of stock options, conditionally or unconditionally; (b) terminating every stock option if under the transaction giving rise to the Accelerated Vesting Event, options in replacement of the stock options are proposed to be granted to or exchanged with the holders of stock options, which replacement options treat the holders of stock options in a manner which the Board considers fair and appropriate in the circumstances having regard to the treatment of holders of Common Shares under such transaction; (c) otherwise modifying the terms of any stock option to assist the holder to tender into any take-over bid or other transaction constituting an Accelerated Vesting Event; or (d) following the successful completion of such Accelerated Vesting Event, terminating any stock option to the extent it has not been exercised prior to successful completion of the Accelerated Vesting Event. The determination of the Board in respect of any such Accelerated Vesting Event shall for the purposes of the Stock Option Plan be final, conclusive and binding;
- (n) in connection with the exercise of an option, as a condition to such exercise the Company shall require the optionee to pay to the Company an amount as necessary so as to ensure that the Company is in compliance with the applicable provisions of any federal, provincial or local laws relating to the withholding of tax or other required deductions relating to the exercise of such option; and
- (o) an option will be automatically extended past its expiry date if such expiry date falls within a blackout period during which the Company prohibits optionees from exercising their options, subject to the following requirements: (a) the blackout period must (i) be formally imposed by the Company pursuant to its internal trading policies; and (ii) must expire upon the general disclosure of undisclosed Material Information; and (b) the automatic extension of an optionee's option will not be permitted where the optionee or the Company is subject to a cease trade order (or similar order under Securities Laws) in respect of the Company's securities.
- "Consultant", "Director", "Disinterested Shareholder Approval", "Eligible Charitable Organization", "Employee", "Investor Relations Activities", "Management Company Employee", "Market Price", "Material Information", "Person" and "Securities Laws" all have the same definition as in the policies of the TSX Venture Exchange.

# **Outstanding Options**

The following table sets out as of December 31, 2022, the number of options granted under the plan and the remaining number of securities available for grant, together with the percentage these numbers represent relative to the number of issued and outstanding Common Shares as of December 31, 2022.

Plan	Number of Outstanding options as of December 31, 2022	Common Shares issuable pursuant to outstanding unexercised options (# and % of issued and outstanding Common Shares)	Number of options remaining available for future issuance under equity compensation plans excluding securities reflected in column (a)	Number of Common Shares remaining available for future issuance upon exercise of outstanding options (# and % of issued and outstanding Common Shares)
Stock Option Plan	7,657,500	7,657,500 (6.5%)	4,097,840 (3.5%)	4,097,840 (3.5%)

#### PENSION PLAN BENEFITS

No pension or retirement benefit plans have been instituted by the Company and none are proposed at this time.

# **EMPLOYMENT, CONSULTING AND MANAGEMENT AGREEMENTS**

As at December 31, 2022, the Company had a management service agreement and an employment contract with its Named Executive Officers, Fabio Capponi (through his management company, 0852662 B.C. Ltd. ("0852662")) and Susan Rubin respectively.

#### **TERMINATION AND CHANGE OF CONTROL BENEFITS**

The Company has entered into employment and/or management services agreements with each NEO (collectively, the "Employment Agreements").

Fabio Capponi serves as the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Company, through a management services agreement between 0852662 and Western Atlas Resources dated February 1, 2018, as amended, and renewed on February 1st, 2021. Mr. Capponi is entitled to options in accordance with the Stock Option Plan and to bonuses as approved by the Board. The Company may terminate the agreement with 0852662 and Mr. Capponi, by providing 180 days written notice in the event of a change of control of Western Atlas. Upon termination of the agreement for any reason, including in the case of a change of control except just cause, 0852662 is entitled to (i) all compensation due and payable hereunder up until the date of termination; plus (ii) two (2) years of his Monthly Fees as set out in this Agreement without regard to any temporary accruals or reductions; plus (iii) the monetary value of two (2) years benefits as set out in this Agreement; plus (iv) the monetary value of his bonus paid over the preceding three (3) year period, and the Company agrees that such amounts are to be paid no later than three (3) days following the termination of this agreement.

