

## MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS FOR THE THREE MONTHS ENDED MARCH 31, 2014

The following management's discussion and analysis of financial condition and results of operations ("MD&A") for the three months ended March 31, 2014 prepared as of May 28, 2014, should be read in conjunction with the unaudited condensed interim consolidated financial statements for the three months ended March 31, 2014 and the related notes thereto of Santacruz Silver Mining Ltd. ("the Company" or "Santacruz") ("the 2014 Q1 Financial Statements"), together with the audited consolidated financial statements of the Company for the year ended December 31, 2013 as well as the accompanying MD&A for the year then ended.

The referenced consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards ("IFRS"). All amounts are expressed in US dollars unless otherwise indicated.

### **Forward-Looking Statements**

This MD&A and the documents incorporated herein by reference contain "forward-looking information" within the meaning of applicable Canadian securities regulations and "forwarding-looking statements" within the meaning of the United States Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 (collectively, "forward-looking information"). The forward-looking information contained in this MD&A is made as of the date hereof. Except as required under applicable securities legislation, the Company does not intend, and does not assume any obligation, to update forward-looking information.

Forward-looking information includes, but is not limited to, statements with respect to the future price of silver, gold and other metals and the effects thereof on the Company's mineral resources; statements relating to the potential mineralization and geological merits of the Company's Rosario mine (the "Rosario Mine"), San Felipe project (the "San Felipe Project") and Gavilanes property (the "Gavilanes Property" or "Gavilanes Project"), as described below; the Company's expected production and recoveries for its Rosario Mine; the expectations for the development of the main access ramp and the installation of a third ball to the milling facility at the Rosario Mine; expectations regarding the continuity of mineral deposits; the Company's goals regarding raising capital and developing its projects; the Company's proposed development and exploration plans for the San Felipe Project and the Gavilanes Property; timing of a preliminary economic assessment or a pre-feasibility study for the San Felipe Project; plans for drilling; expectations regarding environmental issues that may affect the exploration progress; project capital cost estimates; and the Company's other plans for development of its projects. Often, but not always, forward-looking information can be identified by the use of words such as "plans", "expects", "is expected", "budget", "scheduled", "estimates", "forecasts", "intends", "anticipates", or "believes" or the negatives thereof or variations of such words and phrases or statements that certain actions, events or results "may", "could", "would", "might" or "will" be taken, occur or be achieved.

This forward-looking information is based on certain assumptions that the Company believes are reasonable, including that: the Company is able to obtain any required government or other regulatory approvals and adequate financing to complete its current and future exploration and development programs; current gold, silver and base metal prices will not materially decrease; the proposed development of the Company's mineral projects will be viable operationally and economically and

proceed as expected; the Company will not experience any material accident, labour dispute or failure of plant or equipment; any additional financing needed by the Company will be available on reasonable terms; that planned drilling at its mineral properties will be completed and that the results of such drilling will be sufficient to expand the existing resources at the Gavilanes Property consistent with management's expectations; that general business and economic conditions will not change in a material adverse manner; that the Company's exploration of its properties is not adversely affected by unexpected adverse weather conditions; that the estimates of the resources at the Rosario Mine, the San Felipe Project and the Gavilanes Project obtained by the Company are within reasonable bounds of accuracy (including with respect to size, grade and recovery); and that the Company's current exploration and development programs and objectives can be achieved.

Any financial outlook contained herein, as defined by applicable securities legislation, is provided for the purpose of providing information about management's current expectations and plans relating to the future. Readers are cautioned that reliance on such information may not be appropriate for other purposes.

Forward-looking information involves known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors which may cause the actual results, performance or achievements of the Company to be materially different from any future results, performance or achievements expressed or implied by the forward-looking information. Such factors include, among others, the risk that actual results of exploration activities will be different than anticipated, that cost of labour, equipment or materials increase more than expected, that the future price of silver, gold and base metals will decline, that mineral resources are not as estimated, that actual costs of reclamation activities are greater than expected; that changes in project parameters as plans continue to be refined result in increased costs, that lower rates of production are achieved than are expected, that unexpected variations in ore grade or recovery rates occur, that plant, equipment or processes fail to operate as anticipated, that accidents of labour disputes occur, that unanticipated delays occur in obtaining governmental approvals or financing or in the completion of development or construction activities, as well as those factors discussed in the section entitled "Risks and Uncertainties" in this MD&A, at pages 7 to 18 of the annual information form of the Company for the year ended December 31, 2012 dated November 19, 2013 (the "AIF"), filed on SEDAR on November 21, 2013. Although the Company has attempted to identify important factors that could cause actual actions, events or results to differ materially from those described in forward-looking information, there may be other factors that cause actions, events or results not to be as anticipated, estimated or intended. There can be no assurance that forward-looking information will prove to be accurate, as actual results and future events could differ materially from those anticipated in such statements. Readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on forward-looking information due to the inherent uncertainty thereof.

## General

Santacruz was incorporated pursuant to the Business Corporations Act of British Columbia on January 24, 2011. The Company's registered office is located at 10<sup>th</sup> Floor, 595 Howe Street, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada V6C 2T5. The Company's shares are listed for trading on the TSX Venture Exchange under the symbol "SCZ". The Company also trades on the OTCQX under the trading symbol "SZSMF".

The Company is engaged in the acquisition, exploration and development of mineral properties in Mexico, with a primary focus on silver, but also including gold, zinc and lead. The Company is currently focused on meeting and maintaining its primary production objective of producing approximately 1.8 million silver equivalent ounces on a yearly basis commencing the beginning of the third quarter of 2014 at its producing property, the Rosario Mine. In addition, the Company is exploring three other mineral properties, being the San Felipe Project (an advanced stage project), the Gavilanes Project (an exploration project), and the El Gachi Property (an early stage exploration project).

The Company's strategic objective is to become a mid-tier silver producer in Mexico. As first steps to achieving this objective, the Company is focused in the near term (mid 2014), on the following:

- Continuing to increase production at the Rosario Mine;
- Initiating preliminary development activities at the San Felipe Project; and
- Continuing exploration on the Gavilanes Property.

## First Quarter 2014 Highlights

• Effective January 1, 2014, the Company began reporting the operating results of its Rosario Mine in its consolidated statement of loss and comprehensive loss. As this is the first period the Company is reporting results from an operating mine in its consolidated statement of loss and comprehensive loss, no comparative information is available.

• Selected operating and financial information is presented below:

	2014 Q1	
Operating		
Ore Processed (tonnes milled) (1)	20,447	
Silver Equivalent Sold (ounces) <sup>(2)</sup>	121,800	
Production Cost per Tonne <sup>(3)</sup>	139.14	
Cash Cost per Silver Equivalent (\$/oz.) (3)	29.04	
All-in Sustaining Cost per Silver Equivalent (\$/oz.) (3)	35.56	
Average Realized Silver Price per Ounce (\$/oz.) <sup>(3)(5)</sup>	20.55	
Financial		
Revenue (\$000's)	1,931	
Mine Operations Loss (\$000's) <sup>(4)</sup>	(1,347)	
Net Loss (\$000's)	(2,062)	
Net Loss Per Share – Basic (\$)	(0.02)	
Adjusted EBITDA (\$000's) (4)	(1,748)	

Ore processed includes 11,453 tonnes arising from third party ore purchased by the Company and processed through the milling facility.

