

# CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED INTERIM FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

# FOR THE THREE AND SIX MONTHS ENDED JUNE 30, 2023 AND 2022

(Expressed in thousands of Canadian Dollars)

(Unaudited)

### **Condensed Consolidated Interim Statements of Financial Position**

(Unaudited - Expressed in thousands of Canadian Dollars)

		June 30	Do	ecember 31
	Notes	2023		2022
ASSETS				
Non-current assets				
Restricted Cash	5(b)	\$ 851	\$	852
Mineral property, plant and equipment	3	124,579		127,531
Total non-current assets		125,430		128,383
<b>Current assets</b>				
Amounts receivable and prepaid expenses	4	9,845		2,662
Cash and cash equivalents	5(a)	3,424		14,173
Total current assets		13,269		16,835
Total Assets		\$ 138,699	\$	145,218
EQUITY				
Capital and reserves				
Share capital	6	\$ 700,278	\$	700,278
Reserves	6	116,263		118,369
Deficit		(689,230)		(675,962)
Total equity		127,311		142,685
LIABILITIES				
Non-current liabilities				
Lease liabilities	8	385		463
Total non-current liabilities		385		463
Current liabilities				
Payables to related parties	7	286		237
Trade and other payables	8	10,717		1,833
Total current liabilities		11,003		2,070
Total liabilities		11,388		2,533
Total Equity and Liabilities		\$ 138,699	\$	145,218

Nature and continuance of operations (note 1) Commitments and contingencies (note 13)

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these condensed consolidated interim financial statements.

These condensed consolidated interim financial statements are signed on the Company's behalf by:

/s/ Ronald W. Thiessen /s/ Christian Milau
Ronald W. Thiessen Christian Milau
Director Director

# Condensed Consolidated Interim Statements of Comprehensive Loss (Unaudited - Expressed in thousands of Canadian Dollars, except for share information)

		Thr	ee months	ended J	une 30	Six months ended June 30			
	Notes		2023		2022		2023		2022
Expenses									
Exploration and evaluation expenses	9, 10	\$	1,813	\$	2,182	\$	4,087	\$	4,483
General and administrative expenses		Ф	2,626	Ф	2,162	Ф	5,071	Ф	4,463
•	9, 10								
Legal, accounting and audit			1,449		1,521		3,474		1,605
Share-based compensation	6(c),(d)		403		6		816		12
Loss from operating activities			6,291		6,226		13,448		10,710
Foreign exchange income			(9)		-		(23)		(3)
Interest income			(75)		(55)		(172)		(91)
Finance expense			14		17		29		34
Other income			(13)		-		(14)		-
Net loss		\$	6,208	\$	6,188	\$	13,268	\$	10,650
Other community less (in come)									
Other comprehensive loss (income)									
Items that may be subsequently reclassified to net loss	(()		2.501		(2,0(0)		2.022		(2.425)
Foreign exchange translation difference	6(e)		2,581		(3,860)		2,922		(2,435)
Other comprehensive loss (income)		\$	2,581	\$	(3,860)	\$	2,922	\$	(2,435)
Total comprehensive loss		\$	8,789	\$	2,328	\$	16,190	\$	8,215
Basic and diluted loss per share	11	\$	0.01	\$	0.01	\$	0.03	\$	0.02

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these condensed consolidated interim financial statements.

# **Condensed Consolidated Interim Statements of Cash Flows**

(Unaudited - Expressed in thousands of Canadian Dollars)

	Six m	Six months ended June 30			
Notes		2023		2022	
Operating activities		10.010	_	(10 ( <b>=</b> 0)	
Net loss	\$ (1	13,268)	\$	(10,650)	
Non-cash or non operating items					
Depreciation 3		82		121	
Interest income		(172)		(91)	
Share-based compensation		816		12	
Unrealized foreign exchange gain		(7)		(14)	
<u>Changes in working capital items</u>					
Amounts receivable and prepaid expenses		(7,151)		1,402	
Trade and other payables		8,857		(109)	
Payables to related parties		49		(55)	
Net cash used in operating activities	(	10,794)		(9,384)	
Investing activities					
Acquisition of plant and equipment		_		(21)	
Disposal of plant and equipment		1		_	
Interest received on cash and cash equivalents		140		71	
Net cash from investing activities		141		50	
Financing activities					
Payments of principal portion of lease liabilities		(73)		(61)	
Net cash used in financing activities		(73)		(61)	
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents	(*	10,726)		(9,395)	
Effect of exchange rate fluctuations on cash and cash equivalents	(-	(23)		25	
Cash and cash equivalents - beginning balance		14,173		22,291	
			¢		
Cash and cash equivalents - ending balance 5(a)	\$	3,424	\$	12,921	

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these condensed consolidated interim financial statements.

# **Condensed Consolidated Interim Statements of Changes in Equity**

(Unaudited - Expressed in thousands of Canadian Dollars, except for share information)

	Notes	Share c	capital			Rese	rves	5				
		Number of shares (note 6(a))		Amount	Equity - settled are-based pensation reserve	Foreign currency ranslation reserve (note 6(e))		nvestment evaluation reserve	1	Share Purchase Warrants note 6(b))	Deficit	Total equity
Balance at January 1, 2022		529,779,388	\$	700,278	\$ 77,723	\$ 28,758	\$	(17)	\$	271	\$ (651,520)	\$ 155,493
Share-based compensation	6(d)	_		-	12	-		-		-	-	12
Net loss		_		-	-	-		-		-	(10,650)	(10,650)
Other comprehensive income net of tax		_		-	-	2,435		-		-	-	2,435
Total comprehensive loss												(8,215)
Balance at June 30, 2022		529,779,388	\$ 7	700,278	\$ 77,735	\$ 31,193	\$	(17)	\$	271	\$ (662,170)	\$ 147,290
Balance at January 1, 2023		529,779,388	\$	700,278	\$ 80,024	\$ 38,091	\$	(17)	\$	271	\$ (675,962)	\$ 142,685
Share-based compensation	6(c),(d)	-		-	816	-		-		-	-	816
Net loss		-		-	-	-		-		-	(13,268)	(13,268)
Other comprehensive loss net of tax		-		-	_	(2,922)		-		-	-	(2,922)
Total comprehensive loss												(16,190)
Balance at June 30, 2023		529,779,388	\$ 7	700,278	\$ 80,840	\$ 35,169	\$	(17)	\$	271	\$ (689,230)	\$ 127,311

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these condensed consolidated interim financial statements.

Notes to the Condensed Consolidated Interim Financial Statements

For the three and six months ended June 30, 2023 and 2022

(Unaudited - Expressed in thousands of Canadian Dollars, unless otherwise stated, except per share, option, warrant or DSU)

#### 1. NATURE AND CONTINUANCE OF OPERATIONS

Northern Dynasty Minerals Ltd. (the "Company") is incorporated under the laws of the Province of British Columbia, Canada, and its principal business activity is the exploration of mineral properties. The Company is listed on the Toronto Stock Exchange ("TSX") under the symbol "NDM" and on the NYSE American Exchange ("NYSE American") under the symbol "NAK". The Company's corporate office is located at 1040 West Georgia Street, 14th floor, Vancouver, British Columbia.

The condensed consolidated interim financial statements ("Financial Statements") of the Company as at and for the three and six months ended June 30, 2023, include financial information for the Company and its subsidiaries (together referred to as the "Group" and individually as "Group entities"). The Company is the ultimate parent. The Group's core mineral property interest is the Pebble Copper-Gold-Molybdenum-Silver-Rhenium Project (the "Pebble Project") located in Alaska, United States of America ("USA" or "US"). All US dollar amounts when presented are denoted "US\$" and expressed in thousands, unless otherwise stated.

The Group is in the process of exploring and evaluating the Pebble Project and has not yet determined whether the Pebble Project contains mineral reserves that are economically recoverable. The Group's continuing operations and the underlying value and recoverability of the amounts shown for the Group's mineral property interests is entirely dependent upon the existence of economically recoverable mineral reserves; the ability of the Group to obtain financing to complete the exploration and development of the Pebble Project; the Group obtaining the necessary permits to mine; and future profitable production or proceeds from the disposition of the Pebble Project.

As of June 30, 2023, the Group had \$3,424 (December 31, 2022 - \$14,173) in cash and cash equivalents for its operating requirements and working capital (current assets minus current liabilities) of \$2,266 (December 31, 2022 – \$14,765). These Financial Statements have been prepared on the basis of a going concern, which assumes that the Group will be able to raise sufficient funds to continue its exploration and development activities and satisfy its obligations as they come due. During the six months ended June 30, 2023, the Group incurred a net loss of \$13,268 (2022 - \$10,650), and had a deficit of \$689,230 as of June 30, 2023 (December 31, 2022 - \$675,962). The Group has prioritized the allocation of its financial resources to meet key corporate and Pebble Project expenditure requirements in the near term, including funding the ongoing activities relating to the appeal and remand of the Record of Decision (the "ROD"), the Group's response to the US Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA")'s final determination (both discussed below) and class action litigation (note 13(a)). Additional financing will be required in order to progress any material expenditures relating to the permitting of the Pebble Project and for working capital requirements. Additional financing may include any of or a combination of debt, equity and/or contributions from possible new Pebble Project participants. There can be no assurances that the Group will be successful in obtaining additional financing or funding when required. If the Group is unable to raise the necessary capital resources and generate sufficient cash flows to meet obligations as they come due, the Group may, at some point, consider reducing or curtailing its operations. As such, there is material uncertainty that raises substantial doubt about the Group's ability to continue as a going concern.

These Financial Statements do not reflect adjustments to the carrying values and classification of assets and liabilities that might be necessary should the Company be unable to continue as a going concern, and such adjustments could be material.

The Group, through the Pebble Limited Partnership ("Pebble Partnership"), initiated federal and state permitting for the Pebble Project under the National Environmental Protection Act ("NEPA") by filing documentation for a Clean Water Act ("CWA") 404 permit with the US Army Corps of Engineers ("USACE") in December 2017. The USACE published a draft Environmental Impact Statement ("EIS") in February 2019 and completed a 120-day public comment period thereon on July 2, 2019. In late July 2019, the EPA withdrew the determination initiated under Section 404(c) of the CWA in 2014 for the waters of Bristol Bay ("Proposed Determination"), which

Notes to the Condensed Consolidated Interim Financial Statements

For the three and six months ended June 30, 2023 and 2022

(Unaudited - Expressed in thousands of Canadian Dollars, unless otherwise stated, except per share, option, warrant or DSU)

attempted to pre-emptively veto the Pebble Project before it received an objective, scientific regulatory review under NEPA. On July 24, 2020, the USACE published the final EIS. On November 25, 2020, the USACE issued a ROD rejecting the Pebble Partnership's permit application, finding concerns with the proposed compensatory mitigation plan and determining the project would be contrary to the public interest. The ROD rejected the compensatory mitigation plan as "noncompliant" and determined the project would cause "significant degradation" and was contrary to the public interest. Based on this finding, the USACE rejected Pebble Partnership's permit application under the CWA. On January 19, 2021, the Pebble Partnership submitted its request for appeal of the ROD with the USACE Pacific Ocean Division ("USACE POD") (the "RFA"). On February 24, 2021, the USACE POD notified the Pebble Partnership that the RFA is "complete and meets the criteria for appeal" and assigned a review officer ("RO") to oversee the administrative appeal process at that time and has since assigned a new RO. While federal regulations suggest the appeal should conclude within 90 days, and no case extend beyond one year, the USACE POD also indicated that due to the complexity of issues and volume of materials associated with the Pebble Project case, the review will take additional time. In June 2021, the USACE POD completed the 'administrative record' for the appeal and provided a copy to the Pebble Partnership, following which the Pebble Partnership and its legal counsel reviewed the voluminous record for completeness and relevance to the USACE's permitting decision, and its sufficiency to support a fair, transparent and efficient review. An appeal conference was held in July 2022. On April 24, 2023, the USACE POD issued its decision to remand the permit application denial to the USACE Alaska District so that office can re-evaluate specific issues. As a result of the remand decision and in light of the EPA's Final Determination (discussed below), the District has been instructed to review the appeal decision and had 45 days to notify the parties how it plans to proceed. The USACE Alaska District requested and has been granted four extensions to communicate its plans and the current deadline is September 26, 2023. The outcome from the remand remains uncertain.