In the event that Capponi is entitled to a payment pursuant to a change of control or is terminated, Capponi shall be entitled to have all benefit plans continued for a period of twelve (12) months after the giving of notice by the executive as required by the agreement, or the dismissal of Capponi's under the terms and pursuant to the agreement, as the case may be.

Upon termination of this Agreement by Western Atlas for any reason with the exception of just cause, Capponi will be entitled to i) all compensation due and payable hereunder up until the date of termination; plus (ii) two (2) years of his Monthly Fees as set out in this Agreement without regard to any temporary accruals or reductions; plus (iii) the monetary value of two (2) years benefits as set out in this Agreement; plus (iv) the monetary value of his bonus paid over the preceding three (3) year period (Change of Control), and WA agrees that such amounts are to be paid no later than three (3) days following termination.

Susan Rubin serves as the Chief Financial Officer of the Company. The Company entered into an employment agreement with Ms. Rubin which provides, among other things, that in addition to a base salary, Ms. Rubin is entitled to options in accordance with the Stock Option Plan and to bonuses as approved by the Board. The Company may terminate the agreement with Ms. Rubin, by providing 30 days written notice in the event of a change of control of Western Atlas. Upon termination of the agreement in the event of a change of control except just cause, Ms. Rubin is entitled to (i) all compensation due and payable hereunder up until the date of termination; plus (ii) one (1) year of her Monthly Fees as set out in this Agreement without regard to any temporary accruals or reductions; plus (iii) the monetary value of one (1) year benefits as set out in this Agreement; plus (iv) the monetary value of her bonus paid over the preceding three (3) year period, and the Company agrees that such amounts are to be paid no later than seven day (7) days following the termination of this agreement.

Upon termination of the agreement for any reason, with the exception of change of control, except just cause, Ms. Rubin is entitled to (i) all compensation due and payable hereunder up until the date of termination; plus (ii) eight (8) months of her Monthly Fees as set out in this Agreement without regard to any temporary accruals or reductions, and the Company agrees that such amounts are to be paid no later than seven day (7) days following the termination of this agreement.

#### SECURITIES AUTHORIZED FOR ISSUANCE UNDER EQUITY COMPENSATION PLANS

Plan category	Number of securities to be issued upon exercise of outstanding options	Weighted average exercise price of outstanding options	Number of securities remaining available for future issuance under equity compensation plans (excluding securities reflected in column (a))
Equity compensation plans approved by security holders	7,657,500	\$0.09	4,097,840
Equity compensation plans not approved by security holders	N/A	N/A	N/A
Total	7,657,500	\$0.09	4,097,840 (1)

<sup>(1)</sup> This figure is based on the total number of shares authorized for issuance under the Stock Option Plan, less the number of stock options outstanding as the Company's year ended December 31, 2022

The Company currently has two equity compensation plans in place – the Stock Option Plan, and the Long Term Incentive Plan (the "LTIP").

The Stock Option Plan provides for the issuance of stock options to acquire up to a maximum of 10% of the total issued and outstanding common shares in the Company's capital stock at the time of grant. As at December 31, 2022, the Company had 7,657,500 reserved for issuance under the Stock Option Plan.

The LTIP is a 10% fixed plan, permitting the issuance of up to 11,607,840 common shares in respect of awards granted thereunder, being 10% of the Company's issued and outstanding shares on January 7, 2022, the date of its approval by the Company's shareholders. This 10% fixed plan is separate from and in addition to the rolling 10% under the Stock Option Plan: stock options are not included under the LTIP. During year ended December 31, 2022, 1,400,000 common shares were awarded to Directors through the LTIP, leaving 10,207,840 available for issue.

## INDEBTEDNESS TO COMPANY OF DIRECTORS, EXECUTIVE OFFICERS AND SENIOR OFFICERS

No directors, executive officers, proposed nominees for election as directors or their respective associates or affiliates were indebted to or guaranteed or supposed by the Company pursuant to any employee stock purchase program of the Company or otherwise, during the most recently completed financial year.