• On January 23, 2014, the Company filed a technical report in respect of a previously announced independent NI 43-101 Mineral Resource estimate on the Gavilanes Property with an effective date of November 13, 2013. The Mineral Resource estimate was prepared by Gary Giroux, P.Eng. of Giroux Consultants Ltd. and utilized a geological model completed by Hans Smit, P.Geo and Fletcher Bourke, P.Geo. See resource categories and further details in the section of this MD&A titled Gavilanes Property, San Dimas, Durango, Mexico.

Silver equivalent ounces in the first quarter of 2014 were calculated using prices of US\$20.58/oz., US\$1,290/oz., US\$0.95/lb. and US\$0.91/lb. for silver, gold, lead and zinc respectively, applied to the payable metal content of the lead and zinc concentrates produced by the Rosario Mine.

<sup>(3)</sup> The Company reports non-IFRS measures which include Production Cost per Tonne, Cash Cost per Silver Equivalent, Allin Sustaining Cost per Silver Equivalent and Average Realized Silver Price per Ounce. These measures are widely used in the mining industry as a benchmark for performance, but do not have a standardized meaning and may differ from methods used by other companies with similar descriptions. See "Non-IFRS Measures" section for definitions.

The Company reports additional non-IFRS measures which include Mine Operations Income (Loss) and Adjusted EBITDA. These additional financial disclosure measures are intended to provide additional information. Refer to the "Non-IFRS Measures – Additional Information" section for a reconciliation of Mine Operations Income (Loss) and Adjusted EBITDA to the 2014 Q1 Financial Statements.

<sup>(5)</sup> Average Realized Silver Price per Ounce is prior to all treatment, smelting and refining charges.

- On March 17, 2014, the Company completed a prospectus offering (including the full exercise of an over-allotment option) for gross proceeds of CDN\$12,062,500.
- On March 18, 2014, the Company reported that the main access ramp at the Rosario Mine had reached Level 2 and initial stope development on this level had begun.
- On April 10, 2014, the Company reported that Mr. Federico Villaseñor had been appointed to the Company's Board of Directors. Mr. Villaseñor holds a B.Sc. in Mining and Metallurgy from the University of Guanajuato, a M.S. of Mineral Economics from Columbia University and a Finance Degree from The Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de Mexico. His career has spanned 40 years in the mining industry, including roles with Peñoles, Grupo Mexico, Goldcorp and as Director of Starcore International Mines Ltd. He has also participated as a Member of The Board in The Mexican Mining Chamber over several periods.
- On April 23, 2014, the Company reported that its common shares would commence trading on the OTCQX marketplace in the U.S. under the ticker SZSMF.

## Rosario Mine, Charcas, San Luis Potosi, Mexico

The Rosario Mine comprises the Rey David and San Rafael mining concessions located in the Municipality of Charcas in the State of San Luis Potosi, Mexico, 184 kilometres north of the capital city of San Luis Potosi. Details of the acquisition terms are contained in Note 8 of the 2014 Q1 Financial Statements. The property covers 500 hectares.

Production and Operating Results for the First Quarter 2014

	Rosario	Third	
	Mine	Party	Total
Ore Processed (tonnes milled)	8,994	11,453	20,447
Silver Equivalent Sold (ounces) (1)			121,800
Production - Silver (ounces)	59,367	34,945	94,312
- Gold (ounces)	74	92	166
- Lead (tonnes)	103	83	186
- Zinc (tonnes)	167	200	367
Average Ore Grade – Silver (g/t)	226	121	167
- Gold (g/t)	0.28	0.35	0.33
– Lead (%)	1.24	0.84	1.02
- Zinc (%)	2.32	2.35	2.34
Metal Recovery – Silver (%)			77.3
- Gold (%)			85.7
– Lead (%)			89.7
- Zinc (%)			76.8
Cash Cost per Silver Equivalent (\$/oz.) (2)			29.04
All-in Sustaining Cash Cost per Silver Equivalent (\$/oz.) (2)			35.56
Cash Cost of Production per Tonne <sup>(2)</sup>			139.14
Average Realized Silver Price per Ounce (\$/oz.) <sup>(2)(3)</sup>			20.55

Silver equivalent ounces sold in the first quarter of 2014 were calculated using prices of US\$20.58/oz., US\$1,290/oz., US\$0.95/lb. and US\$0.91/lb. for silver, gold, lead and zinc respectively, applied to the payable metal content of the lead and zinc concentrates produced by the Rosario Mine.

The Company reports non-IFRS measures which include Cash Cost per Silver Equivalent, All-in Sustaining Cash Cost per Silver Equivalent, Cash Cost of Production per Tonne, and Average Realized Silver Price per Ounce. These measures are widely used in the mining industry as a benchmark for performance, but do not have a standardized meaning and may differ from methods used by other companies with similar descriptions. See "Non-IFRS Measures" section for definitions.

<sup>(3)</sup> Average Realized Silver Price per Ounce is prior to all treatment, smelting and refining charges.

Mill throughput increased throughout the quarter and currently is averaging approximately 270 tonnes per day (tpd) with average silver grade 230 g/t. First quarter silver equivalent production was approximately 11% less than the 2014 mine plan, due in large part to underground ore haul equipment problems. This matter was resolved by quarter end and production is currently on track to meet planned levels in the second quarter (21,000 tonnes processed and 177,000 silver equivalent ounces produced). Beginning in May all ore processed through the milling facility is coming from the Rosario Mine and management is not planning on processing third party ore until the third ball mill is commissioned, which is expected in June and will bring milling capacity to 700 tpd. Production levels in the third quarter are expected to increase to approximately 450 tpd and the primary source of ore feed will continue to be the Rosario Mine. In the event that third party ore from local miners is available for purchase, up to 200 tpd of such ore could be processed through the milling facility in order to increase overall production and generate further cashflow from operations.

Mill recoveries in the quarter met or exceeded planned levels. Silver recoveries are expected to increase to approximately 90% over the duration of the Rosario Mine life as the silver contained in the ore feed increases to a currently projected average grade of 230 g/t.

Cash cost per silver equivalent ounce (see Non-IFRS Measures for definition) during the quarter (\$29.04) was approximately 15% greater than projected for this period in the 2014 mine plan. This variance arose largely because payable silver production was approximately 11% less than projected and to a lesser extent because operating expenses were approximately 2% more than projected. Operating expenses amounted to \$2,965,608 and include \$101,716 of fees paid to a consulting firm that management engaged at the beginning of the quarter to assist in optimizing the mine operations. A number of adjustments to the mine operations have resulted from this process including changes to mining methods and the mine development plan. The bulk of the changes within the mine operations are expected to be completed by the end of May and accordingly the role of the third party consulting firm will be significantly diminished with a consequent reduction in their consulting fees.

Operating expenses also include the cost to drive the Main Access Ramp ("the Ramp") (\$486,800) from Level 1 to Level 2. In early April the Ramp development from Level 1 to Level 2 was completed and stope development and mining is now underway on Level 2. Management expects an improved rate of advance in the second quarter when the Ramp is driven to Level 3 because of improved ground conditions. Level 3 is expected to be reached before the end of June and development of the Ramp will continue throughout the year with the expectation that Level 5 will be reached by year end. In accordance with the Company's accounting policies, all development costs for the Ramp are recorded to mine operating expenses in the period incurred.