On October 29, 2021, the court granted the EPA's motion for remand, and vacated the EPA's 2019 withdrawal of the Proposed Determination decision, thus reinstating the Proposed Determination. The court declined to impose a schedule on the EPA's proceedings on remand. On May 25, 2022, the EPA announced that it intended to advance its pre-emptive veto of the Pebble Project and issued a revised Proposed Determination. Public comments on the revised Proposed Determination closed on September 6, 2022. The Pebble Partnership submitted extensive comments on the Revised Proposed Determination, objecting to the EPA's preemptive veto of the Pebble Project and stating its concerns about legal and factual flaws therein. On January 30, 2023, the EPA issued a Final Determination under Section 404(c) of the CWA, imposing limitations on the use of certain waters in the Bristol Bay watershed as disposal sites for certain discharges of dredged or fill material associated with development of a mine at the Pebble deposit. This Final Determination is the concluding step in the administrative process set forth in 40 C.F.R. Part 231, which governs the EPA's authority under Section 404(c) to veto permit decisions. The Administrative Procedure Act ("APA"), 5 USC §551 et seq., which governs judicial review of agency decisions, provides that individuals aggrieved by agency action may seek judicial review of any "final agency action." The EPA's administrative determination can be challenged by filing a lawsuit in U.S. federal district court seeking reversal of that decision.

The Company and the Pebble Partnership plan to seek judicial review of the Final Determination through a challenge in a U.S. federal district court. On July 26, 2023, the State of Alaska filed a Motion for Leave to File a Bill of Complaint with the US Supreme Court challenging the Final Determination. The Company intends to prepare and file with the Supreme Court appropriate briefs to support the State's Motion and/or the State's case in the event that the Supreme Court exercises its discretion and decides to grant the Motion and hear the case.

Notes to the Condensed Consolidated Interim Financial Statements

For the three and six months ended June 30, 2023 and 2022

(Unaudited - Expressed in thousands of Canadian Dollars, unless otherwise stated, except per share, option, warrant or DSU)

#### 2. MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES

#### (a) Statement of Compliance

These Financial Statements have been prepared in accordance with IAS 34, *Interim Financial Reporting,* as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board ("IASB") and interpretations issued by the IFRS Interpretations Committee ("IFRIC"s). They do not include all of the information required by IFRS for complete annual financial statements and should be read in conjunction with the Group's consolidated financial statements as at and for the year ended December 31, 2022 (the "2022 annual financial statements").

These Financial Statements were authorized for issue by the Audit and Risk Committee on August 10, 2023.

#### (b) Significant Accounting Estimates and Judgements

In preparing these Financial Statements, management has made judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the application of accounting policies and the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, income and expense. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

There was no change in the use of significant estimates and judgments during the current period as compared to those described in Note 2 in the 2022 annual financial statements, two of which are discussed below:

#### Critical accounting judgments

#### Mineral Property Interest

The Group used judgement in concluding that no impairment indicators exist in relation to the Pebble Project, notwithstanding the receipt of the ROD denial of the permit by the USACE for the Pebble Project and the Final Determination issued by the EPA that prohibits the disposal of dredged or fill material for the Pebble Project, both of which may be considered an indicator under IFRS 6, *Exploration for and Evaluation of Mineral Resources*, for testing for impairment. Key to the Group's judgement conclusion include the following:

- The Group submitted an administrative appeal with the USACE POD on the permit denial and the USACE POD
  has remanded the permit decision to the USACE Alaska District to re-evaluate specific issues. The Group is
  awaiting what the next steps are to be followed by the USACE Alaska District in this regard. In addition, the
  Group is pursuing other options available to it;
- With respect to the Final Determination, the Group has legal avenues to pursue to contest this determination; and
- The Company's market capitalization on June 30, 2023, and the date the Financial Statements were authorized for issuance, exceeded the carrying value of the Pebble Project and the Group's net asset value.

#### Going Concern

The Group has employed judgement that going concern was an appropriate basis for the preparation of the Financial Statements, as the Group considered existing financial resources and plans for raising funds in determining that key corporate and Pebble Project expenditure requirements will be met for at least the next twelve months (note 1).

Notes to the Condensed Consolidated Interim Financial Statements

For the three and six months ended June 30, 2023 and 2022

(Unaudited - Expressed in thousands of Canadian Dollars, unless otherwise stated, except per share, option, warrant or DSU)

#### (c) Recent Accounting Pronouncements

Certain new standards, interpretations, amendments and improvements to existing standards were issued by the IASB. The following were adopted by the Group on January 1, 2023:

- IAS 1, Presentation of Financial Statements ("IAS 1") and IFRS Practice Statement 2, Making Materiality Judgements Disclosure of Accounting Policies (the "Practice Statement"): In February 2021, the IASB issued amendments to IAS 1 and the Practice Statement to provide guidance on the application of materiality judgments to accounting policy disclosures. The amendments to IAS 1 replace the requirement to disclose 'significant' accounting policies with a requirement to disclose 'material' accounting policies. Guidance and illustrative examples are added in the Practice Statement to assist in the application of materiality concept when making judgments about accounting policy disclosures. The adoption of these amendments had no impact on the Financial Statements.
- IAS 8, Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors ("IAS 8"): In February 2021, the IASB issued amendments to IAS 8 Definition of Accounting Estimates to help entities to distinguish between accounting policies and accounting estimates. The amendments clarify that accounting estimates are "monetary amounts in financial statements that are subject to measurement uncertainty" and that a change in accounting estimate that results from new information or new developments is not the correction of an error. In addition, the effects of a change in an input or a measurement technique used to develop an accounting estimate are changes in accounting estimates if they do not result from the correction of prior period errors. The adoption of these amendments had no impact on the Financial Statements.

The following has not yet been adopted by the Group:

• IAS 1, Classification of Debt with Covenants as Current or Non-current: In October 2022, the IASB issued amendments to IAS 1 titled "Non-current Liabilities with Covenants". These amendments seek to improve the information that an entity provides when its right to defer settlement of a liability is subject to compliance with covenants within 12 months after the reporting period. These amendments to IAS 1 override but incorporate the previous amendments, Classification of Debt as Current or Non-current, issued in January 2020, which clarified that liabilities are classified as either current or non-current, depending on the rights that exist at the end of the reporting period. Liabilities should be classified as non-current if an entity has a substantive right to defer settlement for at least 12 months at the end of the reporting period. The amendments are effective January 1, 2024, with early adoption permitted. Retrospective application is required on adoption. The Group does not expect these amendments to have a material effect on its consolidated financial statements.

Notes to the Condensed Consolidated Interim Financial Statements

For the three and six months ended June 30, 2023 and 2022

(Unaudited - Expressed in thousands of Canadian Dollars, unless otherwise stated, except per share, option, warrant or DSU)

#### 3. MINERAL PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

The Group's exploration and evaluation assets are comprised of the following:

Six months ended June 30, 2023	Mineral Property		Plant and	
	Interest <sup>1</sup>	Equ	uipment <sup>2</sup>	Total
Cost				
Beginning Balance	\$ 97,078	\$	2,435	\$ 99,513
Additions	-		16	16
Disposal of plant and equipment	-		(6)	(6)
Derecognition of right-of-use asset	_		(196)	(196)
Ending balance	97,078		2,249	99,327
Accumulated depreciation				
Beginning Balance	-		(2,129)	(2,129)
Depreciation charge for the period <sup>3</sup>	-		(82)	(82)
Derecognition on disposal of plant and equipment	-		6	6
Derecognition of right-of-use asset	_		191	191
Ending balance	-		(2,014)	(2,014)
Foreign currency translation difference				
Beginning Balance	29,922		225	30,147
Movement from derecognition of right-of-use asset	-		5	5
Movement for the period	(2,876)		(10)	(2,886)
Ending balance	27,046		220	27,266
Net carrying value – December 31, 2022	\$ 127,000	\$	531	\$ 127,531
Net carrying value – June 30, 2023	\$ 124,124	\$	455	\$ 124,579

#### Notes to table:

#### 1. Mineral Property Interest

Comprises the Pebble Project, a contiguous block of 1,840 mineral claims covering approximately 274 square miles located in southwest Alaska, 17 miles (30 kilometers) from the villages of Iliamna and Newhalen, and approximately 200 miles (320 kilometers) southwest of the city of Anchorage.

#### 2. Plant and Equipment include Right-of-Use Assets ("ROU Assets")

ROU Assets, which relate to the use of office space, office equipment and, yard storage are included under plant and equipment. The following comprises ROU Assets:

Notes to the Condensed Consolidated Interim Financial Statements

For the three and six months ended June 30, 2023 and 2022

(Unaudited - Expressed in thousands of Canadian Dollars, unless otherwise stated, except per share, option, warrant or DSU)

Six months ended June 30, 2023	Land and			
	 Buildings	Equi	pment	Total
Cost				
Beginning	\$ 1,024	\$	32	\$ 1,056
Addition	-		16	16
Derecognition of ROU Asset	(196)		_	(196)
Ending balance	828		48	876
Accumulated depreciation				
Beginning balance	(510)		(30)	(540)
Depreciation charge for the period <sup>3</sup>	(73)		(1)	(74)
Derecognition of ROU Asset	191		-	191
Ending balance	(392)		(31)	(423)
Foreign currency translation difference				
Beginning balance	2		(1)	1
Movement from derecognition of ROU Asset	5		-	5
Movement for the period	(10)		(1)	(11)
Ending balance	(3)		(2)	(5)
Net carrying value – December 31, 2022	\$ 516	\$	1	\$ 517
Net carrying value – June 30, 2023	\$ 433	\$	15	\$ 448

3. For the three months ended June 30, 2023, total depreciation was \$41 (2022 – \$61), of which ROU Asset depreciation was \$37 (2022 – \$37). For the six months ended June 30, 2023, total depreciation was \$82 (2022 – \$121) of which ROU Asset depreciation was \$74 (2022 – \$73). ROU Asset depreciation of \$25 (2022 – \$26) and \$50 (2022 – \$51) is included in general and administrative expenses (note 9(b)). The remainder of depreciation is included in exploration and evaluation expenses.

#### 4. AMOUNTS RECEIVABLE AND PREPAID EXPENSES

	June 30	Dec	ember 31
	2023		2022
Sales tax receivable	\$ 103	\$	66
Interest, refundable deposits, and other receivables	29		64
Prepaid expenses <sup>1</sup>	1,268		2,532
Class action settlement recoverable (note 13(a))	8,445		_
Total	\$ 9,845	\$	2,662

Note to table:

1. Includes prepaid insurance, which is amortized over the insurance term.

#### 5. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AND RESTRICTED CASH

## (a) Cash and cash equivalents

Notes to the Condensed Consolidated Interim Financial Statements

For the three and six months ended June 30, 2023 and 2022

(Unaudited - Expressed in thousands of Canadian Dollars, unless otherwise stated, except per share, option, warrant or DSU)

The Group's cash and cash equivalents at June 30, 2023 and December 31, 2022, consisted of cash on hand and was invested in business and savings accounts.

#### (b) Restricted cash

The Group has cash deposited with a United States financial institution that has been pledged as collateral to the surety provider for a US\$2,000 surety bond that was placed with the Alaskan regulatory authorities for a performance guarantee related to any potential reclamation liability as a condition of the Miscellaneous Land Use Permit granted to the Pebble Partnership for its ongoing activities on the Pebble Project. The cash deposit will be released once any reclamation work required has been performed and assessed by the Alaskan regulatory authorities. The cash is invested in a money market fund. For the three and six months ended June 30, 2023, the Group earned \$9 (2022 – nominal) and \$18 (2022 – nominal) income, respectively, which was re-invested.

#### 6. CAPITAL AND RESERVES

#### (a) Authorized Share Capital

At June 30, 2023 and 2022, authorized share capital consisted of an unlimited number of common shares ("Shares") with no par value, of which 529,779,388 (2022 – 529,779,388) Shares were issued and fully paid.