#### INTEREST OF INFORMED PERSONS IN MATERIAL TRANSACTIONS

No informed person or proposed director of the Company and no associate or affiliate of the foregoing persons has or has had any material interest, direct or indirect, in any transaction since the commencement of the Company's most recently completed financial year or in any proposed transaction which in either such case has materially affected or would materially affect the Company.

#### MANAGEMENT CONTRACTS

No management functions of the Company are performed to any substantial degree by any person other than the directors or executive officers of the Company.

#### CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

National Policy 58-201 *Corporate Governance Guidelines* establishes corporate governance guidelines which apply to all public companies. The Company has reviewed its own corporate governance practices in light of these guidelines. In certain cases, the Company's practices comply with the guidelines; however, the Board considers that some of the guidelines are not suitable for the Company at its current stage of development and therefore these guidelines have not been adopted. National Instrument 58-101 *Disclosure of Corporate Governance Practices* mandates disclosure of corporate governance practices, which disclosure is set out below.

#### (a) Independence of Members of Board

As at December 31, 2022, the Company's Board consists of five directors, four of which are independent based upon the tests for independence set forth in National Instrument 52-110 *Audit Committees* ("NI 52-110"). Jose Francisco Arata, Miguel de la Campa, Lombardo Parades Arenas and Serafino Iacono are independent. Fabio Capponi is not independent as he is the President and CEO of the Company. Management Supervision by Board. During 2023, Miguel de la Campa, Lombardo Parades Arenas and Serafino Iacono resigned as Board Members, and were replaced by Stephen Wilkinson and Cesar Torresini.

The operations of the Company do not support a large board of directors and the Board had determined in 2024 that a four member Board is appropriate for the Company's current stage of development. Independent supervision of management is accomplished through choosing management who demonstrate a high level of integrity and ability and having strong independent Board members. Currently the Board consists of four directors, three of which are considered to be independent.

#### (b) Participation of Directors in Other Reporting Issuers

Currently the following directors of the Company presently hold directorships in other reporting issuers as set out below:

Name	Name of Reporting Issuer	Exchange	Position	From	То
Jose Francisco	New Stratus Energy Inc.	TSX Venture	CEO and Director	2017-05-04	present
Arata	Unigold	TSX Venture	Director	2022-05-27	present
Stephen	Portofino Resources Inc.	VSE	Director	2016–08-24	Present
Wilkinson	Westmount Minerals Corp.	CSE	Director	2022-02-22	Present

## (c) Orientation and Continuing Education

While the Company does not have formal orientation and training programs, new Board members are provided with:

- (a) information respecting the functioning of the Board, committees, and copies of the Company's corporate governance policies;
- (b) access to recent, publicly filed documents of the Company; and
- (c) access to management.

Board members are encouraged to communicate with management, auditors, and technical consultants; to keep themselves current with industry trends and developments and changes in legislation with management's assistance; and to attend related industry seminars. Board members have full access to the Company's records.

# (d) Ethical Business Conduct

The Board views good corporate governance and ethical business conduct as an integral component to the success of the Company and to meet responsibilities to its Shareholders. Due to the size of the Company and its present level of activity, the Company has not adopted a Code of Conduct or taken formal steps to encourage or promote a culture of ethical business conduct.

## (e) Nomination of Directors

The Board has responsibility for identifying potential Board candidates. The Board assesses potential Board candidates to fill perceived needs on the Board for required skills, expertise, independence, and other factors.

#### (f) Compensation of Directors and the CEO and CFO

The Compensation and Corporate Governance Committee has the responsibility for determining compensation for the directors and senior management.

To determine compensation payable, the Compensation and Corporate Governance Committee reviews compensation paid to directors, CEOs and CFOs of companies of similar size and stage of development and determine an appropriate compensation reflecting the need to provide incentive and compensation for the time and effort expended by the directors and senior management while taking into account the financial and other resources of the Company. In setting the compensation, the Compensation and Corporate Governance Committee annually reviews the performance of the CEO and CFO in light of the Company's objectives and considers other factors that may have impacted the success of the Company in achieving its objectives.

## (g) Board Committees

As the directors are actively involved in the operations of the Company, the size of the Company's operations does not warrant a larger board of directors. In addition to its Audit Committee, the Board also has a Compensation and Corporate Governance Committee.