Cash cost of production per tonne (see Non-IFRS Measures for definition) during the quarter (\$139.14) was approximately 6.0% greater than projected in the 2014 Mine Plan.

#### Resource Expansion

In connection with the Main Access Ramp development, underground drill stations are planned for Levels 3 and 4 and a 4,000 metre underground drilling program to test the Rosario Mine to depth is planned for the fourth quarter. Currently the Rosario Mine has only been drilled to a depth of approximately 200 metres.

# **Resource and Exploration Update**

## San Felipe Project, Sonora, Mexico

The San Felipe Project consists of 15 concessions and is a late stage exploration project, located in the State of Sonora, approximately 130 kilometers north-west of Hermosillo City, the state capital of Sonora. Santacruz acquired exploration rights with the right to purchase the project from Minera Hochschild Mexico, S.A. de C.V. ("Hochschild") pursuant to the terms of a mining exploration and promissory sale agreement dated August 3, 2011, as amended December 9, 2011, October 8, 2012 and August 13, 2013 (the "San Felipe Agreement"). Details of the acquisition terms are included in note 9(b) to the 2014 Q1 Financial Statements.

Seven mineralized structures are known to exist within the San Felipe Project area: the Santa Rosa, La Ventana, Transversales, San Felipe, Artemisa, Cornucopia, and Las Lamas. In most cases, the mineralized structures are silicified and form resistant, high-relief ridges.

#### **Exploration Summary**

Hochschild explored and developed the project from 2001 to 2008, with more than 18,500 meters of diamond drilling and significant development work completed on the project at the La Ventana, San Felipe and Las Lamas veins. A copy of the most recent and updated NI43-101 Technical Report dated December 19, 2012 for the San Felipe Project is available on the Company's website at <a href="https://www.santacruzsilver.com">www.santacruzsilver.com</a> and on SEDAR. The Report was prepared by Donald E. Hulse, P.E. and SME-RM of Gustavson, who is an independent "qualified person" under NI 43-101. The Report disclosed the measured, indicated, and inferred mineral resources estimated within the San Felipe Project, with an effective date of April 5, 2012, and remains current. A mineral reserves estimate was not prepared. Mineral Resources are not Mineral Reserves and do not demonstrate economic viability. There is no certainty that all or any part of the Mineral Resource will be converted to Mineral Reserves. The Report indicates that the San Felipe Project contains a mineral resource of 3 million metric tons of measured and 900 thousand metric tons of indicated mineralization, containing 31 million and 8 million troy ounces of silver equivalent, respectively, above a cutoff grade of 75g AgEq/t. The report estimates that there is an additional 1.5 million metric tons of inferred mineral resource above the 75g AgEq/t cutoff containing 11 million troy ounces of silver equivalent.

All Veins Total								
	Measured							
			Equivalent					
Ag Eq	Tonnes	Ounces Ag	•		Equivalent			
Cutoff	(x1000)	(x1000)	(x1000)	Ag gpt	l •	Cu %	Pb %	Zn %
50	4,314	8,919	37,718	64.30	271.94			
75	3,133	7,313	30,887	72.60			2.83	5.11
100	2,420	6,193	25,970	79.59	333.76	0.32	3.02	5.58
150	1,524	4,519	18,913	92.21	385.95	0.38	3.40	6.52
			In	dicated				
			Equivalent					
Ag Eq	Tonnes	Ounces Ag	Ounces Ag		Equivalent			
Cutoff	(x1000)	(x1000)	(x1000)	Ag gpt	Ag gpt	Cu %	Pb %	Zn %
50	1,546	2,663	11,679	53.58	235.05	0.20	2.29	3.96
75	936	1,876	8,188	62.33	272.09	0.24	2.56	4.63
100	621	1,408	6,116	70.50	306.13	0.27	2.81	5.26
150	329	860	3,869	81.35	366.05	0.34	3.38	6.32
			Measure	ed + Indi	icated			
			Equivalent					
Ag Eq	Tonnes	Ounces Ag	Ounces Ag		Equivalent			
Cutoff	(x1000)	(x1000)	(x1000)	Ag gpt	Ag gpt	Cu %	Pb %	Zn %
50	5,860	11,582	49,397	61.48	262.21	0.23	2.49	4.37
75	4,069	9,188	39,074	70.24	298.69	0.28	2.77	5.00
100	3,042	7,601	32,086	77.73	328.12	0.31	2.98	5.51
150	1,853	5,378	22,782	90.28	382.42	0.37	3.39	6.49
		Г		nferred	Г	T		
			Equivalent					
Ag Eq	Tonnes		_		Equivalent			
Cutoff	(x1000)	(x1000)	(x1000)	Ag gpt	Ag gpt	Cu %	Pb %	Zn %
50	3,084	4,140	19,913	41.75	200.80	0.16		3.35
75	1,495	2,149	11,347	44.70	236.08	0.20		3.92
100	750	1,281	6,742	53.16	279.68	0.25		4.74
150	317	651	3,533	63.82	346.58	0.33	3.63	6.01

<sup>\*</sup>Ag Eq is the silver equivalent used to calculate the cutoff. The silver equivalent was calculated with the following equation:  $Ag Eq = \underbrace{(Ag *P_{ag}/31.1035) + (Pb*P_{pb}*22.05) + (Cu*P_{cu}*22.05) + (Zn*P_{zn}*22.05) + (Au*P_{au}/31.1035)}_{(P_{ag})}$ 

Where:

Metal	Symbol	Grade Units	Price	Price Symbol
Silver Eq	AgEq	g/t		
Silver	Ag	g/t	26.28 \$/tOz	P <sub>ag</sub>
Copper	Cu	%	3.491 \$/lb	P <sub>cu</sub>
Lead	Pb	%	0.9988 \$/lb	P <sub>pb</sub>
Zinc	Zn	%	0.9531 \$/lb	P <sub>zn</sub>

<sup>\*</sup> The calculation assumes equal recoveries in all metals pending further metallurgical work.

- The grades for copper, lead, and zinc are multiplied by each metal's 3 year trailing average price.
- The quantity and grade or quality is an estimate and is rounded to reflect the fact that it is an approximation.

More detailed information regarding the San Felipe Project is available on the Company's website, www.santacruzsilver.com.

The Company is currently preparing a preliminary economic assessment (PEA) that is expected to be completed during the third quarter of 2014.

### **Exploration and Acquisition Costs**

During the three months ended March 31, 2014, Santacruz incurred exploration expenditures of \$1,084,934 at the San Felipe Project.

## Gavilanes Property, San Dimas, Durango, Mexico

The Gavilanes Property comprises 10 mining concessions located in the rugged Sierra Madre Occidental mountain range in the municipality of San Dimas in the State of Durango, Mexico, approximately 110 kilometres west-north-west of Durango City. The Gavilanes Property covers a total area of 8,832.28 hectares. Details of the acquisition terms are contained in Note 9(a) of the 2014 Q1 Financial Statements.

### **Current Exploration Activities**

On January 23, 2014, the Company filed a technical report in respect of its previously announced independent NI 43-101 Mineral Resource estimate on the Gavilanes Property. The Mineral Resource estimate was prepared by Gary Giroux, P.Eng. of Giroux Consultants Ltd. and utilized a geological model completed by Hans Smit, P.Geo and Fletcher Bourke, P.Geo. The effective date of this mineral resource estimate is November 13, 2013. No work has been performed on the property since then.