#### (b) Options not Issued under the Group's Incentive Plan

The following reconciles outstanding non-employee options (options that were not issued under the Group's incentive plan (see (c) below)), each exercisable to acquire one share, for the six months ended June 30, 2023 and 2022 respectively:

	Number of	Weighted average exercise price	Remaining life in
Continuity	options <sup>1</sup>	(\$/options)	years <sup>2</sup>
Balance December 31, 2021 and June 30, 2022	94,000	0.36	1.25
Expired	(56,400)	0.40	
Balance December 31, 2022 and June 30, 2023	37,600	0.29	1.44

#### Notes to table:

- 1. The Group issued options in exchange for those which were outstanding in Cannon Point Resources Ltd. ("Cannon Point") on the acquisition of the company in October 2015.
- 2. As of June 30, 2022 and 2023.

#### (c) Share Purchase Option Compensation Plan

The following reconciles the Group's share purchase options ("options") issued and outstanding pursuant to the Group's incentive plan for the three and six months ended June 30, 2023 and 2022:

Notes to the Condensed Consolidated Interim Financial Statements

For the three and six months ended June 30, 2023 and 2022

(Unaudited - Expressed in thousands of Canadian Dollars, unless otherwise stated, except per share, option, warrant or DSU)

Continuity of options	Number of options	Weighted average exercise price (\$/option)
Balance December 31, 2021 and June 30, 2022	20,825,500	1.45
Expired	(4,386,000)	1.75
Granted	11,254,000	0.41
Balance December 31, 2022 and June 30,2023	27,693,500	0.98

For the three and six months ended June 30, 2023, the Group recognized share-based compensation ("SBC") for options of \$397 (2022 – \$nil) and \$804 (2022 – \$nil) in the Statement of Comprehensive Loss.

The following table summarizes information on options outstanding as at the reported dates:

	J	une 30, 2023		Dec	2	
•			Weighted			Weighted
			Average			Average
			Remaining			Remaining
	Number	Number	contractual	Number of	Number of	contractual
Exercise	of options	of options	life	options	options	life
prices (\$)	outstanding	exercisable	(years)	outstanding	exercisable	(years)
0.41	11,254,000	5,627,000	4.14	11,254,000	5,627,000	4.63
0.76	3,300,000	3,300,000	0.11	3,300,000	3,300,000	0.61
0.99	6,368,500	6,368,500	1.25	6,368,500	6,368,500	1.74
2.01	6,696,000	6,696,000	2.05	6,696,000	6,696,000	2.55
2.34	75,000	75,000	0.08	75,000	75,000	0.58
Total	27,693,500	22,066,500		27,693,500	22,066,500	

The weighted average contractual life for options outstanding pursuant to the Group's incentive plan was 2.48 (December 31, 2022 – 2.97) years per option. The weighted average contractual life and exercise price for exercisable options as at June 30, 2023 was 2.06 (December 31, 2022 – 2.55) years and \$1.12 (December 31, 2022 – \$1.12) per option.

#### (d) Deferred Share Units ("DSUs")

The following reconciles DSUs outstanding for the six months ended June 30, 2023 and 2022:

	Number of	Weighted average fair value
Continuity of DSUs	DSUs	(\$/DSU)
Balance December 31, 2021	477,711	0.69
Granted	25,719	0.47
Balance June 30, 2022	503,430	0.68
Granted	35,856	0.33
Balance December 31, 2022	539,286	0.65
Granted	39,235	0.31
Balance June 30, 2023	578,521	0.63

Notes to the Condensed Consolidated Interim Financial Statements

For the three and six months ended June 30, 2023 and 2022

(Unaudited - Expressed in thousands of Canadian Dollars, unless otherwise stated, except per share, option, warrant or DSU)

For the three and six months ended June 30, 2023, SBC of \$6 (2022 – \$6) and \$12 (2022 – \$12) was recognized in the Statement of Comprehensive Loss, based on the aggregate market value of shares on grant date, with a corresponding increase in the equity-settled share payment reserve in equity.

Subsequent to the reporting period the Group issued 20,804 DSUs with a fair value of \$0.31 per DSU on date of grant (note 7(a)) and 143,622 DSUs with a fair value of \$0.69 on date of grant were redeemed and paid out in Shares.

#### (e) Foreign Currency Translation Reserve

Continuity	
Balance December 31, 2021	\$ 28,758
Gain on translation of foreign subsidiaries	2,435
Balance June 30, 2022	31,193
Gain on translation of foreign subsidiaries	6,898
Balance December 31, 2022	38,091
Loss on translation of foreign subsidiaries	(2,922)
Balance June 30, 2023	\$ 35,169

The foreign currency translation reserve represents accumulated exchange differences arising on the translation, into the Group's presentation currency (the Canadian dollar), of the results of operations and net assets of the Group's subsidiaries with a US dollar functional currency.

#### 7. RELATED PARTY BALANCES AND TRANSACTIONS

The components of transactions to related parties is as follows:

	June 30	Dece	ember 31
Payables to related parties	2023		2022
Key management personnel ("KMP") (a)	\$ 27	\$	35
Hunter Dickinson Services Inc. ("HDSI") (b)	259		202
Total payables to related parties	\$ 286	\$	237

Balances and transactions between the Company and its subsidiaries, which are related parties of the Company, have been eliminated on consolidation. Details between the Group and other related parties are disclosed below.

#### (a) Transactions and Balances with Key Management Personnel

The aggregate value of transactions with KMP, being the Group's directors and also including the Chief Executive Officer ("CEO"), Chief Financial Officer ("CFO"), Company Secretary and General Counsel, Executive Vice President ("EVP"), Environment and Sustainability, Vice President ("VP"), Corporate Communications, VP, Engineering, and the Pebble Partnership's Interim CEO and Senior VP, was as follows for the three and six months ended June 30, 2023 and 2022:

Notes to the Condensed Consolidated Interim Financial Statements

For the three and six months ended June 30, 2023 and 2022

(Unaudited - Expressed in thousands of Canadian Dollars, unless otherwise stated, except per share, option, warrant or DSU)

	Three months					Six months			
Transaction		2023		2022		2023		2022	
Compensation								_	
Amounts paid and payable to HDSI for									
services of KMP employed by HDSI <sup>1</sup>	\$	639	\$	636	\$	1,274	\$	1,290	
Amounts paid and payable to KMP 2		505		516		958		977	
		1,144		1,152		2,232		2,267	
Share-based compensation 3		263		6		524		12	
<b>Total compensation</b>	\$	1,407	\$	1,158	\$	2,756	\$	2,279	

#### Notes to table:

- 1. The Group's CEO, CFO, Board Chair and senior management, other than disclosed in note 2 below, are employed by the Group through HDSI (refer (b) below).
- 2. Represents short-term employee benefits, including director's fees paid to the Group's independent directors, and salaries paid and payable to the Pebble Partnership's Interim CEO and Senior VP.
- 3. SBC relates to options issued and/or vesting and DSUs granted during the respective periods (notes 6(c)-(d)).

Subsequent to the reporting period 20,804 DSUs were issued to a director (note 6(d)).

#### (b) Transactions and Balances with other Related Parties

HDSI is a private company that provides geological, engineering, environmental, corporate development, financial, administrative and management services to the Group and its subsidiaries at annually set rates pursuant to a management services agreement. The annually set rates also include a component of overhead costs such as office rent, information technology services and general administrative support services. HDSI also incurs third party costs on behalf of the Group, which are reimbursed by the Group at cost. Several directors and other key management personnel of HDSI, who are close business associates, are also key management personnel of the Group.

For the three and six months ended June 30, 2023 and 2022, transactions with HDSI were as follows:

Notes to the Condensed Consolidated Interim Financial Statements

For the three and six months ended June 30, 2023 and 2022

(Unaudited - Expressed in thousands of Canadian Dollars, unless otherwise stated, except per share, option, warrant or DSU)

	T	nonths		Six months				
Transactions	2	023		2022		2023		2022
Services rendered by HDSI:								
Technical <sup>1</sup>								
Engineering	\$	102	\$	68	\$	187	\$	181
Environmental		95		140		190		280
Other technical services		26		-		52		20
		223		208		429		481
General and administrative								
Management, consulting, corporate								
communications, secretarial, financial								
and administration		586		563		1,184		1,121
Shareholder communication		175		189		353		379
		761		752		1,537		1,500
Total for services rendered		984		960		1,966		1,981
Deinghouse and (makes d) afthird month								
Reimbursement (refund) of third-party expenses								
Conferences and travel		68		47		143		88
Insurance		1		(23)		82		48
Office supplies and information								
technology <sup>2</sup>		149		132		309		273
Total reimbursed		218		156		534		409
Total	\$ 1,	202	\$	1,116	\$	2,500	\$	2,390

Notes to table:

- 1. Included in exploration and evaluation expenses.
- 2. Includes payments made for the use of offices and shared space for the three months of \$47 (2022 \$37) and six months of \$93 (2022 \$82). In April 2021, the Company signed an office use agreement effective May 1, 2021, for a five-year term ending April 29, 2026. As of June 30, 2023, the remaining undiscounted commitment was \$288 (note 13(e)).

Pursuant to an addendum to the management services agreement between HDSI and the Company, following a change of control, the Company is subject to termination payments if the management services agreement is terminated. The Company will be required to pay HDSI \$2,800 and an aggregate amount equal to six months of annual salaries payable to certain individual service providers under the management services agreement and their respective employment agreements with HDSI.

Notes to the Condensed Consolidated Interim Financial Statements

For the three and six months ended June 30, 2023 and 2022

(Unaudited - Expressed in thousands of Canadian Dollars, unless otherwise stated, except per share, option, warrant or DSU)

#### 8. TRADE AND OTHER PAYABLES

	June 30	Dece	mber 31
Current liabilities	2023		2022
Falling due within the year			
Trade	\$ 2,115	\$	1,683
Lease liabilities <sup>1</sup>	157		150
Class action settlement (note 13(a))	8,445		
Total	\$ 10,717	\$	1,833
Non-current liabilities			
Lease liabilities <sup>1</sup>	385		463
Total	\$ 385	\$	463

#### Notes to table:

1. Lease liabilities relate to leases of offices, office equipment and for yard storage, which have remaining lease terms of 14 to 83 months and interest rates of 9.5% – 12% over the term of the leases. During the three and six months ended June 30, 2023, the Group recognized \$14 (2022 - \$17) and \$29 (2022 - \$34) respectively, in interest expense on lease liabilities.

The following summarizes lease liabilities for the reporting periods indicated:

	June 30	Dece	mber 31
Lease liabilities	2023		2022
Beginning balance	\$ 613	\$	687
Interest expense	29		67
Lease payments	(102)		(196)
Lease recognition	16		10
Foreign currency translation difference	(14)		45
Ending balance	542		613
Current portion	157		150
Non-current portion	385		463
Total	\$ 542	\$	613

The following table provides the schedule of undiscounted lease liabilities as at June 30, 2023:

	Total
Less than one year	\$ 203
One to five years	423
Later than 5 years	75
Total undiscounted lease liabilities	\$ 701

The Group had short-term lease commitments of less than a year relating to a property lease totaling \$55 as of January 1, 2023. During the three and six months ended June 30, 2023, the Group incurred \$nil in short-

Notes to the Condensed Consolidated Interim Financial Statements

For the three and six months ended June 30, 2023 and 2022

(Unaudited - Expressed in thousands of Canadian Dollars, unless otherwise stated, except per share, option, warrant or DSU)

term lease commitments (2022 – \$157 and \$157 respectively) and expensed \$14 (2022 - \$39) and \$55 (2022 - \$77) over the same periods.