# (h) <u>Compensation and Corporate Governance Committee</u>

The primary responsibilities of the Compensation and Corporate Governance Committee are to serve as a nominating committee for directors and officers, recommend committee structures, review director independence and compensation and assist the Board in reviewing the performance of the Board and the Chief Executive Officer.

# (i) <u>Assessments</u>

The Board annually, and at such other times as it deems appropriate, reviews the performance and effectiveness of the Board, the directors, and its committees to determine whether changes in size, personnel or responsibilities are warranted. To assist in its review, the Board conducts informal surveys of its directors, and reports from the Audit Committee respecting its own effectiveness. As part of the assessments, the Board or the committee may review their respective mandate or charter and conduct reviews of applicable corporate policies.

#### **AUDIT COMMITTEE AND RELATIONSHIP WITH AUDITOR**

#### **Audit Committee Charter**

A copy of the Company's Audit Committee Charter is attached as Schedule "A" hereto.

## **Composition of the Audit Committee**

The Audit Committee is currently comprised of three directors of the Corporation, Jose Francisco Arata, (Chairman), Stephen Wilkinson, and Cesar Torresini, all of whom are financially literate and are independent for purposes of NI 52-110. Each has extensive business experience, and each has held or currently holds executive positions that required oversight and understanding of the accounting principles underlying the preparation of the Corporation's financial statements.

The Audit Committee is mandated to monitor audit functions, the preparation of financial statements, review press releases on financial results, review other regulatory documents as required and meet with outside auditors independently of management. The Audit Committee Charter is available on the Corporation's website at www.westernar.com and is included in this Information Circular as Schedule "A".

The Audit Committee meets periodically with management and the independent auditors to ensure that each is discharging its respective responsibilities, to review the consolidated financial statements and the independent auditors' report and to discuss significant financial reporting issues and auditing matters. The external auditors have full and unrestricted access to the Audit Committee to discuss audit findings and other related matters. The Audit Committee reports its findings to the Board of Directors for consideration when approving the consolidated financial statements for issuance to the Shareholders.

## **Relevant Education and Experience**

NI 52-110 provides that an individual is "financially literate" if he or she has the ability to read and understand a set of financial statements that present a breadth and level of complexity of accounting issues that are generally comparable to the breadth and complexity of the issues that can reasonably be expected to be raised by the Company's financial statements.

All the members of the Company's audit committee are financially literate as that term is defined in NI 52-110. All members have an understanding of the accounting principles used by the Company to prepare its financial statements and understand its internal controls and procedures for financial reporting.

Mr. Arata has over 30 years of experience in financing, exploration, developing and production of mineral and hydrocarbons projects. He has been co-founding partner and board member of several companies listed on the Toronto Stock Exchange.

Mr. Wilkinson has over 40 years of experience acting as President of numerous resource companies and investment funds.

Mr. Torresini has over 30 years of experience in gold projects and mining operations.

In each case, the prior experience of each audit committee member has given him the knowledge required to understand and assess the general application of the accounting principles used by the Company and to understand internal controls and procedures for financial reporting.

## **Audit Committee Oversight**

At no time was a recommendation of the Committee to nominate or compensate an external auditor not adopted by the Board.

## **Reliance on Certain Exemptions**

Since the effective date of NI 52-110, the Company has not relied on the exemptions contained in sections 2.4 or 8 of NI 52 110. Section 2.4 provides an exemption from the requirement that the audit committee must pre-approve all non-audit services to be provided by the auditor, where the total amount of fees related to the non-audit services are not expected to exceed 5% of the total fees payable to the auditor in the fiscal year in which the non-audit services were provided. Section 8 permits a company to apply to a securities regulatory authority for an exemption from the requirements of NI 52-110, in whole or in part.

## **Pre-Approval Policies and Procedures**

Formal policies and procedures for the engagement of non-audit services have yet to be formulated and adopted. Subject to the requirements of NI 52-110, the engagement of non-audit services is considered by the Company's Board of Directors, and where applicable by the Audit Committee, on a case by case basis.