The Gavilanes Property is an intermediate sulphidation (silver-base metal-gold) vein system, with veining identified within a 2.2 km² area. The present resource estimate covers only an approximately 0.2 km² surface area. Three domain types were used for the resource estimate – Vein, Hangingwall (HW) / Footwall (FW) and Stockwork (stx). Based upon a 75 gram per tonne ("g/t") silver equivalent ("AgEq") cut-off, the resources on three of seven known veins, Guadalupe, Descubridora and San Nicolas, as well as the El Hundido stockwork are as follows:

	(tonnes)	Ag (g/t)	Au (g/t)	Cu (%)	Pb (%)	Zn (%)	AgEQ (g/t)	AgEq Oz
Indicated	953,000	164.6	0.09	0.06	0.42	0.41	200.5	6,143,000
Inferred	5,399,000	124.6	0.12	0.09	0.40	0.34	163.0	28,294,000

<sup>\*</sup>AgEq is the silver equivalent in ppm used to calculate the cutoff. The silver equivalent was calculated with the following equation:

$$AgEq = \frac{(Cu\% \times 71.65) + (Pb\% \times 21.38) + (Auppm \times 42.37) + (Agppm \times 0.69) + (Zn\% \times 19.18)}{0.69}$$

The metal prices used in the silver equivalent estimate are listed below.

		Factor
Ag	US\$ 21.55 per ounce	0.69 \$/gm
Au	US\$ 1318.00 per ounce	42.37 \$/gm
Cu	US\$ 3.25 per pound	71.65 \$/%
Pb	US\$ 0.97 per pound	21.38 \$/%
Zn	US\$ 0.87 per pound	19.18 \$/%

100% recovery has been assumed for all metals in this silver equivalent estimate. At this stage of the project no metallurgy has been completed and the reader is cautioned that 100% recoveries are never achieved.

Highlights of the mineral resource estimate are as follows:

- Indicated mineral resources of 6,143,000 AgEq ounces grading 200 g/t AgEq;
- Inferred mineral resource of 28,294,000 AgEq ounces grading 163 g/t AgEq;
- Veins remain open along strike and to depth with intermittent surface exposures indicating an untested strike length;
- The El Hundido stockwork zone is open down-dip and to the south; and
- Four unexplored veins offer additional potential.

The identified indicated and inferred resource is significant, however engineering and economic studies have not been completed and thus no statement can be made about the project's potential economic viability. Recommended work at Gavilanes includes drilling in the area of current resources with the intent of upgrading resources to Indicated and Measured, drilling the open extent of the area with resources, testing other targets on the property and undertaking preliminary metallurgy, engineering and environmental studies.

## **Exploration and Acquisition Costs**

During the three months ended March 31, 2014, mineral property acquisition costs and exploration costs were \$1,500,000 and \$39,972 respectively for the Gavilanes Property.

#### El Gachi Property, Sonora, Mexico

The El Gachi Property covers approximately 48,057 hectares and is located approximately 30 kilometres from the San Felipe Project. To date the Company has not completed any exploration work on the property.

### **Non-IFRS Measures**

The Company has included certain non-IFRS performance measures throughout this MD&A, including cash cost per silver ounce, production cost per tonne, and average realized silver price per ounce, each as defined in this section. These performance measures are employed by the Company to measure its operating and financial performance internally, to assist in business decision-making, and provide key performance information to senior management. The Company believes that, in addition to conventional measures prepared in accordance with IFRS, certain investors and other stakeholders also use these non-IFRS measures as information to evaluate the Company's operating and financial performance. As there are no standardized methods of calculating these non-IFRS measures, the Company's methods may differ from those used by others and, accordingly, the Company's use of these measures may not be directly comparable to similarly titled measures used by others. Accordingly, these non-IFRS measures are intended to provide additional information and should not be considered in isolation or as a substitute for measures of performance prepared in accordance with IFRS.

#### Cash Cost per Silver Equivalent Ounce and Production Cost per Tonne

The non-IFRS measures of cash cost per silver equivalent ounce and cash cost of production per tonne are used by the Company to manage and evaluate operating performance at the Rosario Mine and are widely reported in the silver mining industry as benchmarks for performance, but do not have a standardized meaning. Cash costs are calculated based on the cash operating costs at the Rosario Mine and, in the case of cash cost per silver ounce, also include the third party concentrate treatment, smelting and refining cost.

Management of the Company believes that the Company's ability to control the cash cost per silver equivalent ounce produced and cash cost of production per tonne are two of its key performance drivers impacting both the Company's financial condition and results of operations. Having a low cash cost of production per tonne, when taken in connection with effective management of mining dilution, will improve the cost per silver equivalent ounce produced. Having a low cost base per silver equivalent ounce of production allows the Company to remain profitable even during times of declining commodity prices and provides more flexibility in responding to changing market conditions. In addition, a profitable operation results in the generation of positive cash-flows, which then improves the Company's financial condition. The Company believes these measures provide investors and analysts with useful information about the Company's underlying cash costs of operations and are relevant metrics used to understand the Company's operating profitability and ability to generate cash-flow.

To facilitate a better understanding of these measures as calculated by the Company, the following table provides a detailed reconciliation between the cash cost of production per tonne, cash cost per silver equivalent ounce, and the Company's operating expenses as reported in the Company's Consolidated Statements of Loss and Comprehensive Loss.

(Expressed in US Dollars except ounces, tonnes, per ounce and per tonne)	Q1
	2014
Operating expenses (as reported)	2,965,608
Deduct: Inventory change	(120,530)
Cash Cost of Production (A)	2,845,078
Operating expenses (as reported)	2,965,608
Concentrate treatment, smelting and refining cost	571,178
Cash Cost of Silver Equivalent Sold (B)	3,536,786
Ore processed (tonnes milled) (C)	20,447
Cash Cost of Production per Tonne <sup>(2)</sup> (A/C)	139.14
Silver Equivalent Sold (ounces) (D)	121,800
Cash Cost per Silver Equivalent Ounce (B/D)	29.04

## All-in Sustaining Cost per Ounce

All-in Sustaining Cost ("AISC") is a non-IFRS measure and was calculated based on guidance provided by the World Gold Council ("WGC") in June 2013. WGC is not a regulatory industry organization and does not have the authority to develop accounting standards for disclosure requirements. Other mining companies may calculate AISC differently as a result of differences in underlying accounting principles and policies applied, as well as differences in definitions of sustaining versus development capital expenditures.

AISC is a more comprehensive measure than cash cost per ounce for the Company's operating performance by providing greater visibility, comparability and representation of the total costs associated with producing silver from its Rosario Mine.

The Company defines sustaining capital expenditures as, "costs incurred to sustain and maintain existing assets at current productive capacity and constant planned levels of productive output without resulting in an increase in the life of assets, future earnings, or improvements in recovery or grade. Sustaining capital includes costs required to improve/enhance assets to minimum standards for reliability, environmental or safety requirements. Sustaining capital expenditures excludes all expenditures at the Company's new projects and certain expenditures at the Rosario Mine which are deemed expansionary in nature."

