

**BLACK IRON INC.**  
**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS**  
**FOR THE THREE AND NINE MONTHS ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2024**

**Date: October 25, 2024**

This Management Discussion and Analysis ("MD&A") relates to the financial condition and results of operations of Black Iron Inc. together with its subsidiaries (collectively, "Black Iron" or the "Company") as at and for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2024. This MD&A should be read in conjunction with the Company's condensed consolidated interim financial statements and related notes as at and for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2024 and the consolidated financial statements as at and for the year ended December 31, 2023. The consolidated financial statements and related notes of Black Iron have been prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards ("IFRS"). Unless otherwise noted, all references to currency in this MD&A are in U.S. dollars.

Certain information contained in the MD&A is forward-looking which involves risks and uncertainties. The forward-looking information is not based on historical facts, but is rather based on the current plans, objectives, goals, strategies, estimates, assumptions and projections about the Company's industry, business and future financial results. Actual results could differ materially from the results contemplated by this forward-looking information due to a number of factors, including those set forth in this MD&A and under the "Cautionary Statement Regarding Forward Looking Information" and "Risk Factors" sections.

The MD&A was prepared in accordance with the requirements set out in National Instrument 51-102 — *Continuous Disclosure Obligations* of the Canadian Securities Administrators.

Matt Simpson, the Company's Chief Executive Officer, is a "qualified person" as defined under National Instrument 43-101- *Standards of Disclosure for Mineral Projects* ("NI 43-101") guidelines and has reviewed the scientific and technical information contained in this MD&A.

The audit committee of the board of directors of the Company has reviewed this MD&A and the condensed consolidated interim financial statements for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2024, and Black Iron's board of directors approved these documents prior to their release.

## **Overview**

Black Iron was incorporated on June 29, 2010 pursuant to the provisions of the *Business Corporations Act* (Ontario). On October 25, 2010, Black Iron completed the acquisition of Geo-Alliance Ore East Ltd. (since renamed Black Iron (Cyprus) Ltd. ("BKI Cyprus")) which serves as an investment holding company for a Ukrainian subsidiary, Shymanivske Steel LLC ("Shymanivske"). Shymanivske holds an iron ore mining extraction permit (the "Permit") over 2.56 square kilometers of land which has an expiry date of November 1, 2024 (the "Shymanivske Project" or the "Project") but its expiration is extended by the period of martial law in Ukraine plus six months. There is some ambiguity in the interpretation legislative changes to the Subsoil Code of Ukraine made by the Ukrainian Parliament adopted on December 1, 2022, and enforced March 28, 2023 as to if the Permit extension also includes the duration martial law is in effect plus six months. The recently changed Subsoil Code of Ukraine is also problematic in that the revision includes a new requirement for permit renewal to mine at least 1% of the ore body prior to the permit expiring and for the Project, doing so requires surface rights on the relevant ore body and associated waste dumps to first be obtained. Black Iron is working with the Kryvyi Rih City to obtain the required land surface rights. The Shymanivske Project is located near the city of Kryvyi Rih, in the Dnepropetrovsk Region of Ukraine near two large producing iron ore mines.

On December 14, 2017, Black Iron released its re-scoped Preliminary Economic Assessment ("PEA"), completed on the Project and subsequently amended it with a filing date of March 2, 2020. The re-scoped PEA is based on a two-phased build out of the mine and production plant with the first phase operation producing 4 million tonnes per year ("MTpa") of ultra high-grade 68% iron concentrate expanding to 8MTpa starting in the fifth year of

production. By phasing the build, the up-front construction costs of the Project are significantly reduced thus increasing the projected returns from the Project and making it easier to secure the financing required for construction. The Project exhibits compelling projected economics, as set forth in the PEA, due to its proximity to major infrastructure including, railway, electrical power and a deep-sea port coupled with a local highly skilled work force. The PEA is preliminary in nature, and it includes inferred mineral resources that are considered too speculative geologically to have the economic considerations applied to them that would enable them to be categorized as mineral reserves. The PEA is based on many assumptions that may not be achieved.