#### **External Auditor Service Fees (By Category)**

The aggregate fees, excluding taxes, charged to the Company by the external auditor in each of the last three fiscal years are as follows:

Financial Year Ending	Audit Fees	Audit Related Fees	Tax Fees	All Other Fees	Total
December 31, 2022	\$25,312	Nil	\$3,000	Nil	\$28,312
December 31, 2021	\$18,220	Nil	\$3,200	Nil	\$21,420
December 31, 2020	\$16,195	Nil	\$2,650	Nil	\$18,845

<sup>(1)</sup> Excludes GST.

<sup>(2) &</sup>quot;Tax Fees" include fees for all tax services other than those included in "Audit Fees". This category includes fees for tax compliance, tax planning and tax advice.

# Exemption

In respect of the most recently completed financial year, the Company is relying on the exemption set out in section 6.1 of NI 52-110 with respect to compliance with the requirements of Part 3 (Composition of the Audit Committee) and Part 5 (Reporting Obligations) of NI 52-110.

#### PARTICULARS OF MATTERS TO BE ACTED UPON

#### **Election of Directors**

The directors of the Company are elected at each annual meeting and hold office until the next annual meeting or until their successors are appointed. The size of the board of directors of the Company is currently set at four (4).

Management of the Company proposes to nominate each of the following persons for election as a director. In the absence of instructions to the contrary, the Management Proxyholders in the accompanying form of proxy intend to vote in favour of each of the following nominees. Information concerning such persons, as furnished by the individual nominees, is as set out below.

Name, jurisdiction of residence and position	Principal occupation or employment during the past five years	Date first became a Director	Number of Common Shares beneficially owned, directly or indirectly, or controlled or directed
Fabio Capponi <sup>(2)</sup> Vancouver, BC Canada Director, President and CEO	Director, President and Chief Executive Office of Western Atlas Resources Inc. since inception October 2013. Chief Executive Officer of CB Gold Inc. from May 2009 to November 2015; President of CB Gold Inc. from May 2009 to April 2011 and December 2013 to November 2015.	June 15, 2018	16,109,253
Jose Francisco Arata (1)(2) Punta Cana, Dominican Republic Director	Chief Executive Officer and Director of New Stratus Energy Inc. since May 2017. New Stratus Energy Inc. is a Canadian based E&P oil and gas company whose current business is to identify, evaluate and acquire mineral and oil and gas properties. Mr. Arata was the President of Pacific Exploration & Production Corp. from January 23, 2008 until July 2015. He was also Chief Executive Officer and director of Pacific Stratus International Energy Ltd. from August 21, 2006 to January 23, 2008. Mr. Arata was also a director of Pacific Coal Resources Ltd. and CGX Energy Inc. Mr. Arata is a geologist with vast experience in Latin America markets. He presently serves on the board of various private companies.	June 15, 2018	300,000
Stephen Wilkinson (1)  Vancouver, BC  Canada  Director	President and CEO of Gold'n Futures Mineral Corp. from March 2021 to March 2024. He was a strategic advisor at Sigma Gold Corp from May 2020 to March 2021, and was President and CEO of Blue Star Gold Corp. from June 2014 to May 2020.	May 2, 2023	300,000
Cesar Torresini <sup>(1)</sup> Fortaleza, Brazil Director	Vice President Public Affairs and Permitting for Equinox Gold	November 15, 2023	nil

- (1) Member of the Audit Committee
- (2) Member of the Compensation and Corporate Governance Committee

To the knowledge of the Company, no proposed director:

- (a) is, at the date of this Information Circular, or has been within 10 years before the date of this Information Circular, a director or chief executive officer or chief financial officer of any company (including the Company) that:
  - a. was subject to a cease trade order, an order similar to a cease trade order, or an order that denied the relevant company access to any exemption under securities legislation, that was in effect for a period of more than 30 consecutive days, that was issued while the proposed director was acting in the capacity as director, chief executive officer or chief financial officer; or
  - b. was subject to an order similar to a cease trade order, or an order that denied the relevant company access to any exemption under securities legislation, that was in effect for a period of more than 30 consecutive days, that was issued after the proposed director ceased to be a director, chief executive officer or chief financial officer that resulted from an event that occurred while that person was acting in the capacity as director, chief executive officer or chief financial officer: or
- (b) is, as at the date of this Information Circular, or has been within 10 years before the date of this Information Circular, a director or officer of any company (including the Company) that, while that person was acting in that capacity, or within a year of that person ceasing to act in that capacity, became bankrupt, made a proposal under any legislation relating to bankruptcy or insolvency or was subject to or instituted any proceedings, arrangement or compromise with creditors or had a receiver, receiver manager or trustee appointed to hold its assets;
- (c) has, within the 10 years before the date of this Information Circular, become bankrupt, made a proposal under any legislation relating to bankruptcy or insolvency, or become subject to or instituted any proceedings, arrangement or compromise with creditors, or had a receiver, receiver manager or trustee appointed to hold the assets of the proposed director;
- (d) has been subject to any penalties or sanctions imposed by a court relating to securities legislation
  or by a securities regulatory authority or has entered into a settlement agreement with a securities
  regulatory authority; or
- (e) has been subject to any other penalties or sanctions imposed by a court or regulatory body that would likely be considered important to a reasonable securityholder in deciding whether to vote for a proposed director;

#### **Appointment of Auditor**

On October 31, 2022, Crowe MacKay LLP was appointed as auditors for the Company. Crowe MacKay LLP will be nominated at the Meeting for reappointment as auditor of the Company at remuneration to be fixed by the directors.

To be approved, the resolution must be passed by a majority of votes cast by the Shareholders at the Meeting. Management recommends a vote "FOR" the resolution approving the appointment of Crowe MacKay LLP as the auditor and authorizing the directors to fix the auditor's remuneration. In the absence of instructions to the contrary, the Management Proxyholders in the accompanying form of proxy intend to vote in favour of appointing Crowe Mackay LLP as the auditors.

#### **Approval of Stock Option Plan**

At last year's annual general meeting, the Shareholders re-approved the Company's 10% "rolling" Stock Option Plan. Under the policies of the TSX Venture Exchange, a rolling stock option plan must be reapproved on a yearly basis by Shareholders. Shareholders will be asked to consider and, if deemed advisable, approve and pass an ordinary resolution re-approving the Company's Stock Option Plan (the "Option Plan Resolution") as follows:

"RESOLVED, as an ordinary resolution, that the Company's 10% rolling stock option plan dated for reference October 18, 2013 be ratified and approved with such additional provisions and amendments,

provided that such are not inconsistent with the policies of the TSX Venture Exchange, as the directors of the Company may deem necessary or advisable."

In accordance with the policies of the TSX-V, the Stock Option Plan must be approved by the majority of votes cast at the Meeting on the resolution. Management recommends a vote "FOR" the Option Plan Resolution. In the absence of instructions to the contrary, the Management Proxyholders in the accompanying form of proxy intend to vote in favour of the Option Plan Resolution.

The Long Term Incentive Plan (LTIP) is a 10% fixed plan, permitting the issuance of up to 10% of the issued and outstanding Shares in respect of Awards granted herein. This 10% fixed plan is separate from and in addition to the rolling 10% under the Stock Option Plan. The Stock Option Plan shall remain in place for the issuance of stock options, which are not included under the LTIP. The LTIP was approve by the shareholders of the Company at the January 7, 2022 Annual General and Special Meeting of Shareholders, with 11,607,840 shares reserved for the plan. The current balance available for issue is 6,607,840. Unlike the Stock Option Plan, the LTIP is not a rolling plan and does not require annual shareholder approval.

#### **ADVANCE NOTICE PROVISIONS**

At the Company's 2013 annual general meeting, the Company's Shareholders voted to adopt amendments to the Company's Articles to include advance notice provisions (the "Advance Notice Provisions"). The Advance Notice Provisions include, among other things, a provision that requires advance notice be given to the Company in circumstances where nomination of persons for election to the Board are made by Shareholders of the Company. The Advance Notice Provisions set a deadline by which Shareholders must submit nominations (a "Notice") for the election of directors to the Company prior to any annual meeting of Shareholders. The Advance Notice Provisions also set forth the information that a Shareholder must include in the Notice to the Company and establish the form in which the Shareholder must submit the Notice for that notice to be in proper written form.