#### 9. EXPLORATION AND EVALUATION AND GENERAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

#### (a) Exploration and Evaluation Expenses ("E&E")

For the three and six months ended June 30, 2023 and 2022, E&E consisted of the following:

E&E	Three months				Six months			
		2023		2022		2023		2022
Engineering	\$	484	\$	98	\$	1,585	\$	1,046
Environmental		334		561		640		1,098
Property fees		2		-		2		-
Site activities		401		554		671		836
Socio-economic		669		507		1,217		1,024
Transportation		(73)		435		(73)		435
Other activities and travel		(4)		27		45		44
Total	\$	1,813	\$	2,182	\$	4,087	\$	4,483

#### (b) General and Administrative Expenses ("G&A")

For the three and six months ended June 30, 2023 and 2022, G&A consisted of the following:

G&A	Three months					Six months			
		2023		2022		2023		2022	
Conference and travel	\$	180	\$	99	\$	283	\$	149	
Consulting		151		120		375		269	
Depreciation of right-of-use assets		26		26		50		51	
Insurance		845		499		1,581		1,024	
Office costs, including information									
technology		190		245		375		420	
Management and administration		851		809		1,582		1,564	
Shareholder communication		373		593		639		812	
Trust and filing		10		126		186		321	
Total	\$	2,626	\$	2,517	\$	5,071	\$	4,610	

#### 10. EMPLOYMENT COSTS

For the three and six months ended June 30, 2023 and 2022, the Group recorded the following:

Notes to the Condensed Consolidated Interim Financial Statements

For the three and six months ended June 30, 2023 and 2022

(Unaudited - Expressed in thousands of Canadian Dollars, unless otherwise stated, except per share, option, warrant or DSU)

	Three months				Six months			
		2023		2022	2023		2022	
Exploration and evaluation								
Salaries and benefits	\$	517	\$	563	\$ 1,022	\$	1,140	
Amounts paid for services by HDSI								
personnel (note 7(b))		224		206	429		480	
		741		769	1,451		1,620	
General and administrative								
Salaries and benefits		382		350	764		709	
Amounts paid for services by HDSI								
personnel (note 7(b))		631		625	1,273		1,247	
		1,013		975	2,037		1,956	
Share-based payments		403		6	816		12	
	\$	2,157	\$	1,750	\$ 4,304	\$	3,588	

#### 11. BASIC AND DILUTED LOSS PER SHARE

The calculation of basic and diluted loss per share for the three and six months ended June 30, 2023 and 2022 was based on the following:

	 Thre	e mon	Six months			
	2023		2022	2023		2022
Loss attributable to shareholders	\$ 6,208	\$	6,188	\$ 13,268	\$	10,650
Weighted average number of shares						
outstanding (000s)	529,779		529,779	529,779		529,779

For the three and six months ended June 30, 2023 and 2022, basic and diluted loss per share does not include the effect of employee share purchase options outstanding (2023 - 27,693,500, 2022 - 20,825,500), non-employee share purchase options and warrants (2023 - 37,600,2022 - 94,000) and DSUs (2023 - 578,521,2022 - 503,430), as they were anti-dilutive.

#### 12. FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT

The Group is exposed in varying degrees to a variety of financial instrument related risks. The Board approves and monitors the risk management processes, inclusive of documented investment policies, counterparty limits, and controlling and reporting structures. The type of risk exposure and the way in which such exposure is managed is as follows:

#### (a) Credit Risk

Credit risk is the risk of potential loss to the Group if a counterparty to a financial instrument fails to meet its contractual obligations. The Group's credit risk is primarily attributable to its liquid financial assets, including cash and cash equivalents, restricted cash and amounts receivable. The Group limits the exposure to credit risk by only investing its cash and cash equivalents and restricted cash with high-credit quality financial institutions

Notes to the Condensed Consolidated Interim Financial Statements

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(Unaudited - Expressed in thousands of Canadian Dollars, unless otherwise stated, except per share, option, warrant or DSU)

in business and saving accounts, guaranteed investment certificates, in government treasury bills, low risk corporate bonds and money market funds which are available on demand by the Group when required. Amounts receivable in the table below exclude receivable balances with government agencies (note 4). The Group's maximum exposure was as follows:

	June 30	Dece	ember 31
Exposure	2023		2022
Interest, refundable deposits, and other receivables	\$ 29	\$	64
Class action settlement recoverable (note 13(a))	8,445		-
Restricted cash	851		852
Cash and cash equivalents	3,424		14,173
Total exposure	\$ 12,749	\$	15,089

#### (b) Liquidity Risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Group will not be able to meet its financial obligations when they become due. The Group ensures, as far as reasonably possible, it will have sufficient capital in order to meet short to medium term business requirements, after considering cash flows from operations and the Group's holdings of cash and cash equivalents and restricted cash, where applicable. However, the Group has noted material uncertainty that raises substantial doubt about the Group's ability to continue as a going concern notwithstanding the Group having positive working capital (note 1) as demands may exceed existing resources, and that it has been successful in the past in raising funds when needed. The Group's cash and cash equivalents at the reporting date were invested in business and savings accounts (note 5(a)).

The Group's financial liabilities are comprised of current trade and other payables (note 8) and payables to related parties (note 7), which are due for payment within 12 months from the reporting date, and non-current trade payables, which are due for payment more than 12 months from the reporting date. The carrying amounts of the Group's financial liabilities represent the Group's contractual obligations. As more fully disclosed in Note 13(a), the class action settlement, which is disclosed in current trade and other payables, will be fully funded by the Company's insurance carriers. The Company will not be required to pay any portion of the settlement.

#### (c) Foreign Exchange Risk

The Company is subject to both currency transaction risk and currency translation risk: the Pebble Partnership, Pebble Services Inc. and U5 Resources Inc. have the US dollar as functional currency, and certain of the Company's corporate expenses are incurred in US dollars. The operating results and financial position of the Group are reported in Canadian dollars in these Financial Statements. As a result, the fluctuation of the US dollar in relation to the Canadian dollar will have an impact upon the losses incurred by the Group as well as the value of the Group's assets and the amount of shareholders' equity. The Group has not entered into any agreements or purchased any instruments to hedge possible currency risks.

The exposure of the Group's US dollar-denominated financial assets and liabilities to foreign exchange risk was as follows:

Notes to the Condensed Consolidated Interim Financial Statements

For the three and six months ended June 30, 2023 and 2022

(Unaudited - Expressed in thousands of Canadian Dollars, unless otherwise stated, except per share, option, warrant or DSU)

	June 30	Dece	ember 31
	2023		2022
Financial assets:			
Amounts receivable	\$ 8,617	\$	108
Cash and cash equivalents and restricted cash	1,770		7,347
	10,387		7,455
Financial liabilities:			
Non-current trade payables	(385)		(463)
Current trade and other payables	(10,408)		(1,383)
Payables to related parties	(61)		(71)
	(10,854)		(1,917)
Net financial (liabilities) assets exposed to foreign currency risk	\$ (467)	\$	5,538

Based on the above net exposures and assuming that all other variables remain constant, a 10% change in the value of the Canadian dollar relative to the US dollar would result in a gain or loss of \$47 (December 31, 2022 – \$554) in the reported period. This sensitivity analysis includes only outstanding foreign currency denominated monetary items.

#### (d) Interest Rate Risk

The Group is subject to interest rate cash flow risk with respect to its investments in cash and cash equivalents. The Group's policy is to invest cash at fixed rates of interest and cash reserves are to be maintained in cash and cash equivalents or short-term low risk investments in order to maintain liquidity, while achieving a satisfactory return for shareholders. Fluctuations in interest rates when cash and cash equivalents mature impact interest income earned.

Assuming that all other variables remain constant, a 100 basis points change representing a 1% increase or decrease in interest rates would have resulted in a decrease or increase in loss of \$44 (2022 – \$50).

#### (e) Capital Management

The Group's policy is to maintain a strong capital base to maintain investor and creditor confidence and to sustain future development of the business. The capital structure of the Group consists of equity, comprising share capital and reserves, net of accumulated deficit. There were no changes in the Group's approach to capital management during the period. The Group is not subject to any externally imposed capital requirements.

#### (f) Fair Value

The fair value of the Group's financial assets and liabilities approximates the carrying amount.

Financial instruments measured at fair value are classified into one of three levels in the fair value hierarchy according to the relative reliability of the inputs used to estimate the fair values. The three levels of the fair value hierarchy are:

- Level 1 Unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities;
- Level 2 Inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the asset or liability either directly or indirectly: and
- Level 3 Inputs that are not based on observable market data.

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The fair value hierarchy gives the highest priority to Level 1 inputs and the lowest priority to Level 3 inputs. Fair value measurements, which are determined by using valuation techniques, are classified in their entirety as either Level 2 or Level 3 based on the lowest level input that is significant to the measurement.

#### 13. COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES

#### (a) Legal Proceedings

Class Action Litigation following the USACE's Record of Decision

#### **United States**

On December 4 and December 17, 2020, separate putative shareholder class action lawsuits were filed against the Company and certain of its current and former officers and directors in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of New York (Brooklyn) regarding the drop in the price of the Company's stock following the ROD by the USACE regarding the Pebble Project. These cases are captioned Darish v. Northern Dynasty Minerals Ltd. et al., Case No. 1:20-cv-05917-ENV-RLM, and Hymowitz v. Northern Dynasty Minerals Ltd. et al., Case No. 1:20-cv-06126-PKC-RLM. Each of the complaints was filed on behalf of a purported class of investors who purchased shares of the Company's stock from December 21, 2017, through November 25, 2020, the date the USACE announced its decision, and seeks damages allegedly caused by violations of the federal securities laws. On March 17, 2021, the two cases were consolidated, and a lead plaintiff and counsel were appointed. A consolidated and amended complaint was filed in June 2021, naming the Company, the Company's CEO and the Pebble Partnership's former CEO as defendants. The Company filed a motion to dismiss the complaint on behalf of all defendants, which the Court denied on January 25, 2023. On April 17, 2023, the parties notified the Court that, following mediation between the parties and the insurance carriers, an agreement-in-principle was reached to settle the consolidated action and that the parties expect to finalize the agreement over the coming weeks. On June 7, 2023, the parties filed the executed settlement agreement with the Court, which (a) provides for a settlement amount within insurance policy limits, and (b) makes clear that the Company denies any liability whatsoever and makes no admission of wrongdoing. On July 24, 2023, the Court held a Fairness Hearing to determine if it would grant preliminary approval of the settlement agreement. Consistent with guidance from the Court at the Fairness Hearing, the parties submitted modest revisions to the settlement agreement documents on July 26, 2023. The parties are now awaiting preliminary approval of the settlement agreement from the Court.

The settlement amount of US\$6,375 (\$8,445) has been reflected as a component of trade and other payables in current liabilities on the Statement of Financial Position with an offsetting recoverable for the same amount being reflected in amounts receivable in current assets as the settlement will be fully funded by the Company's insurance carriers.

#### **Canada**

On December 3, 2020, a putative shareholder class action lawsuit was filed against the Company, certain of its current and former officers and directors, and one of its underwriters in the Supreme Court of British Columbia regarding the decrease in the price of the Company's stock following the USACE's November 25, 2020, decision regarding the Pebble Project. The case is captioned *Haddad v. Northern Dynasty Minerals Ltd. et al.*, Case No. VLC-S-S-2012849. The claim was filed on behalf of a purported class of investors, wherever they may reside, who acquired common shares of the Company's stock between December 21, 2017, and November 25, 2020, and seeks damages for (i) alleged misrepresentations in the Company's primary market offering documents and continuous disclosure documents, and (ii) its allegedly oppressive conduct. The Company has been served the claim and intends to defend itself vigorously. The underwriter has asserted contractual rights of indemnification against the Company for any loss that the underwriter may incur in connection with the lawsuit. On April 20, 2022, the

Notes to the Condensed Consolidated Interim Financial Statements

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(Unaudited - Expressed in thousands of Canadian Dollars, unless otherwise stated, except per share, option, warrant or DSU)

putative plaintiff filed and subsequently served an application to amend his pleadings to harmonize with the pleadings in the Woo case described below, add Mr. Woo as a plaintiff, and add new underwriter defendants. Also on April 20, 2022, the putative plaintiff filed and subsequently served an application for leave to commence a secondary market liability claim under s. 140.3 of the B.C. Securities Act, for an order certifying the action as a class action, and for related relief.

On February 17, 2021, a putative shareholder class action lawsuit was filed against the Company, certain of its current and former officers and directors, and certain of its underwriters in the Supreme Court of British Columbia regarding the decrease in the price of the Company's stock following (i) the USACE's August 24, 2020 announcement that the Pebble Project could not be permitted as proposed, and (ii) the USACE's November 25, 2020 decision regarding the Pebble Project. The case is captioned *Woo v. Northern Dynasty Minerals Ltd. et al.*, Case No. VLC-S-S-211530. The claim was filed on behalf of a purported class of investors, wherever they may reside, who purchased securities of the Company between June 25, 2020 and November 25, 2020, and seeks damages for (i) alleged misrepresentations in the Company's primary market offering documents and continuous disclosure documents, (ii) allegedly oppressive conduct, (iii) alleged unjust enrichment, and (iv) negligence. The Company has been served and intends to defend itself vigorously. The underwriters have asserted contractual rights of indemnification against the Company for any loss that they may incur in connection with the lawsuit.