A long-term iron ore benchmark price of US\$61.88/t for products containing 62% iron was used in the re-scoped PEA and adjusted using the three-month average trailing spot iron premium of \$7.21 per 1% Fe above 62%. Since publishing the PEA, iron ore prices have substantially increased as spending on major infrastructure projects which entail a large consumption of steel and therefore iron ore continues to occur. There has also been a prominent shift in the iron ore market towards higher iron grade and forms of iron ore that recognizes the “value in use” of iron ore products. This shift has been driven primarily by Chinese steelmakers in a concerted effort to increase productivity, reduce costs and more importantly, reduce greenhouse gas emissions. As demand for higher quality feedstocks increases, premiums are expected to follow suit. It is generally agreed by industry experts that this trend will be sustainable in the longer term. Furthermore, a comparison of the published Platts 65% CFR North China composition for impurities and the Project’s expected concentrate was made. This comparison found that the Project’s expected concentrate is well within the Min-Max impurity range covered by the Platts benchmark suggesting that the Project’s expected concentrate is of a superior quality. Based on this pricing for a low impurity, premium 68% iron content product, the Project forecasts a pre-tax unlevered internal rate of return (“IRR”) of 40.5% and a net present value (“NPV”) of \$1,852 million, using a 10% discount rate. The after-tax unlevered IRR using this price and premium is 34.4% and NPV is \$1,442 million. Additional details on the re-scoped PEA can be found on the Company’s website ([www.blackiron.com](http://www.blackiron.com)) and SEDAR+ ([www.sedarplus.ca](http://www.sedarplus.ca)).

## Highlights

After a long delay, on April 8, 2024, Ukraine’s Ministry of Economy announced that it finalized all of its planned legislative and regulatory amendments to the Investment Support Agreement (“ISA”) legislation and is now accepting applications through Ukraine Invest. This legislation supports the Company in the following ways:

- 1) Government land transfer
- 2) Exemption of import duty and VAT for new equipment purchased for Project construction
- 3) Provides a Ukraine government formal Project support commitment as required by MIGA (World Bank) to potentially
- 4) secure political risk insurance

The required changes to update the application and proposed ISA are significant and potentially problematic for Black Iron to make a submission during the currently ongoing war. Among the terms added is a requirement for any government owned land transfer to occur within six months of the application being accepted. Given the ongoing war, there is a risk of Black Iron’s ISA application being denied if submitted in the current state given it includes a request to transfer land owned by Ukraine’s Central government being used by Ukraine’s Ministry of Defense for training purposes. Black Iron’s team is updating its ISA application documentation for future submission, which will likely occur only once there is clarity on pending peace in Ukraine.

## Cargill Offtake Rights

On May 10, 2021, Black Iron announced that it has selected Cargill Incorporated (“Cargill”) for offtake rights on the initial four million tonnes per year of production from its Project for an initial ten-year period of time in exchange for providing a \$75 million finance facility to be used for project construction.

Subject to signing the negotiated binding offtake contract, Cargill will offtake the production and extend financing of \$75 million for the construction of the Project. Drawdown on this funding will be subject to certain conditions being met, as is customary for this type of transaction, mainly related to the Project being fully permitted

and financed for construction. Based on the proposal agreed between Black Iron and Cargill (the “Proposal”), the offtake agreement will be for an initial term of ten years and will include a profit-sharing component which will align the interests of both parties and thereby generate a strong interdependent relationship of benefit to both parties. On the profit share, it is anticipated that Black Iron will receive 100% of the 65% iron content fines benchmark price and share with Cargill a portion of the incremental sale price of its 3% higher (68%) iron content and low impurity magnetite product.

The signing of a binding offtake contract is currently on hold pending the outcome of peace in Ukraine.

## Outlook

On February 24, 2022, Russia invaded Ukraine, and as of the date hereof, this war is ongoing. The war has greatly increased the risk associated with investments in Ukraine and may have a material adverse effect on the Company’s ability to develop the Project.

Black Iron’s project is located near Kryviy Rih, Ukraine. Kryviy Rih is a city with a population of roughly 630,000 people located in the center of Ukraine, on the western side of the Dnieper River, and is where the majority of Ukraine’s iron ore mines are located and generally continue to operate. Fortunately, there has not been any active fighting on the ground in this city but there have been instances of missile attacks. Residents have good access to groceries, gasoline, and banks in the city are functioning normally.