In the case of an annual meeting of Shareholders, a Notice must be provided to the Company not less than 30 days and not more than 65 days prior to the date of the annual meeting.

As of the date of this Information Circular, the Company has not received notice of a nomination in compliance with the Advance Notice Provisions.

#### **OTHER MATTERS**

Management of the Company is not aware of any other matter to come before the Meeting other than as set forth in the Notice of Meeting. If any other matters properly come before the Meeting, it is the intention of the persons named in the enclosed Proxy to vote the shares represented thereby in accordance with their best judgment on such matters.

# **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Additional information relating to the Company is available on SEDAR at www.sedar.com. Shareholders may contact the Company at info@westernar.com or by phone, (604) 256-4777 to request copies of the Company's financial statements and MD&A.

Financial information is provided in the Company's comparative financial statements and MD&A for its most recently completed year, which are filed on SEDAR.

DATED this 4th day of April, 2024.

APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF WESTERN ATLAS RESOURCES INC.

(signed) "Fabio Capponi"

Fabio Capponi, Chief Executive Officer

# SCHEDULE "A" WESTERN ATLAS RESOURCES INC.

#### THE AUDIT COMMITTEE'S CHARTER

#### **PURPOSE**

The overall purpose of the Audit Committee (the "Committee") of **WESTERN ATLAS RESOURCES INC.** (the "Company") is to ensure that the Company's management has designed and implemented an effective system of internal financial controls, to review and report on the integrity of the consolidated financial statements and related financial disclosure of the Company, and to review the Company's compliance with regulatory and statutory requirements as they relate to financial statements, taxation matters and disclosure of financial information. It is the intention of the Board that through the involvement of the Committee, the external audit will be conducted independently of the Company's Management to ensure that the independent auditors serve the interests of Shareholders rather than the interests of Management of the Company. The Committee will act as a liaison to provide better communication between the Board and the external auditors. The Committee will monitor the independence and performance of the Company's independent auditors.

## **COMPOSITION, PROCEDURES AND ORGANIZATION**

- (1) The Committee shall consist of at least three members of the Board of Directors (the "Board").
- (2) At least two (2) members of the Committee shall be independent, and the Committee shall endeavour to appoint a majority of independent directors to the Committee, who in the opinion of the Board, would be free from a relationship which would interfere with the exercise of the Committee members' independent judgment. At least one (1) member of the Committee shall have accounting or related financial management expertise. All members of the Committee that are not financially literate will work towards becoming financially literate to obtain a working familiarity with basic finance and accounting practices applicable to the Company. For the purposes of this Charter, an individual is financially literate if he or she has the ability to read and understand a set of financial statements that present a breadth and level of complexity of accounting issues that are generally comparable to the breadth and complexity of the issues that can reasonably be expected to be raised by the Company's financial statements.
- (3) The Board, at its organizational meeting held in conjunction with each annual general meeting of the shareholders, shall appoint the members of the Committee for the ensuing year. The Board may at any time remove or replace any member of the Committee and may fill any vacancy in the Committee.
- (4) Unless the Board shall have appointed a chair of the Committee, the members of the Committee shall elect a chair and a secretary from among their number.
- (5) The quorum for meetings shall be a majority of the members of the Committee, present in person or by telephone or other telecommunication device that permits all persons participating in the meeting to speak and to hear each other.
- (6) The Committee shall have access to such officers and employees of the Company and to the Company's external auditors, and to such information respecting the Company, as it considers to be necessary or advisable in order to perform its duties and responsibilities.
- (7) Meetings of the Committee shall be conducted as follows:

- (a) the Committee shall meet at least four times annually at such times and at such locations as may be requested by the chair of the Committee. The external auditors or any member of the Committee may request a meeting of the Committee;
- (b) the external auditors shall receive notice of and have the right to attend all meetings of the Committee; and
- (c) management representatives may be invited to attend all meetings except private sessions with the external auditors.
- (8) The internal auditors and the external auditors shall have a direct line of communication to the Committee through its chair and may bypass management if deemed necessary. The Committee, through its chair, may directly contact any employee in the Company as it deems necessary, and any employee may bring before the Committee any matter involving questionable, illegal or improper financial practices or transactions.