In April 2023, an agreement-in-principle was reached to settle the Haddad and Woo actions following mediation between the parties and the insurance carriers. The parties expect to finalize the agreement over the coming weeks. This pending agreement-in-principle – albeit not yet reduced to a mutually agreed final written agreement and not yet shared with the Court for approval – (a) contemplates a settlement amount within insurance policy limits, and (b) makes clear that the Company denies any liability whatsoever and makes no admission of wrongdoing.

On March 5, 2021, a putative shareholder class action lawsuit was filed against the Company, certain of its current and former officers and directors, and certain of its underwriters in the Ontario Superior Court of Justice regarding the decrease in the price of the Company's stock following the USACE's November 25, 2020 decision regarding the Pebble Project. The case is captioned *Pirzada v. Northern Dynasty Minerals Ltd. et al.*, Case No. CV-21-00658284-00CP. The claim was filed on behalf of a purported class of investors, wherever they may reside, who acquired securities of the Company between June 25, 2020, and November 25, 2020, and seeks damages for (i) alleged misrepresentations in the Company's primary market offering documents and continuous disclosure documents, (ii) allegedly oppressive conduct, and (iii) alleged negligence. On March 30, 2022, the plaintiff made a motion to discontinue the claim without costs and the court granted the discontinuance in April 2022.

No amounts have been recorded for the potential liability relating to the agreement-in-principle to settle this claim as it is not currently possible for the Company to reasonably predict the outcome and the timing of when a settlement agreement is finalized nor practical to determine its possible financial effect.

#### Grand Jury Subpoena

On February 5, 2021, the Company announced that the Pebble Partnership and its former CEO, had each been served with a subpoena issued by the United States Attorney's Office for the District of Alaska to produce documents in connection with a grand jury investigation. The Company is not aware of any civil or criminal charges having been filed against any entity or individual in this matter. The Company also self-reported this matter to the US Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC"), and responded to a related inquiry being conducted by the enforcement staff of the SEC's San Francisco Regional Office. On August 3, 2023, the SEC notified the Company that the SEC had terminated its investigation, which did not result in an enforcement action.

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#### **Indemnification Obligations**

The Company is subject to certain indemnification obligations to both present and former officers and directors, including the Pebble Partnership's former CEO, in respect to the legal proceedings described above. These indemnification obligations will be subject to limitations prescribed by law and the articles of the Company and may also be subject to contractual limitations.

#### (b) Pipeline Right-of-Way Bond Commitment

The Group has a bond of US\$300 with the Alaskan regulatory authorities for a performance guarantee related to any potential reclamation liability as a condition for a pipeline right-of-way to a subsidiary of the Pebble Partnership, the Pebble Pipeline Corporation. The Group is liable to the surety provider for any funds drawn by the Alaskan regulatory authorities.

#### (c) Pebble Performance Dividend Commitment

The Group has a future commitment beginning at the outset of project construction at the Pebble Project to distribute cash generated from a 3% net profits royalty interest in the Pebble Project to adult residents of Bristol Bay villages that have subscribed as participants, with a guaranteed minimum aggregate annual payment of US\$3,000 each year the Pebble mine operates.

#### (d) Sponsorship Commitment

The Group entered into a sponsorship agreement in December 2022 for an aggregate commitment of US\$85 to produce a research paper and be able to participate in a conference (completed). As of June 30, 2023, the remaining commitment is approximately US\$14.

#### (e) Office Use Commitment

The Company has an office use agreement with HDSI (note 7(b)) ending April 29, 2026. As at June 30, 2023, the total remaining undiscounted commitment was \$288. This commitment is a flow through cost at market rates. The following table summarizes the commitment schedule:

	Total
Less than one year	\$ 102
One to five years	186
Total	\$ 288

#### (f) Contingent Legal Fees Payable

The Group has legal fees totalling US\$635 payable to certain legal counsel on completion of a transaction that secures a partner for the Pebble Partnership.



### MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

THREE AND SIX MONTHS ENDED JUNE 30, 2023



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#### 1.1 Date

This Management's Discussion and Analysis ("MD&A") should be read in conjunction with the unaudited condensed consolidated interim financial statements (the "Financial Statements") of Northern Dynasty Minerals Ltd. ("Northern Dynasty" or the "Company") for the three and six months ended June 30, 2023, and the Company's audited consolidated financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2022 (the "2022 Financial Statements") and the annual MD&A for the same period (the "2022 Annual MD&A"), as publicly filed under the Company's profile on Sedarplus at <a href="www.sedarplus.ca">www.sedarplus.ca</a>.

The Company reports in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board ("IASB") and interpretations of the IFRS Interpretations Committee (together, "IFRS"). The following disclosure and associated Financial Statements are presented in accordance with IFRS. This MD&A is prepared as of August 14, 2023.

# All dollar amounts herein are expressed in Canadian dollars, unless otherwise specified.

#### **Glossary**

Abbreviations commonly used in this MD&A:							
2020 Mine Plan	The mine plan under the updated Project Description, as described in the final environmental impact statement for the Pebble Project						
2023 Amended Technical Report	The NI 43-101 technical report entitled, 2023 Amended Technical Report on the Pebble Project, Southwest Alaska, USA, Effective Date: May 19, 2023, by J. David Gaunt, P.Geo., James Lang, P.Geo., Eric Titley, P.Geo., Hassan Ghaffari, P.Eng., Stephen Hodgson, P.Eng.						
Administrative Appeal Decision	The administrative appeal decision of the USACE dated April 24, 2023, issued in respect of the appeal by the Pebble Partnership of the Alaska District's Record of Decision of the Pebble Partnership's permit application under Section 404 of the CWA						
Alaska District	The Alaska District of the USACE						
СМР	Compensatory Mitigation Plan for the Pebble Project submitted by the Pebble Partnership to the USACE under the CWA permitting process						
CWA	Clean Water Act						
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement						
EPA	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency						
Final Determination	The final determination of the EPA issued on January 30, 2023, under the CWA						
NEPA	The United States National Environmental Policy Act						
Original Proposed Determination	The original proposed determination issued by the Regional Administrator of the EPA Region 10 under Section 404(c) of the CWA in respect of the Pebble Project published in July 2014						
Pebble Partnership	The Pebble Limited Partnership, an Alaskan registered limited partnership wholly owned by the Company						
Pebble Deposit	The copper, gold, molybdenum, silver and rhenium mineral deposit located in southwest Alaska on the mining claims and leasehold interests of the Pebble Partnership						
Pebble Project	The development of a mine producing copper, gold, molybdenum, silver and rhenium minerals from the Pebble Deposit						
Project Description	The production plan and corresponding project configuration for the development of the Pebble Project, as presented in the June 2020 Revised Permit Application						
Proposed Project	The development of the Pebble Project in accordance with the Project Description						



Abbreviations commonly used in this MD&A:					
PIR	Public Interest Review under the CWA permitting process				
Revised Proposed Determination	The revised proposed determination issued by the Regional Administrator of the EPA under Section 404(c) of the CWA in respect of the Pebble Project published in May 2022				
ROD	The Record of Decision issued by the USACE on November 20, 2020 denying the permit application of the Pebble Partnership under Section 404 of the CWA				
Royalty Agreement	The royalty agreement dated July 26, 2022 between the Pebble Partnership, together with certain other wholly-owned subsidiaries of the Pebble Partnership, and the royalty holder (refer 1.2.3 Financing)				
Royalty Holder	The holder of a royalty granted under the Royalty Agreement				
SEC	The U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission.				
USACE	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers				

#### **Forward Looking Statements**

This MD&A contains certain forward-looking information and forward-looking statements within the meaning of applicable Canadian securities laws and forward-looking statements within the meaning of the United States *Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995*. Forward-looking statements describe our future plans, strategies, expectations and objectives, and are generally, but not always, identifiable by use of the words "may", "will", "should", "continue", "expect", "anticipate", "estimate", "believe", "intend", "plan" or "project" or the negative of these words or other variations on these words or comparable terminology.

Forward-looking statements contained or incorporated by reference into this MD&A include, without limitation, statements regarding:

- our goal regarding the potential for securing the necessary permitting for the Pebble Project and our ability to
  establish that such a permitted mine can be economically developed;
- the remand process to be completed by the Alaska District of the USACE under the Administrative Appeal Decision and the issuance of the final ROD under Section 404 of the CWA under the remand process ordered by the USACE under the Administrative Appeal Decision;
- our ability to successfully obtain federal and state permits required for the Pebble Project, including under the CWA, the NEPA, and relevant legislation;
- our ability to successfully challenge the Final Determination;
- the outcome of the US government investigations involving the Company;
- our ability to successfully defend against or otherwise resolve purported class action lawsuits that have been commenced against the Company;
- our plan of operations, including our plans to carry out and finance exploration and development activities;
- our ability to raise capital for the exploration, permitting and development activities and meet our working capital requirements;
- our expected financial performance in future periods;
- our expectations regarding the exploration and development potential of the Pebble Project;



- the outcome of the legal proceedings in which we are engaged;
- the contribution of the Pebble Project to the United States federal, state and regional economies;
- that any additional prepayment investments will be made in connection with our gold and silver production Royalty Agreement (as defined below) for the Pebble Project;
- uncertainties related to the conflict in Ukraine; and
- factors relating to our investment decisions.

Forward-looking information is based on the reasonable assumptions, estimates, analyses and opinions of management made considering their experience and their perception of trends, current conditions and expected developments, as well as other factors that management believes to be relevant and reasonable in the circumstances at the date that such statements are made, but which may prove to be incorrect. We believe that the assumptions and expectations reflected in such forward-looking information are reasonable.

Key assumptions upon which the Company's forward-looking information are based include:

- that the remand process of the ROD ordered under the Administrative Appeal Decision will enable us to respond
  to the USACE's comments on the CMP in our efforts to adequately address the direct and indirect impacts of
  the Pebble Project;
- that we will ultimately be able to demonstrate that the Pebble Project can be developed and operated in an
  environmentally sound and socially responsible manner, meeting all relevant federal, state and local regulatory
  requirements so that we will be ultimately able to obtain permits authorizing construction of the Pebble Project;
- that we will be able to secure sufficient capital necessary for continued environmental assessment and permitting activities and engineering work which must be completed prior to any potential development of the Pebble Project which would then require engineering and financing to advance to ultimate construction;
- that we will ultimately be able to demonstrate that the Pebble Project will be economically feasible based on a mine plan for which permitting can be secured;
- that we will be successful in challenging the Final Determination;
- that the market prices of copper, gold, molybdenum, silver and rhenium will not significantly decline or stay depressed for a lengthy period of time;
- that our key personnel will continue their employment with us; and
- that we will continue to be able to secure adequate financing on acceptable terms.

Readers are cautioned that the foregoing list is not exhaustive of all factors and assumptions that may have been used. Forward-looking statements are also subject to risks and uncertainties facing our business, any of which could have a material impact on our outlook.