Black Iron’s management is primarily focused on securing land essential for the construction of the Project, ensuring our permits remain in good standing and positioning the Company in front of investors interested to participate in the rebuilding of Ukraine with the engagement of a financial advisor.

While management believes it is taking appropriate measures to support the sustainability of the Company’s business in the current circumstances, a continuation of the current business environment could negatively affect the Company’s results and financial position. It is unlikely that the Project will be viable absent the cessation of hostilities and the establishment of reliable rule of law in Ukraine.

## Selected Quarterly Financial Information

Three months ended	September 30, 2024	June 30, 2024	March 31, 2024	December 31, 2023
Loss for the period	\$ 526,532	\$ 330,427	\$ 300,023	\$ 355,015
Total comprehensive loss	541,519	326,468	297,533	357,955
Loss per share	-	-	-	-

  

Three months ended	September 30, 2023	June 30, 2023	March 31, 2023	December 31, 2022
Loss for the period	\$ 322,115	\$ 326,714	\$ 577,061	\$ 382,559
Total comprehensive loss	327,264	317,010	575,906	412,024
Loss per share	-	-	(0.01)	-

Black Iron is an exploration and evaluation stage company and does not have any revenues. It is expected to incur losses in the development of its business due to its accounting policy to expense exploration & evaluation costs as well as for associated management and general administration.

## Selected Annual Information

	2023	2022	2021
	\$	\$	\$
Net loss	1,580,905	3,440,197	5,827,489
Comprehensive loss	1,578,135	3,612,664	5,849,891
Loss per share, basic and diluted	(0.01)	(0.01)	(0.02)
Total assets	1,166,899	2,331,829	6,393,895

## Results of Operations for the Company for the Three and Nine Months Ended September 30, 2024

### Selected Financial Information

	Three months ended September 30, 2024	Three months ended September 30, 2023	Nine months ended September 30, 2024	Nine months ended September 30, 2023
Loss for the period	\$ 526,532	\$ 322,115	\$ 1,156,982	\$ 1,225,890
Comprehensive loss for the period	541,519	327,264	1,165,520	1,220,180
Loss per share	-	-	-	-
General and administrative:				
Consulting and management fees	\$ 100,591	\$ 108,198	\$ 317,007	\$ 603,744
Professional fees	73,233	17,498	217,234	42,135
General office expenses	44,377	40,551	139,031	102,455
Travel expenses	-	-	42	-
Shareholder communications and filing fees	25,951	2,714	70,547	41,531
	\$ 244,152	\$ 168,961	\$ 743,861	\$ 789,865
Exploration and evaluation expenditures:				
Consulting and technical	\$ 62,497	\$ 59,190	\$ 196,214	\$ 218,718
Surface rights and consulting	10,141	24,524	25,613	108,758
Field office support & administration	6,909	11,506	24,042	42,007
	\$ 79,547	\$ 95,220	\$ 245,869	\$ 369,483
Non-cash:				
Stock-based compensation	\$ 206,487	\$ 49,349	\$ 217,298	\$ 90,286
	\$ 206,487	\$ 49,349	\$ 217,298	\$ 90,286

## Expenses for the three months ended September 30, 2024

### Professional fees

The Company recorded professional fees of \$73,233 during the three months ended September 30, 2024, compared to \$17,498 during the three months ended September 30, 2023. This increase was primarily related to the engagement of a financial advisor in December 2023.

### Shareholder communications and filing fees

The Company recorded shareholder communication and filing fees of \$25,951 during the three months ended September 30, 2024, compared to \$2,714 during the three months ended September 30, 2023. This increase was primarily related to the marketing expenses paid in Q3 2024 that were paid in Q4 2023.