AISC includes total production cash costs incurred at the Company's mining operations, which forms the basis of the Company's total cash costs. Additionally, the Company includes sustaining capital expenditures, corporate general and administrative expense, exploration and evaluation costs, share-based payments and reclamation cost accretion. The Company believes that this measure represents the total sustainable costs of producing silver from current operations, and provides the Company and other stakeholders of the Company with additional information of the Company's operational performance and ability to generate cash flows. As the measure seeks to reflect the full cost of silver production from current operations, new project capital and expansionary capital at current operations are not included. Certain other cash expenditures, including tax payments, dividends and financing costs are also not included.

The following tables provide a detailed reconciliation of these measures to our operating expenses, as reported in our consolidated financial statements.

(Expressed in US Dollars except ounces and per ounce)	Q1 2014
Operating expenses (as reported)	2,965,608
Concentrate treatment, smelting and refining cost	571,178
Sustaining capital expenditures	62,085
General and administrative expenses (net of depreciation of \$1,897)	721,609
Accretion of decommissioning and restoration provision	10,296
All-in Sustaining Cost	4,330,776
Silver Equivalent Sold (ounces)	121,800
All-in Sustaining Cost per Silver Equivalent Ounce Sold	35.56

# Average Realized Silver Price per Ounce

Revenues are presented as the sum of invoiced revenues related to delivered shipments of lead and zinc concentrates, after having deducted treatment, smelting and refining charges.

The following is an analysis of the gross revenues prior to treatment, smelting and refining charges, and shows deducted treatment, smelting and refining charges to arrive at the net reportable revenue for the

period per IFRS. Gross revenues are divided by silver equivalent ounces sold to calculate the average realized price per ounce of silver equivalents sold.

(Expressed in US Dollars except ounces, tonnes, per equivalent ounce and per tonne)	Q1 2014
Revenues (as reported)	1,931,567
Add back: Treatment, smelting and refining charges	571,178
Gross Revenues (A)	2,502,745
Silver Equivalent Sold (ounces)	121,800
Average Realized Price per Ounce of Silver Equivalent Sold <sup>(1)</sup>	20.55
Average Market Price per Ounce of Silver per London Silver Fix	20.49

Average realized price per ounce of silver sold in each reporting period is affected by mark-to-market adjustments and final settlements on concentrate shipments in prior periods. Concentrates sold to third-party smelters are provisionally priced and the price is not settled until a predetermined future date, typically one to four months after delivery to the customer, based on the market price at that time.

### Non-IFRS Measures - Additional Information

The Company uses additional non-IFRS measures which include Mine Operations Income (Loss) and EBITDA. These additional financial disclosure measures are intended to provide additional information.

## Mine Operations Income (Loss)

Mine operations income (loss) represents the difference between revenues and mine operating expenses, less depletion, depreciation and amortization expenses. Management believes that mine operations income (loss) provides useful information to investors for evaluating the Company's mining performance.

#### EBITDA and Adjusted EBITDA

EBITDA is a non-IFRS measure that provides an indication of whether the Company's operations are generating sufficient operating cash flow to fund working capital needs and to fund capital expenditures. EBITDA comprises revenue less operating expenses before interest expense, interest income, amortization and depletion, impairment charges, and income taxes.

Adjusted EBITDA is a non-IFRS measure in which standard EBITDA (earnings before interest expense, interest income, taxes, amortization and depletion, and impairment charges) is adjusted for share-based payments expense, foreign exchange gains or losses, and non-recurring items. Foreign exchange gains or losses may consist of both realized and unrealized losses. Under IFRS, entities must reflect in compensation expense the cost of share-based payments. In the Company's circumstances, share-based payments can involve a significant accrual of amounts that will not be settled in cash but are settled by the issuance of shares in exchange. The Company discloses adjusted EBITDA to aid in understanding of the results of the Company and is meant to provide further information about the Company's financial results to investors.

The following table provides a reconciliation of EBITDA and Adjusted EBITDA to the 2014 Q1 Financial Statements:

(Expressed in US 000's Dollars)	Q1 2014
Net loss for the period	\$ (2,062)
Income tax recovery	(41)
Interest income	(39)
Interest expense	10
Amortization and depletion of mineral properties, plant and	
equipment	315
EBITDA	(1,817)
Foreign exchange	61
Share-based payments	8
Adjusted EBITDA	\$ (1,748)

#### **Review of First Quarter Financial Results**

The Company recorded a net loss of \$2,062,277 (\$0.02 per share) for the three months ended March 31, 2014, compared to the net loss of \$742,754 (\$0.01 per share) for the three months ended March 31, 2013.

The Company recorded revenues of \$1,931,567, operating expenses of \$2,965,608 and amortization and depletion expenses of \$313,070 for the three months ended March 31, 2014. No such revenues and expenses were reported for the three months ended March 31, 2013, since the Company declared its Rosario Mine to be in commercial production effective January 1, 2014 and this is the first period the Company is reporting the operating results of its Rosario Mine in its consolidated statement of loss and comprehensive loss. The operations resulted in a mine operating loss of \$1,347,111, partly due to higher than expected minesite operating expenses and partly because payable silver production was approximately 14% less than projected (see discussion under Rosario Mine – Production and Operating Results). Included in minesite operating expenses were \$101,716 of fees paid to a consulting firm that management engaged at the beginning of the quarter to assist in optimizing the mine operations.

Variances of note in general and administrative expenses are detailed below:

- Administrative expenses of \$195,818 (2013 \$105,231), management and consulting fees of \$178,515 (2013 \$72,937), other expenses of \$52,200 (2013 \$385), professional fees of \$130,519 (2013 \$70,011). These expenses were higher during 2014 primarily due to increased activities at the Company's Mexican office in connection with the commencement of commercial production of the Rosario Mine and development of the San Felipe Project.
- Share-based payments of \$8,492 (2013 \$370,971). No stock options were granted during the 2014 fiscal period as compared to 400,000 stock options granted in 2013.
- Shareholder communications of \$45,396 (2013 \$132,898). These expenses decreased primarily as the result of decreased costs related to investor awareness initiatives.
- Travel expenses of \$38,251 (2013 \$53,771). Travel expenses decreased due to a decrease in management's travel between the Company's Canadian and Mexican offices.

Summary of Quarterly Results

	THREE MONTHS ENDED					
	March 31, December 31, 2014 2013		September 30, 2013	June 30, 2013		
	\$	\$	\$	\$		
Revenues	1,931,567	Nil	Nil	Nil		
Operating expenses	2,965,608	Nil	Nil	Nil		
Administrative expenses	723,506	520,005	691,827	687,315		
Deferred exploration and development costs, and option payments (cash portion)	2,641,936	776,179	3,810,981	4,044,722		
Net loss	(2,062,277)	(4,507,829)	(503,505)	(565,244)		
Net loss per share <sup>(1)</sup>	(0.02)	(0.05)	(0.00)	(0.01)		

	THREE MONTHS ENDED				
	March 31, 2013	December 31, 2012	September 30, 2012	June 30, 2012	
	\$	\$	\$	\$	
Revenues	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	
Operating expenses	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	
Administrative expenses	903,644	645,510	760,827	4,088,820	
Deferred exploration and development costs, and Option payments (cash					
portion)	18,057,101	4,900,203	2,170,450	1,281,265	
Net loss	(742,754)	(583,307)	(763,841)	(16,945,273)	
Net loss per share <sup>(1)</sup>	(0.01)	(0.04)	(0.01)	(0.27)	

The basic and fully diluted calculations result in the same value due to the anti-dilutive effect of outstanding stock options and warrants for all quarters.