Some of the risks we face and the uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed in the forward-looking statements include:



- we may be unsuccessful in our efforts to present a revised CMP to the Alaska District under the USACE's remand
  process that will address the concerns of the Alaska District as to the impacts of the Pebble Project with the
  result that the Alaska District may issue a final ROD denying the Pebble Partnership a permit under the CWA
  that we require to operate the Pebble Project;
- the USACE may ultimately elect not to conduct any further review or analysis of the ROD or the CMP on remand as a result of the fact that the EPA had issued the Final Determination;
- we may be unsuccessful in challenging the Final Determination;
- our inability to ultimately obtain permitting for the Pebble Project;
- our inability to establish that the Pebble Project may be economically developed and mined or contain commercially viable deposits of ore based on a mine plan for which government authorities are prepared to grant permits;
- any agreement-in-principle to resolve the shareholder securities litigation claims that have been filed against us
  in the U.S. and in Canada may not lead to a final written settlement agreement accepted by all relevant
  stakeholders, including the respective Courts, and, in such an event, we may not be successful in defending
  shareholder securities litigation claims that have been filed against us in the U.S. and in Canada, and we may be
  obligated to indemnify our underwriters in addition to being subject to liabilities to the plaintiffs;
- even if the shareholder securities litigation claims that have been filed against us in the U.S. and in Canada are successfully resolved, we may still need to litigate an unknown number of securities litigation claims filed on an individual (non-class) basis with respect to any shareholders who "opt-out" of any applicable class settlement;
- the uncertainty of the outcome of current or future government investigations and inquiries, including but not limited to, matters before the U.S. Department of Justice, a federal grand jury in Alaska and the SEC;
- our ability to obtain funding for working capital and other corporate purposes associated with advancement of the Pebble Project;
- the Royalty Holder under our gold and silver production Royalty Agreement may not increase its investment;
- an inability to continue to fund exploration and development activities and other operating costs;
- our actual operating expenses may be higher than projected;
- the highly cyclical and speculative nature of the mineral resource exploration business;
- the technical uncertainties of the Pebble Project and the lack of established reserves on the Pebble Project;
- an inability to recover even the financial statement carrying values of the Pebble Project if we cease to continue on a going concern basis;
- the potential for loss of the services of key executive officers;
- a history of, and expectation of further, financial losses from operations impacting our ability to continue on a going concern basis;
- the volatility of copper, gold, molybdenum, silver and rhenium prices and share prices of mining companies;
- uncertainty related to the conflict in Ukraine;
- the impact of inflation on project costs and budgets for 2023 and beyond;



- stock market volatility resulting from rising interest rates and the impact on our ability to complete equity financings;
- the inherent risk involved in the exploration, development and production of minerals, and the presence of unknown geological and other physical and environmental hazards at the Pebble Project;
- the potential for changes in, or the introduction of new, government regulations relating to mining, including laws and regulations relating to the protection of the environment and project legal titles;
- potential claims by third parties to titles or rights involving the Pebble Project;
- the uncertainty of the outcome of current or future litigation including but not limited to, the appeal and remand of the ROD and any challenge of the Final Determination;
- the inability to insure our operations against all risks;
- the highly competitive nature of the mining business;
- the potential equity dilution to current shareholders due to future equity financings or from the exercise of outstanding share purchase options and warrants to purchase the Company's common shares; and
- that we have never paid dividends and will not do so in the foreseeable future.

While the effort was made to list the primary risk factors, this list should not be considered exhaustive of the factors that may affect any of our forward-looking statements or information. Forward-looking statements or information are statements about the future and are inherently uncertain, and actual achievements of the Company or other future events or conditions may differ materially from those reflected in the forward-looking statements or information due to a variety of risks, uncertainties and other factors, including, without limitation, the risks and uncertainties described above. See <u>1.15.5 Risk Factors</u> and the risk factors and related discussions in the Company's annual information form for the year ended December 31, 2022 (the "**2022 AIF**").

Our forward-looking statements and risk factors are based on the reasonable beliefs, expectations and opinions of management on the date of this MD&A. Although we have 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 is no assurance that such information will prove to be accurate, as actual results and future events could differ materially from those anticipated in such information. Accordingly, readers should appreciate the inherent uncertainty of, and not place undue reliance on forward-looking information. We do not undertake to update any forward-looking information, except as, and to the extent required by, applicable securities laws.

For more information on the Company, investors should review the Company's 2022 AIF and other continuous disclosure filings that are available on SEDAR at <a href="www.sedarplus.ca">www.sedarplus.ca</a>, and the Company's Annual Report on Form 40-F filed with the SEC available at <a href="www.sec.gov">www.sec.gov</a>.



#### 1.2 Overview

Northern Dynasty is a mineral exploration company with a wholly-owned Alaskan registered limited partnership, the Pebble Limited Partnership (the "**Pebble Partnership**"). The Company's business in Alaska is operated through the Pebble Partnership.

The Pebble Partnership holds a 100% interest in mining claims that host the Pebble Copper-Gold-Molybdenum-Silver-Rhenium deposit, the basis of the Pebble Project (or "Pebble") in southwest Alaska, USA ("U.S."). The Pebble Project is an initiative to develop one of the world's most important mineral resources. The current estimate of the Pebble Mineral Resources at a 0.30% copper equivalent cut-off grade comprises:

Classification	Tonnes	Grades						Recoverable Metal				
	Millions	CuEq %	Cu %	Au g/t	Ag g/t	Mo ppm	Re ppm	Cu B lb	Au M oz	Ag M oz	Mo B lb	Re Kg
Measured	527	0.65	0.33	0.35	1.7	178	0.32	3.35	4.58	20.4	0.15	118,000
Indicated	5,929	0.77	0.41	0.34	1.7	246	0.41	49.64	49.24	228.9	2.62	1,731,000
M+I	6,456	0.76	0.40	0.34	1.7	240	0.40	52.99	53.82	249.3	2.78	1,849,000
Inferred	4,454	0.55	0.25	0.25	1.2	226	0.36	22.66	28.11	121.7	1.81	1,025,000

#### Notes

David Gaunt, P.Geo., a qualified person as defined under 43-101 who is not independent of Northern Dynasty ("the QP"), is responsible for the estimate. The effective date is May 19, 2023.

Copper equivalent (CuEq) calculations use metal prices: US\$1.85/lb for Cu, US\$902/oz for Au and US\$12.50/lb for Mo, and recoveries: 85% Cu, 69.6% Au, and 77.8% Mo (Pebble West zone) and 89.3% Cu, 76.8% Au, 83.7% Mo (Pebble East zone).

Recoverable metal based on recoveries in Table 13-24 in the 2023 Amended Technical Report, filed on <a href="www.sedarplus.ca">www.sedarplus.ca</a>.

The mineral resource estimate is constrained by a conceptual pit shell that was developed using a Lerchs-Grossman algorithm and is based in the following parameters: 42 degree pit slope; metal prices and recoveries of US\$1,540.00/oz and 61% Au, US\$3.63/lb and 91% Cu, US\$20.00/oz and 67% Ag and US\$12.36/lb and 81% Mo, respectively; a mining cost of US\$1.01/ton with a US\$0.03/ton/bench increment and other costs (including processing, G&A and transport) of US\$6.74/ton.

Per the calculation outlined in Section 14.12 of the 2023 Amended Technical Report, recent company work has demonstrated that using appropriate and likely inputs for commodity prices, concentrate grades, payable copper, and realization charges results in a cutoff grade of 0.22% CuEq. The QP believes that the use of a 0.3% CuEq cutoff grade to express the Pebble resources is conservative and provides continuity with previous estimates.

The QP has reviewed the technical information, and other factors that may affect the estimate including permitting and external legal counsel's letter regarding the ROD appeal and Final Determination and believes that there are reasonable prospects of economic extraction.

The Pebble mineral resource has the potential to provide significant quantities of copper, a commodity used extensively in green power, electrification technologies, including EVs. Pebble also contains a number of other important metals such as rhenium, which is used in jet engines and related military applications and as a catalyst in industrial applications such as the production of high-octane, lead-free gasoline.

Events around the world have demonstrated the fragility and insecurity of the global supply chain, and the need for the U.S. and other countries to achieve security over important commodities that are part of the energy transition. The Company believes the Pebble Project, if developed, would help the U.S. to advance its stated goal of mineral security.

#### **Permitting**

The Pebble Partnership submitted a CWA Section 404 Permit Application for the Pebble Project to the USACE in December 2017 and the federal permitting process was initiated in January 2018, led by the USACE. Following 2½ years of intensive review by the USACE, eight federal cooperating agencies, three state cooperating agencies, the Lake & Peninsula Borough and federally recognized tribes, the final EIS was issued in July 2020. The final EIS was viewed by the Company as positive in that it found impacts to fish and wildlife would not be expected to affect harvest levels, there would be no measurable change to the commercial fishing industry including prices and there would be a number of positive socioeconomic impacts on local



communities. Nevertheless, in November 2020, the USACE announced a negative ROD. The Pebble Partnership submitted an extensive Record for Appeal which was accepted in February 2021. The USACE completed the administrative record for the appeal and provided a copy to the Pebble Partnership in June 2021. The Pebble Partnership and its legal counsel reviewed the voluminous record for completeness and relevance to the USACE's permitting decision, and its sufficiency to support a fair, transparent, and efficient review. A new Review Officer ("RO") was appointed in August 2021 to lead the Pebble Project appeal, and an appeal conference was held in July 2022.

On April 25, 2023, the USACE Pacific Ocean Division took action to remand the permit decision back to the USACE – Alaska District to re-evaluate specific issues. Section II.A (page 27) of the Administrative Appeal Decision¹ states: "...Specifically, the District should provide complete and detailed comments to the Appellant on the compensatory mitigation plan allowing the Appellant sufficient time to address those comments prior to finalizing a revised mitigation plan review. The District should also note that if a compensatory mitigation plan is determined acceptable and adequately offsets direct and indirect impacts, a new PIR and 404(b)(1) analysis may be required."

Management believes that the remand supports the Company's position since 2020 - the ROD process was not fairly conducted - and notes that the RO has raised similar concerns on many substantive issues. The administrative record does not show that the Company was given sufficient instruction, feedback or time to remedy the plan in order to have a chance of success. If the Company is given the opportunity to provide a new CMP that meets the requirements, that CMP could require re-evaluation of the justification for the 'significant degradation' finding which, in turn, could have a cascading effect on the PIR and the USACE's ultimate determination on the ROD under the CWA. Additionally, as part of the PIR analysis, the RO pointed out that the District was wrong to consider potential catastrophic impacts of a tailings storage facility failure as a reason for its permit denial, because the final EIS found that the Pebble tailings storage facility design did NOT present any reasonably foreseeable failure risks. This contradiction will need to be explained on remand.

Management also notes that the Final Determination specifically refers to the risk of catastrophic tailings failure to justify its decision, despite the final EIS saying that this is not reasonably foreseeable.

As a result of the remand decision, and in light of the Final Determination, the District was instructed to review the appeal decision and had 45 days to notify the parties how it plans to proceed. The District requested and has been granted four extensions to communicate its plans. The current deadline is September 26, 2023.

On July 26, 2023, the State of Alaska filed a Motion for Leave to File a Bill of Complaint with the United States Supreme Court challenging the Final Determination. Northern Dynasty intends to prepare and file with the Supreme Court appropriate briefs to support the State's Motion and/or the State's case in the event that the Supreme Court exercises its discretion and decides to grant the Motion and hear the case.

Refer to the discussions below under 1.2.1.2 CWA Permitting Process and 1.2.1.3 EPA Proposed and Final Determinations, for more details on the status of the Company's permitting process, including the appeal of the ROD and recent decision on the appeal, and the description of the Final Determination.

#### Other Activities

During the quarter, the Company and its technical team was engaged in providing input, as necessary to the appeal of the ROD and assessing the next steps related to Final Determination. The Company continued to maintain an active corporate presence in Alaska and Washington, D.C., to engage and consult with project stakeholders. Corporate activities were also directed toward investor relations and discussions directed toward securing a partner with which to advance the overall development of the project.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> document is available at: https://www.pod.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory/Appeals/



#### **Corporate**

As at June 30, 2023, the Company had \$3.4 million in cash and cash equivalents and working capital (current assets less current liabilities) of \$2.3 million.

The Company has prioritized the allocation of its available financial resources to meet key corporate and Pebble Project expenditure requirements in the near term, including the funding of the appeal of the ROD and other matters addressed in 1.5.3 *Plan of Operations*. The Company will require additional funds to meet all its business objectives. Pursuant to the Royalty Agreement, the Company may receive four additional tranches of US\$12 million each should the Royalty Holder exercise its right to purchase additional rights to future gold and silver production from the Pebble Project. However, there is no assurance that this will occur. The Company plans to conduct other financings, as necessary through any or a combination of debt and equity and/or contributions from possible new Pebble Project participants; however, there can be no assurance that it will be successful in obtaining additional financing. If the Company is unable to raise the necessary capital resources to meet obligations as they come due, the Company will at some point have to reduce or curtail its operations.

At the Company's annual general meeting held on June 30, 2023, three of its directors did not stand for reelection, and as a result the Board of Directors is now comprised of eight directors.