### ***Non-Cash Items***

4,725,000 stock options were granted during the three months ended September 30, 2024 compared to 700,000 stock options were granted during the three months ended September 30, 2023. The vesting of stock options resulted in a 128,247 expense during the three months ended September 30, 2024 compared to \$38,336 during the three months ended September 30, 2023. The Company granted 2,361,980 deferred share units (“DSUs”) during the three months ended September 30, 2024 valued at \$80,039. The Company granted 209,821 DSUs during the three months ended September 30, 2023 valued at \$10,959.

### ***Cash flows for the three months ended September 30, 2024***

During the three months ended September 30, 2024, operating activities before working capital changes used cash of \$322,604 compared with \$326,581 during the three months ended September 30, 2023. Expenditures in the three months ended September 30, 2024 related to consulting and management fees for the Shymanivske Project, technical work on the Shymanivske Project, and general office expenses, compared to expenditures during the three months ended September 30, 2023 which were also primarily related to consulting and management fees, and technical work on the Shymanivske Project. Cash received from investing activities during the three months ended September 30, 2024 was \$2,827 for interest earned, compared to cash provided by investing activities during the three months ended September 30, 2023 of \$3,556.

### ***Expenses for the nine months ended September 30, 2024***

#### ***Consulting and Management Fees***

The Company recorded consulting and management fees of \$317,007 during the nine months ended September 30, 2024, compared to \$603,744 during the nine months ended September 30, 2023. This decrease was primarily due to a termination fee in 2023 that was not repeated in 2024.

#### ***Professional fees***

The Company recorded professional fees of \$217,234 during the nine months ended September 30, 2024, compared to \$42,135 during the nine months ended September 30, 2023. This increase was primarily related to the engagement of a financial advisor in December 2023.

#### ***Shareholder communications and filing fees***

The Company recorded shareholder communication and filing fees of \$70,547 during the nine months ended September 30, 2024, compared to \$41,531 during the nine months ended September 30, 2023. This increase was primarily related to the marketing expenses paid in the nine months ended September 30, 2024 that were paid in Q4 2023.

### ***Non-Cash Items***

4,725,000 stock options were granted during the nine months ended September 30, 2024 compared to 700,000 stock options granted in the nine months ended September 30, 2023. The vesting of stock options resulted in a 128,247 expense during the nine months ended September 30, 2024 compared with \$57,846 during the nine months ended September 30, 2023. The Company granted 2,655,730 deferred share units (“DSUs”) during the nine months ended September 30, 2024 valued at \$90,787. The Company granted 582,837 DSUs during the nine months ended September 30, 2023 valued at \$32,742.

### ***Cash flows for the nine months ended September 30, 2024***

During the nine months ended September 30, 2024, operating activities before working capital changes used cash of \$983,826 compared with a use of cash of \$1,157,600 during the nine months ended September 30, 2023.

Expenditures in the nine months ended September 30, 2024 related to consulting and management fees for the Shymanivske Project, technical work on the Shymanivske Project, professional fees, and general office expenses, compared to expenditures during the nine months ended September 30, 2023 which were primarily related to consulting and management fees, and technical work on the Shymanivske Project. There was no cash received from financing activities in the nine months ended September 30, 2024, compared to cash received from financing activities during the nine months ended September 30, 2023 was \$15,379 from warrant exercises. Cash received from investing activities during the nine months ended September 30, 2024 was \$44,867 for interest earned, compared to cash provided by investing activities during the nine months ended September 30, 2023 of \$23,976.

### ***Liquidity and Capital Resources***

The recovery of the amounts expended for resource properties are dependent on the ability of the Company to obtain necessary financing to complete the development of the Shymanivske Project or other potential projects and attain future profitable production. The Company's financial success will depend on its ability to raise financing to construct potential projects. At present, the Company has no established sources of income and the success of its exploration and development programs will be contingent upon the Company's ability to raise sufficient equity financing on terms favourable to the Company. The Company does not expect to generate any internal cash flows to help finance the development costs of the Shymanivske Project.

As at September 30, 2024, the Company had negative working capital of \$1,101,824 including cash and cash equivalents of \$244,885 (December 31, 2023 – negative working capital of \$155,503 including cash of \$1,099,337). The Company's primary cash flow needs are for the development of its mining and exploration permits, administrative expenses and working capital. The Company will maintain its excess working capital in a combination of Canadian and U.S. dollars which will only be converted to Ukrainian Hryvnia as required. The Company maintains most of its cash reserves, including those of the Cyprus subsidiary, at a large reputable Canadian commercial bank in high-quality short-term deposits, cash equivalents or cash.