During the three months ended June 30, 2012 the Company recorded \$2,780,916 of share-based compensation from the grant of stock options during the period and in addition recorded a charge related to public company listing of \$12,967,741 and \$814,179 of professional fees as a result of the RTO transaction on April 12, 2012.

During the three months ended December 31, 2013, the Company recorded deferred income tax expense of \$3,974,151 as a result of the Mexican tax reform enacted in December 2013.

Effective January 1, 2014, the Company began reporting the operating results of its Rosario Mine, including revenues of \$1,931,567 and operating expenses of \$2,965,608, in its consolidated statement of loss and comprehensive loss.

## Mexican Tax Reform

In late 2013, a new income tax law was enacted in Mexico ("Mexican Tax Reform") which became effective January 1, 2014. Key provisions of the Mexican Tax Reform consist of:

- Imposes a new 7.5% mining royalty. This royalty is deductible for corporate income tax purposes and is calculated as 7.5% of a royalty base which is computed as taxable revenues (except interest and inflationary adjustment), less allowable deductions for income tax purposes (except interest, inflationary adjustment, depreciation and mining fees), less prospecting and exploration expenses of the year;
- Imposes a new environmental duty of 0.5% of gross income arising from the sale of gold and silver:
- Corporate income tax rate to remain at 30%, eliminating the scheduled reduction to 29% in 2014 and to 28% in 2015;
- Elimination of the Business Flat Tax ("IETU");
- Elimination of the option for depreciation of capital assets on an accelerated basis;
- Elimination of 100% deduction on exploration expenses for locating and quantifying new deposits in pre-operating periods. These exploration costs will be amortized on a straight-line basis over 10 years;
- Reduction of deductibility for various employee fringe benefits; and
- Imposes a 10% withholding tax on dividends distributed to resident individuals or foreign residents (including foreign corporations). According to the Mexico-Canada tax treaty, this dividend withholding tax rate may be reduced to 5%.

The Company has taken the position that the new 7.5% mining royalty is an income tax in accordance with IFRS for financial reporting purpose, as it is based on a measure of revenue less certain specified costs.

#### **Financing Activities**

Details of financing activities in the year ended December 31, 2013 are as follows:

- On February 19, 2013, the Company closed a prospectus offering through a syndicate of underwriters (the "Underwriters"). The Company issued 21,850,000 common shares at a price of CDN\$1.85 per share for gross proceeds of \$39,949,557 (CDN\$40,422,500). The Underwriters received a cash fee of \$2,396,973, as well as 1,311,000 warrants, each of which is exercisable to purchase one common share for a price of CDN\$1.85 for a period of 24 months. The Company also issued 60,000 common shares as corporate finance fee and incurred additional issue costs of \$508,894.
- On August 16, 2013, the Company issued 1,250,000 common shares at a deemed issue price of CDN\$1.07 per share as an option payment pursuant to the San Felipe Agreement.
- During the year ended December 31, 2013, the Company issued 324,545 common shares pursuant to exercise of warrants for total gross proceeds of \$231,849.

Details of financing activities in the three months ended March 31, 2014 are as follows:

• On March 11, 2014, the Company closed a prospectus offering, pursuant to which 12,062,500 common shares were issued at a price of CDN\$1.00 per share for gross proceeds of \$10,864,694 (CDN\$12,062,500). The underwriters received a cash fee of \$651,882 (CDN\$723,750), as well as 723,750 warrants, each of which is exercisable to purchase one common share for a price of CDN\$1.00 until March 11, 2016 for 645,000 warrants and March 20, 2016 for 78,750 warrants. The Company also issued 100,000 common shares as corporate finance fee and incurred additional issue costs of \$315,206.

## **Capital Expenditures**

The Company spent \$2,641,936 on its mineral properties during the three months ended March 31, 2014 (2013 – \$18,057,101). The Company also spent \$62,085 on acquisitions of plant and equipment during the three months ended March 31, 2014 (2013 – \$1,962,503). The Company has made no dividend payments, and currently has no plans to declare any dividends.

# **Use of Proceeds from Previous Financings**

During the 2013 fiscal year, the Company used the net proceeds of CDN\$37,997,150 from the 2013 financing (which included net proceeds from the exercise of the over-allotment option) as follows:

San Felipe Project	Use of Proceeds as stated in the short form prospectus from the 2013 Financing	Original Estimated Expenditure (Cdn\$)	Approximate Actual Expenditure (Cdn\$)
Property payments	San Feline Project	(Cuny)	(Cuny)
Surface and underground mapping and permitting Drilling and related infrastructure Development of ramps for bulk samples and underground drilling Annual mining taxes, ejidal fees and sundry project costs Pre-feasibility study   \$350,000   \$7761,000   \$761,000		\$15 977 631	\$16 677 000
Drilling and related infrastructure   S6,000,000   \$2,550,000   Development of ramps for bulk samples and underground drilling   \$1,600,000   \$1,600,000   \$761,000			
Development of ramps for bulk samples and underground drilling			
Underground drilling		ψο,σσο,σσο	Ψ2,230,000
Annual mining taxes, ejidal fees and sundry project costs Pre-feasibility study  Subtotal:  Subtotal:  \$24,347,631  \$20,038,000  Subtotal:  \$3,195,526  \$1,797,000  \$400,000  \$260,000  \$797,000  \$150,000  \$150,000  \$150,000  \$1997,000  \$250,000  \$		\$1,600,000	_
Pre-feasibility study		Ψ1,000,000	\$761,000
Subtotal:   \$24,347,631   \$20,038,000			Ψ701,000
Subtotal:   \$24,347,631   \$20,038,00		\$350,000	_
Property payments   \$3,195,526   \$1,797,00			\$20,038,000
Property payments	Gavilanes Property	1	1 - 1, 1,
Mapping and sampling and staffing and site costs         \$400,000         \$260,00           Drilling and sample analysis         \$650,000         \$797,00           Updated resource estimate         \$150,000         \$50,00           Subtotal:         \$4,395,526         \$2,904,00           Rosario Mine         -         \$1,997,00           Mill construction costs         -         \$6,267,00           Pre-production costs         -         \$8,264,00           General           Estimated offering costs         \$500,000         \$520,00           Administration expenses, including corporate and financial reporting, legal and compliance and accounting costs         \$900,000         \$862,00           General corporate communication and corporate development         \$500,000         \$5,409,150           General working capital <sup>(1)</sup> \$7,353,993 <sup>(1)</sup> \$5,409,150           Subtotal:         \$9,253,993         \$6,791,15		\$3,195,526	\$1,797,000
Drilling and sample analysis   \$650,000   \$797,000   \$50,000   \$			\$260,000
Subtotal:   \$4,395,526   \$2,904,00		\$650,000	\$797,000
Rosario Mine Mill construction costs Pre-production costs  Subtotal:  Subtotal:  Estimated offering costs Administration expenses, including corporate and financial reporting, legal and compliance and accounting costs General corporate communication and corporate development General working capital <sup>(1)</sup> Subtotal:  Sub	Updated resource estimate	\$150,000	\$50,000
Mill construction costs Pre-production costs Subtotal: Subtotal: Estimated offering costs Administration expenses, including corporate and financial reporting, legal and compliance and accounting costs General corporate communication and corporate development General working capital Subtotal: Subtotal:  \$1,997,00 \$6,267,00 \$8,264,00 \$520,00	Subtotal:	\$4,395,526	\$2,904,000
Pre-production costs  Subtotal:  General  Estimated offering costs Administration expenses, including corporate and financial reporting, legal and compliance and accounting costs General corporate communication and corporate development General working capital (1)  Subtotal:  \$6,267,00  \$8,264,00  \$500,000  \$520,00  \$862,00  \$862,00  \$7,353,993(1)  \$5,409,150(1)	Rosario Mine		
Subtotal:  General Estimated offering costs Administration expenses, including corporate and financial reporting, legal and compliance and accounting costs General corporate communication and corporate development General working capital <sup>(1)</sup> Subtotal:  Subtotal:  \$500,000 \$520,00 \$520,00 \$520,00 \$5862,00 \$500,000 \$7,353,993 <sup>(1)</sup> \$5,409,150	Mill construction costs	-	\$1,997,000
General\$500,000\$520,000Administration expenses, including corporate and financial reporting, legal and compliance and accounting costs\$900,000\$862,000General corporate communication and corporate development\$500,000\$5,409,1500General working capital\$7,353,993\$5,409,1500Subtotal:\$9,253,993\$6,791,1500	Pre-production costs	-	\$6,267,000
Estimated offering costs  Administration expenses, including corporate and financial reporting, legal and compliance and accounting costs  General corporate communication and corporate development  General working capital <sup>(1)</sup> Subtotal:  \$500,000 \$520,000 \$862,00 \$862,00 \$7,353,993 <sup>(1)</sup> \$5,409,150 <sup>(1)</sup> \$5,409,150 <sup>(1)</sup>	Subtotal:	-	\$8,264,000
Administration expenses, including corporate and financial reporting, legal and compliance and accounting costs \$900,000 \$862,00 General corporate communication and corporate development \$500,000 General working capital <sup>(1)</sup> \$7,353,993 <sup>(1)</sup> \$5,409,150 Subtotal: \$9,253,993 \$6,791,15	General		
financial reporting, legal and compliance and accounting costs  General corporate communication and corporate development  General working capital <sup>(1)</sup> Subtotal:  \$900,000 \$862,00 \$862,00 \$7,353,993 <sup>(1)</sup> \$5,409,150 <sup>(1)</sup> \$5,409,150 <sup>(1)</sup> \$6,791,15	Estimated offering costs	\$500,000	\$520,000
accounting costs \$900,000 \$862,000  General corporate communication and corporate development \$500,000  General working capital <sup>(1)</sup> \$7,353,993 <sup>(1)</sup> \$5,409,150 <sup>(1)</sup> Subtotal: \$9,253,993 \$6,791,15	Administration expenses, including corporate and		
General corporate communication and corporate development         \$500,000           General working capital <sup>(1)</sup> \$7,353,993 <sup>(1)</sup> \$5,409,150 <sup>(1)</sup> Subtotal:         \$9,253,993         \$6,791,15	financial reporting, legal and compliance and		
development       \$500,000         General working capital <sup>(1)</sup> \$7,353,993 <sup>(1)</sup> \$5,409,150 <sup>(1)</sup> Subtotal:       \$9,253,993       \$6,791,15	accounting costs	\$900,000	\$862,000
General working capital (1)       \$7,353,993 (1)       \$5,409,150 (1)         Subtotal:       \$9,253,993       \$6,791,15	General corporate communication and corporate		
Subtotal: \$9,253,993 \$6,791,15	development		-
	<u> </u>	\$7,353,993 <sup>(1)</sup>	\$5,409,150 <sup>(1)</sup>
Total \$27,007,150 \$27,007,15	Subtotal:	\$9,253,993	\$6,791,150
10tai   \$5/,99/,130   \$5/,99/,13	Total	\$37,997,150	\$37,997,150

Net proceeds from the exercise of the over-allotment option were added to general working capital, as disclosed in the short form prospectus from the 2013 financing.

As noted in the table above, the Company used approximately \$8.3 million of the funds from the 2013 financing to fund ongoing pre-production and mill construction costs at the Rosario Mine. These expenditures were not included in the original estimate of use of proceeds and arose due to unforeseen delays in getting the Rosario Mine underground development sufficiently advanced to consistently supply the milling facility with ore at expected production rates. The Company delayed exploration drilling and other underground development work on the San Felipe Project as a result of the unexpected production delay at the Rosario Mine.

### **Liquidity and Capital Resources**

As at March 31, 2014, the Company had cash and cash equivalents of \$6,486,119 (December 31, 2013 – \$1,618,472) and working capital of \$12,393,454 (December 31, 2013 – \$6,979,805). During the three months ended March 31, 2014, net cash used in operating activities was \$2,332,284, net cash used in investing activities was \$2,704,021 primarily for acquisitions of mineral property interests, plant and equipment, and costs relating to the exploration activities on its mineral properties; and net cash provided by issuance of common shares as part of financing activities was \$9,897,606.

Pursuant to the terms of the underlying mineral property agreements to the Rosario Mine (Note 8 to the 2014 Q1 Financial Statements), in order to maintain and exercise the option the Company must make aggregate cash payments of \$725,000 on or before February 22, 2016. Subsequent to March 31, 2014, the Company made payments of \$200,000 in accordance with the terms of these agreements.

Pursuant to the terms of the Gavilanes property agreement (Note 9(a) to the 2014 Q1 Financial Statements), in order to maintain and exercise the option the Company must make aggregate cash payments of \$1,150,000 on or before December 17, 2014.

Pursuant to the terms of the San Felipe Agreement (Note 9(b) to the 2014 Q1 Financial Statements), in addition to cash payments of \$22,700,000 made to March 31, 2014, in order to maintain and exercise the option, the Company must make further aggregate cash payments of approximately \$21,000,000 on or before October 31, 2015. An additional \$1,000,000 must be paid for restructuring fees which is due on October 31, 2015, payable in cash or in that number of the Company's common shares having a value of \$1,500,000 at the date of issue, subject to a minimum issue price of CDN\$1.07 per share.

During the three months ended March 31, 2014, the Company's operations did not generate positive cashflow. Until such time as the Rosario Mine begins generating positive cash flow the Company is reliant on its internal cash reserves and the resource capital markets in order to fund its activities. In order to fund the further development of the San Felipe Project and the Gavilanes Property, on March 11, 2014, the Company closed a prospectus offering and issued 12,062,500 common shares for gross proceeds of CDN\$12,062,500.

Funds from this financing will be expended on the San Felipe Project as to \$2.25 million to complete 500 metres of access ramp at each of three veins and to conduct a preliminary tailings impoundment study and \$500,000 to conduct minor infrastructure work, including water pipeline and pre-construction activities. In addition, the Company has budgeted \$400,000 to pay for a preliminary economic assessment or prefeasibility study, which is expected to be completed during 2014. On the Gavilanes Property, \$3 million will be used on mapping, drilling, sample analysis, metallurgy and related infrastructure, which is expected to be carried out during 2014. The remainder of the gross proceeds will be used for costs associated with the prospectus offering, administration expenses including corporate and financial reporting, legal, accounting, general corporate communication and corporate development, and general working capital.