#### 1.2.1 Pebble Project

The Pebble Project is located in southwest Alaska, approximately 17 miles from the villages of Iliamna and Newhalen, and approximately 200 miles southwest of the city of Anchorage. Situated in an area of rolling hills approximately 1,000 feet above sea-level and 125 miles from Bristol Bay, the site conditions are generally favorable for the mine site and infrastructure development.

#### 1.2.1.1 Project Background and Status

The Pebble Deposit was discovered in 1989 by a prior operator, which by 1997 had developed an initial outline of the deposit.

Northern Dynasty has been involved in the Pebble Project since 2001. Exploration since that time has led to significant expansion of the mineral resources in the Pebble Deposit, including a substantial volume of higher-grade mineralization in its eastern part. The deposit also remains open to further expansion at depth and to the east. Several other occurrences of copper, gold and molybdenum have also been identified along the extensive northeast-trending mineralized system that underlies the property. The potential of these earlier-stage prospects has not yet been fully explored.

Comprehensive deposit delineation, environmental, socioeconomic and engineering studies of the Pebble Deposit began in 2004. A Preliminary Assessment of the Pebble Project completed in 2011 provided initial insights into the size and scale of project that the Pebble resource might support. The Pebble Partnership continued to undertake detailed engineering, environmental and socioeconomic studies over the next two years.



#### 1.2.1.2 CWA Permitting Process

The Pebble Partnership developed a project design for the Pebble Project<sup>2</sup> in 2017. This design was incorporated in the CWA 404 permit application submitted to the USACE on December 22, 2017, initiating federal review for the Pebble Project under NEPA. Over the following  $2\frac{1}{2}$  years, the project was the subject of intensive review by the USACE and eight federal cooperating agencies (including the EPA and U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service), three state cooperating agencies (including Alaska Department of Natural Resources and Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation), the Lake & Peninsula Borough and federally recognized tribes.

On July 24, 2020, the USACE posted the final EIS on its website. The final EIS was viewed by the Company as positive in that it found impacts to fish and wildlife would not be expected to affect harvest levels, there would be no measurable change to the commercial fishing industry including prices and there would be a number of positive socioeconomic impacts on local communities.

After consultation with the USACE, a CMP was submitted to the USACE on November 4, 2020. Further details can be found in the Company's 2022 AIF.

On November 25, 2020, the USACE issued the ROD. The ROD rejected the CMP as "noncompliant" and determined the Pebble Project would cause "significant degradation" and was contrary to the public interest. Based on this finding, the USACE rejected Pebble Partnership's permit application under the CWA.

The Pebble Partnership submitted a request for appeal of the ROD (the "RFA") to the USACE Pacific Ocean Division on January 19, 2021. The RFA reflects the Pebble Partnership's position that the ROD and permitting decision are contrary to law, unprecedented in Alaska, and fundamentally unsupported by the administrative record, including the final EIS. The specific reasons for appeal asserted by the Pebble Partnership in the RFA include (i) the finding of "significant degradation" by the USACE is contrary to law and unsupported by the record, (ii) the USACE's rejection of the Pebble Partnership's CMP is contrary to the USACE regulations and guidance, including the failure to provide the Pebble Partnership with an opportunity to correct the alleged deficiencies, and (iii) the determination by the USACE that the Pebble Project is not in the public interest is contrary to law and unsupported by the public record.

In a letter dated February 24, 2021, the USACE confirmed the Pebble Partnership's RFA is "complete and meets the criteria for appeal."

The USACE Pacific Ocean Division issued its Administrative Appeal Decision on April 25, 2023. That decision did not sustain the permit denial decision on the Pebble Project that was originally made by the Alaska District, and instead remanded the matter back to the Alaska District to re-evaluate specific issues. The Administrative Appeal Decision set forth the RO's assessment of the merits of the Pebble Partnership's reasons for appeal, as set forth in the RFA. The decision found that certain key reasons for appeal had merit, while other arguments did not have merit. As a result, the USACE ordered that the ROD be remanded to the Alaska District Engineer

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The project as originally designed in 2017 and subsequently amended during the EIS NEPA process (the "2020 Mine Plan") seeks to develop a portion of the currently estimated Pebble mineral resources. This does not preclude development of additional resources in other phases of the project in the future, although any subsequent phases of development would require extensive regulatory and permitting review by federal, state and local regulatory agencies, including a further comprehensive EIS review process under NEPA. During the NEPA process, the Pebble Partnership received a Request for Information ("**RFI**") from the USACE for a conceptual mine layout and written description for an expansion phase beyond the 2020 Mine Plan. The Pebble Partnership submitted the conceptual mine plan layout and written description to the USACE, explaining that the "concept is merely one of several expanded development scenarios that could potentially be proposed and permitting in the future." The Pebble Partnership response to the RFI and this response is part of the EIS Administrative Record.



for reconsideration, additional evaluation, and documentation sufficient to support the decisions. Key elements of the decision included the following:

- The RO generally concluded that the Pebble Partnership's arguments that the finding of "significant degradation" by the Alaska District is contrary to law and unsupported by the record did not have merit but agreed with the Pebble Partnership that the Alaska District's use of a certain watershed scale for analysis was not supported by the record and remanded this portion of the decision to the Alaska District Engineer for reconsideration, additional evaluation and documentation sufficient to support the decision.
- The RO concluded that the argument that the CMP was improperly rejected without providing the Pebble Partnership an opportunity to correct the alleged deficiencies did have merit. As a result, the RO remanded the decision to the Alaska District Engineer for reconsideration, additional evaluation and documentation sufficient to support the decision with the specific directions that:
  - the Alaska District should provide complete and detailed comments to the Pebble Partnership on the CMP and that the Pebble Partnership is to have sufficient time to address those comments prior to finalizing a revised CMP for review; and
  - if a CMP is determined to be acceptable and adequately offsets direct and indirect impacts, a new Public Interest Review and Section 404(b)(1) analysis may be required.
- The RO concluded that certain elements of the Pebble Partnership's arguments regarding the PIR decision analysis had merit and remanded those portions to the Alaska District Engineer for reconsideration, additional evaluation and documentation sufficient to support the decision.
- The RO concluded that the Pebble Partnership's arguments that the ROD failed to adequately consider the State of Alaska's interest as the land ownership and its designation of the land for mineral development did not have merit,

The Pebble Partnership is currently reviewing the materials from the recent Administrative Appeal Decision. It is anticipated that the Alaska District will evaluate the remand and the findings and determinations made by the USACE Pacific Ocean Division in its appeal decision. As a result of the remand decision, and in light of the Final Determination, the Alaska District has been instructed to review the appeal decision and to notify the parties how it plans to proceed within 45 days of the date of the Administrative Appeal Decision. As described in the Overview, this deadline has been extended and is now September 26, 2023. With respect to the Final Determination issued by the EPA, however, the USACE cannot issue a permit under the CWA at this time even if the Pebble Partnership is successful in submitting a CMP that is acceptable to the USACE. Accordingly, there is no assurance that this remand and further CMP process will ultimately result in the issuance of a positive ROD by the Alaska District. If this remand does not result in the issuance of a positive ROD, the Company may seek judicial review of the ROD in the appropriate U.S. District Court. There is no assurance that any judicial review would be successful in overturning the ROD.

#### 1.2.1.3 EPA Proposed and Final Determinations

In February 2014, the EPA announced a pre-emptive regulatory action under Section 404(c) of the CWA to consider restriction or a prohibition of mining activities associated with the Pebble Deposit, referred to as the Original Proposed Determination. From 2014-2017, Northern Dynasty and the Pebble Partnership focused on a multi-dimensional strategy, including legal and other initiatives to ward off the Original Proposed Determination. These efforts were successful, resulting in the joint settlement agreement announced on May 12, 2017, enabling the Pebble Project to move forward with state and federal permitting. As part of the joint settlement agreement, the EPA agreed to initiate a process that led to the withdrawal of the Original Proposed Determination in July 2019.

On September 9, 2021, the EPA announced it planned to set aside the 2019 withdrawal of the Original Proposed Determination and re-initiate the Section 404(c) process for the waters of Bristol Bay. The Company believes the results of the final EIS support the 2019 withdrawal. As part of its review process, the EPA issued a letter dated January 27, 2022, to the Pebble Partnership advising as to the EPA's belief that the discharge of dredged



or fill associated with mining of the Pebble Project could result in unacceptable adverse effects on important fishery areas and of its intent to issue a Revised Proposed Determination. The EPA's letter was also addressed to the USACE and the State of Alaska Department of Natural Resources. The EPA invited the Pebble Partnership, the USACE, and the State of Alaska Department of Natural Resources to submit information "to demonstrate that no unacceptable adverse effects to aquatic resources" would result from the Pebble Project. The Pebble Partnership responded to the EPA on March 28, 2022, contesting both the factual claim by the EPA as to the impact on aquatic resources and the legal basis on which the EPA had proposed to act.

The State of Alaska also responded to the EPA's letter by letter dated March 28, 2022. The State of Alaska advised the EPA of its position that the issuance of a Section 404(c) veto would contravene the Alaska Statehood Act, the Cook Inlet Land Exchange Act and potentially the "takings clause" of the United States Constitution.

On May 25, 2022, the EPA announced that it intended to advance its pre-emptive veto of the Pebble Project and issued a Revised Proposed Determination. The Revised Proposed Determination would establish a "defined area for prohibition" coextensive with the current mine plan footprint in which the EPA would prohibit the disposal of dredged or fill material for the Pebble Project. The Revised Proposed Determination would also establish a 309-square-mile "defined area for restriction."

On January 30, 2023, the EPA issued the Final Determination under Section 404(c) of the CWA, imposing limitations on the use of certain waters in the Bristol Bay watershed as disposal sites for certain discharges of dredged or fill material associated with development of a mine at the Pebble deposit. This Final Determination is the concluding step in the administrative process set forth in 40 C.F.R. Part 231, which governs EPA's authority under Section 404(c) to veto permit decisions. The Administrative Procedure Act ("APA"), 5 USC §551 et seq., which governs judicial review of agency decisions, provides that individuals aggrieved by agency action may seek judicial review of any "final agency action." The EPA's administrative determination can be challenged by filing a lawsuit in U.S. federal district court seeking reversal of that decision.

#### The Final Determination includes the determinations of the EPA that:

- the discharges of dredged or fill material for the construction and routine operation of the mine identified in the 2020 Mine Plan at the Pebble Deposit will have unacceptable adverse effects on anadromous fishery areas in the South Fork Koktuli River ("SFK") and North Fork Koktuli River ("NFK") watersheds;
- discharges of dredged or fill material associated with developing the Pebble deposit anywhere in the mine
  site area within the SFK and NFK watersheds that would result in the same or greater levels of loss or
  streamflow changes as the 2020 Mine Plan also will have unacceptable adverse effects on anadromous
  fishery areas in these watersheds, because such discharges would involve the same aquatic resources
  characterized as part of the evaluation of the 2020 Mine Plan; and
- discharges of dredged or fill material for the construction and routine operation of the Pebble deposit
  anywhere in the SFK, NFK, and Upper Talarik Creek ("UTC") watersheds will have unacceptable adverse
  effects on anadromous fishery areas if the effects of such discharges are similar or greater in nature and
  magnitude to the adverse effects of the 2020 Mine Plan.

## Based on these determinations, the Final Determination:

• prohibits the specification of waters of the United States within the Defined Area of Prohibition, as defined in the Final Determination, as disposal sites for the discharge of dredged or fill material for the construction and routine operation of the 2020 Mine Plan. This includes future proposals to construct and operate a mine to develop the Pebble Deposit that result in any of the same aquatic resource loss or streamflow changes as the 2020 Mine Plan. Moreover, dredged or fill material need not originate within the boundary of the Pebble Deposit to be associated with the developing the Pebble deposit and, thus, subject to the prohibition. For purposes of the prohibition, the "2020 Mine Plan" is (i) the mine plan described in the Pebble Partnership's June 8, 2020 CWA Section 404 permit application and the final EIS; and (ii) future proposals to construct and operate a mine to develop the Pebble Deposit with discharges of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States within the Defined Area for Prohibition that would result in the



same or greater levels of loss or streamflow changes as the mine plan described in the Pebble Partnership's June 8, 2020 CWA Section 404 permit application. The Defined Area for Prohibition covers approximately 24.7 square miles (63.9 km²) and includes the area covered by the mine footprint of the 2020 Mine Plan; and

restricts the use of waters of the United States within the Defined Area for Restriction, as defined in the
Final Determination, for specification as disposal sites for the discharge of dredged or fill material
associated with future proposals to construct and operate a mine to develop the Pebble Deposit that would
either individually or cumulatively result in adverse effects similar or greater in nature and magnitude to
the adverse effects of the 2020 Mine Plan. The Defined Area for Restriction encompasses certain
headwaters for the SFK, NFK and UTC watersheds and covers an area of approximately 309 square miles
(800 km²).