#### **ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

- (1) The overall duties and responsibilities of the Committee shall be as follows:
  - (a) to assist the Board in the discharge of its responsibilities relating to the Company's accounting principles, reporting practices and internal controls and its approval of the Company's annual and quarterly consolidated financial statements and related financial disclosure:
  - (b) to establish and maintain a direct line of communication with the Company's internal and external auditors and assess their performance;
  - (c) to ensure that the management of the Company has designed, implemented and is maintaining an effective system of internal financial controls; and
  - (d) to report regularly to the Board on the fulfilment of its duties and responsibilities.
- (2) The duties and responsibilities of the Committee as they relate to the external auditors shall be as follows:
  - (a) to recommend to the Board a firm of external auditors to be engaged by the Company, and to verify the independence of such external auditors;
  - (b) to review and approve the fee, scope and timing of the audit and other related services rendered by the external auditors;
  - (c) review the audit plan of the external auditors prior to the commencement of the audit;
  - (d) to review with the external auditors, upon completion of their audit:
    - A. contents of their report;
    - B. scope and quality of the audit work performed;
    - C. adequacy of the Company's financial and auditing personnel;
    - D. co-operation received from the Company's personnel during the audit;
    - E. internal resources used;

- F. significant transactions outside of the normal business of the Company;
- G. significant proposed adjustments and recommendations for improving internal accounting controls, accounting principles or management systems; and
- H. the non-audit services provided by the external auditors;
- (e) to discuss with the external auditors the quality and not just the acceptability of the Company's accounting principles; and
- (f) to implement structures and procedures to ensure that the Committee meets the external auditors on a regular basis in the absence of management.
- (3) The duties and responsibilities of the Committee as they relate to the internal control procedures of the Company are to:
  - (a) review the appropriateness and effectiveness of the Company's policies and business practices which impact on the financial integrity of the Company, including those relating to internal auditing, insurance, accounting, information services and systems and financial controls, management reporting and risk management;
  - (b) review compliance under the Company's business conduct and ethics policies and to periodically review these policies and recommend to the Board changes which the Committee may deem appropriate;
  - (c) review any unresolved issues between management and the external auditors that could affect the financial reporting or internal controls of the Company; and
  - (d) periodically review the Company's financial and auditing procedures and the extent to which recommendations made by the internal audit staff or by the external auditors have been implemented.
- (4) The Committee is also charged with the responsibility to:
  - (a) review the Company's quarterly statements of earnings, including the impact of unusual items and changes in accounting principles and estimates and report to the Board with respect thereto:
  - (b) review and approve the financial sections of:
    - A. the annual report to Shareholders;
    - B. the annual information form, if required;
    - C. annual and interim MD&A;
    - D. prospectuses;
    - E. news releases discussing financial results of the Company; and
    - F. other public reports of a financial nature requiring approval by the Board,

and report to the Board with respect thereto;

- (c) review regulatory filings and decisions as they relate to the Company's consolidated financial statements:
- (d) review the appropriateness of the policies and procedures used in the preparation of the Company's consolidated financial statements and other required disclosure documents, and consider recommendations for any material change to such policies;
- (e) review and report on the integrity of the Company's consolidated financial statements;
- (f) review the minutes of any audit committee meeting of subsidiary companies;
- (g) review with management, the external auditors and, if necessary, with legal counsel, any litigation, claim or other contingency, including tax assessments that could have a material effect upon the financial position or operating results of the Company and the manner in which such matters have been disclosed in the consolidated financial statements;
- (h) review the Company's compliance with regulatory and statutory requirements as they relate to financial statements, tax matters and disclosure of financial information; and
- (i) develop a calendar of activities to be undertaken by the Committee for each ensuing year and to submit the calendar in the appropriate format to the Board of Directors following each annual general meeting of shareholders.
- (5) The Committee shall have the authority:
  - (a) to engage independent counsel and other advisors as it determines necessary to carry out its duties.
  - (b) to set and pay the compensation for any advisors employed by the Committee; and
  - (c) to communicate directly with the internal and external audit