#### **Transactions with Related Parties**

The Company's related parties consist of the Company's directors, officers and companies associated with them including the following:

- Malaspina Consultants Inc., a company owned by Robert McMorran, the Chief Financial Officer
- Pref-Ex Geological Inc., a company owned by Marc Prefontaine, a director of the Company

During the three months ended March 31, 2014 and 2013, the Company incurred the following charges by directors and officers of the Company and by companies controlled by directors and officers of the Company:

	2014	2013
	\$	\$
Accounting and corporate secretarial fees (1)	32,592	33,714
Directors' fees (2)	22,154	19,492
Management fees and salaries and benefits capitalized in mine		
property (3)	103,060	93,218
Share-based payments	-	336,017

<sup>(1)</sup> The charge includes accounting and corporate secretarial fees paid to Malaspina Consultants Inc.

At March 31, 2014, accounts payable and accrued liabilities include an amount of \$42,811 (December 31, 2013 – \$28,333), due to Malaspina Consultants Inc. for accounting services, and Marc Prefontaine, James Hutton, and Craig Angus for directors' fees.

Key management includes directors and executive officers of the Company. Other than the amounts disclosed above, there was no other compensation paid or payable to key management for employee services for the reported periods.

#### **Financial Instruments**

#### Fair Value and Classification of Financial Instruments

The Company's financial instruments consist of cash and cash equivalents, trade receivables, other receivables, and accounts payable and accrued liabilities. Cash and cash equivalents, trade receivables and other receivables are designated as loans and receivables, which are measured at amortized cost. Accounts payable and accrued liabilities are designated as other financial liabilities, which are measured at amortized cost. The carrying values of the Company's financial instruments approximate their fair values due to the short-term nature of these instruments.

### **Off-balance Sheet Arrangements**

The Company has not entered into any material off-balance sheet arrangements such as guarantee contracts, contingent interests in assets transferred to unconsolidated entities, derivative financial obligations, or with respect to any obligations under a variable interest equity arrangement.

## **Subsequent Event**

## **Stock Options**

On April 10, 2014, the Company granted 400,000 incentive stock options to a director having an exercise price of CDN\$1.00 each expiring April 10, 2019.

<sup>(2)</sup> The charge includes geological consulting fees paid to Pref-Ex Geological Inc. and directors' fees paid to Marc Prefontaine, James Hutton, and Craig Angus.

<sup>(3)</sup> The charge includes management fees paid to Arturo Préstamo Elizondo, the Chief Executive Officer, and salaries and benefits paid to Francisco Ramos, the Chief Operating Officer, which were capitalized in mine property during the 2013 fiscal year.

### **Outstanding Share Data**

Authorized share capital: Unlimited number of Common Shares

All share information is reported as of May 28, 2014 in the following table.

Issued and Outstand	ing Common Shares			103,493,484
	Expiry Date	Exercise Price (CDN\$)		
Options	May 10, 2015	\$0.90	300,000	
•	April 12, 2017	\$0.90	4,806,666	
	July 24, 2017	\$0.90	800,000	
	February 28, 2018	\$1.85	400,000	
	July 29, 2018	\$1.22	300,000	
	April 10, 2019	\$1.00	400,000	7,006,666
Warrants	February 19, 2015	\$1.85	1,311,000	
	March 11, 2016	\$1.00	645,000	
	March 20, 2016	\$1.00	78,750	2,034,750
Fully Diluted				112,534,900

6,325,856 of the outstanding common shares are held in escrow.

#### **Disclosure Controls and Procedures**

In connection with National Instrument 52-109 (Certificate of Disclosure in Issuer's Annual and Interim Filings) ("NI 52-109"), the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer of the Company have filed a Venture Issuer Basic Certificate with respect to the financial information contained in the unaudited condensed interim consolidated financial statements for the three months ended March 31, 2014 and this accompanying MD&A.

In contrast to the full certificate under NI 52-109, the Venture Issuer Basic Certificate does not include representations relating to the establishment and maintenance of disclosure controls and procedures and internal control over financial reporting, as defined in NI 52-109. For further information the reader should refer to the Venture Issuer Basic Certificates filed by the Company on SEDAR at <a href="https://www.sedar.com">www.sedar.com</a>.

#### **Risks and Uncertainties**

Natural resources exploration, development, production and processing involve a number of business risks, some of which are beyond the Company's control. These can be categorized as operational, financial and regulatory risks.

Operational risks include: the Company may not be able to find and develop resources economically, the Company cannot guarantee title to its properties, the Company may have difficulty in marketing production and services, the Company must manage changing governmental laws and regulations, the Company may have difficulty in hiring and retaining skilled employees and contractors, environmental hazards (including discharge of pollutants or hazardous chemicals), industrial accidents and occupational and health hazards, mechanical failures, the unavailability of materials and equipment, pit slope failures, unusual or unexpected rock formations, poor or unexpected geological or metallurgical conditions, poor or inadequate ventilation, failure of mine communication systems, poor water condition, interruptions to gas and electricity supplies, human error and adverse weather conditions, there is no assurance that the Company will acquire additional mineral properties and any acquisitions may expose the Company to new risks, and the mining industry is intensely competitive for the acquisition of new properties, access to

capital and hiring of skilled personnel. The Company continuously monitors and responds to changes in these factors and seeks to adhere to all regulations governing its operations.

Financial risks include commodity prices, interest rates and fluctuating foreign exchange rates, all of which are beyond the Company's control. Additional financial risks are the Company's ability to raise capital to continue funding its operations.

Regulatory risks include the possible delays in getting regulatory approval to, and permits for, the transactions that the Board of Directors believe to be in the best interest of the Company, and include increased fees for filings, the introduction of ever more complex reporting requirements the cost of which the Company must meet in order to maintain its exchange listing.

#### Outlook

During the first quarter of 2014 the Rosario Mine continued to steadily ramp up production and is approaching positive cash flow from operations. The near term focus of the Company is to continue increasing the production throughput at the Rosario Mine. To this end the Company has nearly completed the installation of an additional ball mill to the milling facility, which is currently approximately 90% complete and will be finished in June. Once online, this third ball mill will increase milling capacity to 700 tonnes per day. Once this significant upgrade to milling capacity is completed, management is confident that production levels at the Rosario Mine will increase in line with expectations by the third quarter. In addition to adding the third ball mill, management anticipates that other optimization processes underway at the Rosario Mine will assist in lowering the production costs.

Exploration activities will continue at the San Felipe Project including preparation of a preliminary economic assessment ("the PEA"). The PEA is expected to be completed during the third quarter of 2014. Based on the results of this study, and assuming a positive result, the Company expects to hold discussions in the third quarter with respect to finding an acceptable financing proposal for developing the project. Such discussions will be undertaken in consideration of current equity markets.

Once positive cash flow is established at the Rosario Mine the Company expects to recommence exploration activities at the Gavilanes Property.

### Additional Disclosure for Venture Issuers without Significant Revenue

The Company provides disclosure related to capitalized or expensed exploration and development costs in the notes to the financial statements and disclosure related to general and administration expenses in the statements of loss and comprehensive loss. The Company has no expensed research and development costs nor deferred development costs.

## **Oualified Persons**

All technical information which is included in this statement has been reviewed and approved by Donald E. Hulse P.E. of Gustavson and is consistent with work published by Gustavson.

#### Other Information

Additional information related to the Company is available on SEDAR at <a href="www.sedar.com">www.sedar.com</a> and on the Company's website, www.santacruzsilver.com.