The Company will require some combination of debt, convertible debt, asset sale or an equity financing to continue its current state of operations as a going concern over the coming twelve months. Management is evaluating alternatives and believe sufficient capital will be available for the Company to continue as a going concern.

### ***Operating Segments***

The Company has concluded that it has only one material operating segment (the development of its Ukrainian mining and exploration permits) for financial reporting purposes.

### **Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements**

There are no off-balance sheet arrangements, with the exception of operating leases noted below.

### **Financial Commitments, Contingencies and Litigation**

#### **Leases**

The Company has two leases in Ukraine: 1) office space in Kryvyi Rih, Ukraine for an annual rent of approximately \$10,000 and 2) lease of a secure warehouse to store drill cores totaling 1,254 square meters for an annual rent including security fees of approximately \$6,600. Both leases may be terminated on 30 days' notice. As the leases are cancellable on 30 days' notice, they did not meet the requirements of IFRS 16 to be capitalized.

#### **Management Contracts**

The Company is party to certain management contracts. These contracts require payments of approximately \$1.1 million to the officers of the Company upon the occurrence of a change in control of the Company, as such term is defined by each officer's respective consulting agreement. The Company is also committed to payments upon termination of approximately \$378,000 pursuant to the terms of these contracts.

### Contract commitment

The Company has a contract with a financial advisor that contains a success fee formula on consummation of a transaction that is line with market.

### **Related Party Transactions**

#### **Key management personnel compensation**

In addition to their contracted fees, executive officers participate in the Company's stock option program and are entitled to participate in the share compensation plan. The Company also has a DSU plan which provides non-executive directors with the ability to redeem annual director compensation through the issuance of common shares of the Company. Certain executive officers are subject to mutual termination notices ranging from three to twelve months. Key management personnel compensation paid comprised:

	<b>Nine months ended September 30, 2024</b>	Nine months ended September 30, 2023
Short term employee benefits	<b>\$ 254,750</b>	\$ 322,077
Share-based payments	<b>198,111</b>	105,106
	<b>\$ 452,861</b>	\$ 427,183

Officers and directors had 4,000,000 options vest during the nine months ended September 30, 2024 (975,000 options for the nine months ended September 30, 2023).

As at September 30, 2024, the Company had \$3,729 (December 31, 2023 - \$7,596) owing to its key management personnel. Such amounts are unsecured, non-interest bearing, with no fixed terms of payment and are due on demand.

These transactions, occurring in the normal course of operations, are measured at the exchange amount, which is the amount of consideration established and agreed to by the related parties.

#### **Critical Judgments and Estimation Uncertainties:**

The preparation of consolidated financial statements in conformity with IFRS requires the Company's management to make judgments, estimates and assumptions about future events that affect the amounts reported in the consolidated financial statements and related notes to the financial statements. Although these estimates are based on management's best knowledge of the amount, event or actions, actual results may differ from those estimates and these differences could be material.

#### **(a) Significant judgments in applying accounting policies**

The areas which require management to make significant judgments in applying the Company's accounting policies in determining carrying values include, but are not limited to:

##### **(i) Income taxes and recoverability of potential deferred tax assets**

In assessing the probability of realizing income tax assets recognized, management makes estimates related to expectations of future taxable income, applicable tax planning opportunities, expected timing of reversals of existing temporary differences and the likelihood that tax positions taken will be sustained upon examination by applicable tax authorities. In making its assessments, management gives additional weight to positive and negative evidence that can be objectively verified. Estimates of future taxable income are based on forecasted cash flows from operations and the application of existing tax laws in each jurisdiction. The Company considers whether relevant tax planning opportunities are within the Company's control, are feasible and are within management's ability to implement. Examination by applicable tax authorities is supported based on individual facts and circumstances of the relevant tax position examined in light of all available evidence. Where applicable tax laws and regulations are either unclear or

subject to ongoing varying interpretations, it is reasonably possible that changes in these estimates can occur that materially affect the amounts of income tax assets recognized. Also, future changes in tax laws could limit the Company from realizing the tax benefits from the deferred tax assets. The Company reassesses unrecognized income tax assets at each reporting period.

(ii) Contingencies and estimates

By their nature, contingencies will only be resolved when one or more future events occur or fail to occur. The assessment of contingencies inherently involves the exercise of significant judgment and estimates of the outcome of future events.

Certain contingencies also exist in the Company's assessment of its ability to continue as a going concern and require the exercise of significant judgement by management to assess the ability of the Company to continue as a going concern.

**(b) Significant accounting estimates and assumptions**

The areas which require management to make significant estimates and assumptions in determining carrying values include, but are not limited to:

(i) Mineral resource estimates

The figures for mineral resources are determined in accordance with NI 43-101, issued by the Canadian Securities Administrators. There are numerous uncertainties inherent in estimating mineral reserves and mineral resources, including many factors beyond the Company's control. Such estimation is a subjective process, and the accuracy of any mineral reserve or mineral resource estimate is a function of the quantity and quality of available data and of the assumptions made and judgments used in engineering and geological interpretation. Differences between management's assumptions including economic assumptions such as metal prices and market conditions could have a material effect in the future on the Company's financial position and results of operation.

(ii) Share-based payments and warrants

Management determines costs for share-based payments and the fair value of shares and warrants held for sale using market-based valuation techniques. The fair value of the market-based and performance-based share awards or shares and warrants held for sale are determined at the date of grant or each reporting date using generally accepted valuation techniques. Assumptions are made, and judgment used in applying valuation techniques. These assumptions and judgments include estimating the future volatility of the stock price, expected dividend yield, future employee turnover rates and future employee stock option exercise behaviors and corporate performance. Changes in these assumptions affect the fair value estimates.

(iii) Functional currency

Functional currency is the currency of the primary economic environment in which the Company and each of its subsidiaries operate. If indicators of the primary economic environment are mixed, then management uses its judgement to determine the functional currency that most faithfully represents the economic effect of underlying transactions, events and conditions.

**Significant Accounting Policies**

The condensed consolidated interim financial statements were prepared using the same accounting policies and methods as those used in the Company's consolidated financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2023.

**Disclosure Controls and Procedures**

Management of the Company is responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures. Management has designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused them to be designed under its supervision, to provide reasonable assurance that material information relating to the Company, including its



consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to the Chief Executive Officer and the Chief Financial Officer by others within those entities.

Black Iron's CEO and CFO have certified that they have designed disclosure controls and procedures (or caused them to be designed under their supervision) and they are operating effectively to provide reasonable assurance that material information relating to the issuer and its consolidated subsidiaries is made known to them by others within those entities as of September 30, 2024.

### **Internal Control over Financial Reporting**

Black Iron's management, including the CEO and CFO, is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting ("ICFR"). Under their supervision, the Company's internal control over financial reporting is a process designed to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with IFRS. The Company's internal control over financial reporting includes policies and procedures that:

- Pertain to the maintenance of records that, in reasonable detail, accurately and fairly reflect the transactions, acquisitions and dispositions of the assets of the Company; and
- Provide reasonable assurance regarding the prevention or timely detection of unauthorized acquisition, use or disposition of the Company's assets that could have a material effect on the annual or interim financial statements.

The CEO and CFO have certified that internal controls over financial reporting have been designed and are operating effectively to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with IFRS as at September 30, 2024. Management used the criteria set forth by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission on Internal Control 2013 ("COSO 2013") Framework to design the Company's internal control over financial reporting.

There were no changes in the Company's ICFR that have occurred during the period beginning on January 1, 2024 and ended on September 30, 2024 that have materially affected or is reasonably likely to materially affect the Company's internal control over financial reporting.

### **Limitations of Controls and Procedures**

The Company's management, including the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, believe that disclosure controls and procedures and internal control over financial reporting, no matter how well conceived and operated, can provide only reasonable, not absolute, assurance that the objectives of the control system are met. Further, the design of a control system must reflect the fact that there are resource constraints, and the benefits of controls must be considered relative to their costs. Because of the inherent limitations in all control systems, they cannot provide absolute assurance that all control issues and instances of fraud, if any, within the Company have been prevented or detected. These inherent limitations include the realities that judgments in decision-making can be faulty, and that breakdowns can occur because of simple errors or mistakes. Additionally, controls can be circumvented by the individual acts of some persons, by collusion of two or more people, or by unauthorized override of the controls. The design of any control system also is based in part upon certain assumptions about the likelihood of future events, and there can be no assurance that any design will succeed in achieving its stated goals under all potential future conditions. Accordingly, because of the inherent limitations in a cost-effective control system, misstatements due to error or fraud may occur and not be detected.

### **Risk Factors**

Investing in the Company involves risks that should be carefully considered. The business of the Company is speculative due to the high-risk nature of iron ore mining and exploration in Ukraine. Investors should be aware that there are various risks, that could have a material adverse effect on, among other things, title to the projects, permitting, the operating results, earnings, business and condition (financial or otherwise) of the Company. For a listing of risk factors, investors should refer to the Company's Annual Information Form filed on SEDAR+.

## **Additional Information and Continuous Disclosure**

Additional information, including the Company's press releases, has been filed electronically through the System for Electronic Document Analysis and Retrieval ("SEDAR+") at [www.sedarplus.ca](http://www.sedarplus.ca).

### **Outstanding Share Data**

As at the date of this MD&A, the Company has:

- a) 304,126,688 common shares outstanding.
- b) 14,907,500 stock options outstanding with expiry dates ranging from October 18, 2024 to August 10, 2028 with exercise prices ranging from CAD\$0.045 to CAD\$0.48. If exercised, 14,907,500 shares would be issued for proceeds of CAD\$1,566,338.
- c) 13,534,183 DSUs outstanding with no fixed expiry.

### **Cautionary Statement Regarding Forward-Looking Information**

Except for statements of historical fact relating to Black Iron, certain information contained herein constitutes forward-looking information. Forward-looking information is based on what management believes to be reasonable assumptions, opinions and estimates of the date such statements are made based on information available to them at that time, including those factors discussed in the section entitled "Risk Factors" in the Company's most recent annual information form or as may be identified in the Company's public disclosure from time to time, as filed under the Company's profile on SEDAR+ at [www.sedarplus.ca](http://www.sedarplus.ca). Forward-looking information may include, but is not limited to, statements with respect to the Shymanivske Project, the Updated Feasibility Study and timing of delivery thereof, the PEA, expected economic forecasts and the economic viability of the PEA the Company's ability to obtain the requisite land rights for the Shymanivske Project, meetings and negotiations with the Ukrainian government, the Investment Agreement, application for political risk insurance, prices of commodities, the outlook on demand for iron ore in China, performance of the Company's securities, geo-political situation in Ukraine and Russia, the impact of COVID-19, the Company's ability to obtain adequate funding, negotiations with Cargill with respect to the definitive offtake agreement, negotiations with respect to a royalty financing and future plans for the Company's development. Generally, forward looking information can be identified by the use of forward-looking terminology such as "plans", "expects" or "does not expect", "is expected", "budget", "scheduled", "estimates", "forecasts", "intends", "anticipates" or "does not anticipate", or "believes", or variations of such words and phrases or state that certain actions, events or results "may", "could", "would", "might" or "will be taken", "occur" or "be achieved". Forward-looking information is subject to known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that may cause the actual results, level of activity, performance or achievements of the Company to be materially different from those expressed or implied by such forward-looking information, including but not limited to: general business, economic, competitive, geopolitical and social uncertainties, environmental and emission concerns, the actual results of current exploration activities; other risks of the mining industry and the risks described in the annual information form of the Company. Although the Company has attempted to identify important factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those contained in forward-looking information, there may be other factors that cause results not to be as anticipated, estimated or intended. There can be no assurance that such information will prove to be accurate, as actual results and future events could differ materially from those anticipated in such statements. Accordingly, readers should not place undue reliance on forward looking information. The Company does not undertake to update any forward-looking information, except in accordance with applicable securities laws.