The Company and the Pebble Partnership plan to seek judicial review of the Final Determination in an appropriate U.S. federal district court. The Company anticipates that the Pebble Partnership will continue to assert the following arguments, among others, in any judicial proceedings:

- the Final Determination is premature and not authorized by the CWA and, accordingly, is contrary to law and precedent;
- the EPA erred when it did not exhaust the Section 404(q) elevation procedures prior to initiating its Section 404(c) procedures as the EPA's authority under Section 404(c) is narrowly prescribed by the CWA and is only to be used as a last resort;
- the EPA's decision to restrict development of 309-square-miles of land is legally and technically unsupportable;
- the EPA has not demonstrated that the development of the Pebble Deposit will have unacceptable adverse effects under Section 404(c);
- the EPA has not demonstrated any impacts to Bristol Bay fisheries that would justify the extreme measures in the Final Determination and, further, the Final Determination contradicts the conclusion in the final EIS that the Pebble Project was "not expected to have a measurable impact on fish populations";
- the Final Determination violates the rights of the State of Alaska established under the Alaska Statehood Act, and related laws, and would undermine the State's legally protected interests in the development of lands it acquired and intended for mineral development; and
- the EPA must consider the benefits of the Pebble Project in light of the critical need for minerals essential to the renewable energy transition, as well as the environmental and social costs that would result from not developing the project.

There is no assurance that any judicial review would be successful in overturning the Final Determination or that the remand of the ROD will be successful. If not withdrawn or overturned, the Final Determination would prevent the Company from developing the Pebble Deposit as set out in the 2020 Mine Plan or in any other mine plan that the EPA would consider as resulting in "adverse effects similar or greater in nature and magnitude to the adverse effects of the 2020 Mine Plan."

On July 26, 2023, the State of Alaska filed a motion in the Supreme Court of the United States. The Motion for Leave to File a Bill of Complaint argues that the Final Determination breaches a contract (the Cook Inlet Land Exchange) involving Alaska and the United States and violates the federal statutory recognition and implementation of that land exchange. It also argues that the veto violates the Administrative Procedure Act because the veto is arbitrary and capricious. Finally, it argues that the veto - which withdraws 309 square miles in the Bristol Bay region from use for mining purposes - is an unconstitutional taking without just compensation. The Bill of Complaint seeks injunctive relief requiring EPA to withdraw its veto or, in the alternative, and seeks monetary damages for breach of contract and the unconstitutional taking without just compensation. The Supreme Court has discretion in deciding whether to grant the State's Motion and hear the case.



## 1.2.1.4 Technical Programs

A three-day site program was carried out in June. Work included some final clean up at the main site and inspections of drill hole sites.

The Company has updated its technical disclosure on the Pebble Project through the filing of the 2023 Amended Technical Report on Sedarplus. The 2023 Amended Technical Report reflects recent events material to the Pebble Project, including the Final Determination and Administrative Appeal Decision.

The Company is preparing a fully independent Preliminary Economic Assessment ("**2023 PEA**"). The Company anticipates that the 2023 PEA will:

- be generally based on the technical parameters of the project set out in the 2021 PEA and the 2022 PEA, with some modifications including an updated plan utilizing the southern access route, an amended version of that originally proposed in Pebble Partnership's December 2017 application for a CWA 404 permit<sup>3</sup>;
- make express reference to both the current status of:
  - the appeal by the Pebble Partnership of the ROD issued by the USACE and recent remand of the ROD to the Alaska District for review; and
  - the issuance of the Final Determination by the EPA and Pebble Partnership's determination to challenge it;
- include an audit of the resource estimate for the Pebble Project by an independent qualified person;
- include cost and metal prices updated to reflect current forecasts and the revised transportation route;
- include updated current estimates of the capital and operation costs for the Pebble Project; and
- include the results of the economic analysis of the Pebble Project.

## 1.2.1.5 Socioeconomic

## Community Engagement

Pebble Project technical programs are supported by stakeholder engagement activities undertaken by the Pebble Partnership in Alaska. The objective of stakeholder outreach programs undertaken by the Pebble Partnership are to:

- advise residents of nearby communities and other regional interests about Pebble work programs and other activities being undertaken in the field;
- provide information about the proposed development plan for the Pebble Project, including potential environmental, social and operational effects, proposed mitigation and environmental safeguards;
- allow the Pebble Partnership to better understand and address stakeholder priorities and concerns with respect to development of the Pebble Project;
- encourage stakeholder and public participation in the regulatory permitting process for Pebble; and

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> The final EIS analyzes the potential impacts of four action development alternatives, and a "No Action" alternative. In December 2022, the Conservation Fund and Bristol Bay Heritage Land Trust announced the purchase of three conservation easements over 44,000 acres, owned by the Pedro Bay Corp., in an area where an access road from Cook Inlet to the Pebble mineral deposit had been proposed. This 'northern transportation route' was identified as the Least Environmental Damaging Proposed Alternative during the EIS process. The 'southern route' is one of the other action alternatives; it is an access route which would parallel the north shore of Iliamna Lake to a Cook Inlet port site on Iliamna Bay.



• facilitate economic and other opportunities associated with advancement and development of the Pebble Project for local residents, communities and companies.

In addition to meeting with stakeholder groups and individuals, and providing project briefings in communities throughout Bristol Bay and the State of Alaska, the Pebble Partnership's outreach and engagement program have included:

- workforce and business development initiatives intended to enhance economic opportunities for regional residents and Alaska Native corporations;
- initiatives to develop partnerships with Alaska Native corporations, commercial fishing interests and other in-region groups and individuals;
- outreach to elected officials and political staff at the national, state and local levels; and
- outreach to third-party organizations and special interest groups with an interest in the Pebble Project, including business organizations, community groups, outdoor recreation interests, Alaska Native entities, commercial and sport fishery interests, and conservation organizations, among others.

Through these various stakeholder initiatives, the Company seeks to advance a science-based project design that is responsive to stakeholder priorities and concerns, provides meaningful benefits and opportunities to local residents, businesses and Alaska Native corporations, and energizes the economy of Southwest Alaska. This program of engagement and consultation also includes discussions to secure stakeholder agreements to support the project's development.

## Right-of-Way Agreements and Other Community Initiatives

The Pebble Partnership has finalized Right-of-Way ("ROW") agreements with Alaska Native village corporations and other landowners with land holdings along proposed transportation and infrastructure routes for the Pebble Project. The ROW agreements secure access to portions of several proposed transportation and infrastructure routes to the Pebble Project site for construction and operation of the proposed mine and represents a significant milestone in the developing relationship between Pebble and the Alaska Native people of the region. Transportation and other infrastructure for a mine at Pebble is expected to benefit Alaska Native village corporations, their shareholders and villages through toll payments and user fees, contracting opportunities, and improved access to lower cost power, equipment and supplies, as well as enhanced economic activity in the region.

On June 16, 2020, the Company announced the Pebble Partnership has established the Pebble Performance Dividend LLC ("**PPD LLC**") to provide a local revenue sharing program with the objective of ensuring that full-time residents of communities in southwest Alaska benefit directly from the future operation of the proposed Pebble Project. The intention is for PPD LLC to distribute cash generated from a 3% net profits royalty interest in the Pebble Project to adult residents of Bristol Bay villages that have subscribed as participants, with a guaranteed minimum aggregate annual payment of US\$3 million each year the Pebble mine operates, beginning at the outset of project construction.

A Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU") between the Pebble Partnership and Alaska Peninsula Corporation ("APC") was announced on July 6, 2020. The APC is an Alaska Native village corporation with extensive land holdings proximal to the Pebble site. The MOU envisages that APC will lead the development of a consortium of Alaska Native village corporations. It is contemplated that the consortium would provide road maintenance, truck transport, port operations and other logistical services to the Pebble Project should the development of the mine proceed. The MOU is consistent with the Company's strategy of ensuring the development of the Pebble Project will benefit local Alaska communities and people. The MOU is not a binding final contract. Any final contracts with APC or other Alaska Native village corporations will require further negotiation of commercial terms and negotiation of definitive contracts. There is no assurance that these contracts will be concluded or that the Alaska Native village corporations will support the Pebble Project.



#### 1.2.2 Legal Matters

On September 23, 2020, the Company announced that Tom Collier, the former Chief Executive Officer of the Pebble Partnership, had submitted his resignation in light of comments made about elected and regulatory officials in Alaska and the Pebble Project in private conversations covertly videotaped by an environmental activist group. Conversations with Mr. Collier, as well as others with Ron Thiessen, Northern Dynasty's President and Chief Executive Officer, were secretly videotaped or audiotaped by unknown individuals posing as representatives of a Hong Kong-based investment firm, which represented that it was linked to a Chinese State-Owned Enterprise (SOE). The Company understands that a Washington DC-based environmental group, the Environmental Investigation Agency, released portions of the recordings online after obscuring the voices and identities of the individuals posing as investors.

Following the release of the recordings, the USACE - Alaska District issued a statement that, following a review of the transcripts of the recordings, they had "identified inaccuracies and falsehoods relating to the permit process and the relationship between our regulatory leadership and the applicant's executives".

# Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the United States House of Representatives

On November 19, 2020, the Pebble Partnership received a letter from the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the United States House of Representatives, stating that the comments made by Mr. Collier and Mr. Thiessen regarding the expansion, capacity, size and duration of the potential Pebble mine were believed to be inconsistent with the testimony of Mr. Collier before the Committee and demanding production of documents apparently related to the comments. The Company produced documents in response to those requests. The Company also responded to the Committee by letter denying and refuting that there was any inconsistency as raised in the Committee's November 19, 2020 correspondence.

On October 22, 2022, the Committee's then-Majority Staff released a report concerning the Pebble Project, alleging false testimony to the Committee, and indicating that a referral has been made to the U.S. Attorney General. The Majority Staff Report was issued without providing the Company any opportunity to respond to the allegations contained in the Majority Staff Report prior to its release. Nor did the Committee publicly request or conduct any interviews of Northern Dynasty or Pebble employees after its November 19, 2020, correspondence. The Pebble Partnership, in a press release, responded "[w]e want to be absolutely clear, however, that to the extent the report contains any suggestion that we tried to mislead regulators in any way, it is categorically wrong and misinformed of the realities of the Pebble permitting process." The Company also stated "[w]e look forward to laying out the essential context missing from the report." Pebble Partnership CEO, John Shively, further responded to the Majority Staff Report in a letter dated December 22, 2022, stating that the Majority Staff Report was "issued in violation of Committee rules and without any meaningful consideration of the objective facts." No formal response to the letter has been received from the Committee.

## Grand Jury Subpoena

On February 5, 2021, the Company announced that the Pebble Partnership and Tom Collier, the former Chief Executive Officer of the Pebble Partnership, had each been served with a subpoena issued by the United States Attorney's Office for the District of Alaska to produce documents in connection with a grand jury investigation. The Company is not aware of any criminal charges having been filed against any entity or individual in this matter. The Company and the Pebble Partnership are cooperating with the grand jury investigation.

The Company also self-reported this matter to the SEC, and responded to a related inquiry being conducted by the enforcement staff of the SEC's San Francisco Regional Office. On August 3, 2023, the SEC notified the Company that the SEC had terminated its investigation, which did not result in an enforcement action.



## Class Action Litigation following the USACE'S Record of Decision

#### **United States**

On December 4 and 17, 2020, separate putative shareholder class action lawsuits were filed against the Company and certain of its current and former officers and directors in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of New York regarding the drop in the price of the Company's stock following the ROD by the USACE regarding the Pebble Project. These cases are captioned Darish v. Northern Dynasty Minerals Ltd. et al., Case No. 1:20-cv-05917-ENV-RLM, and Hymowitz v. Northern Dynasty Minerals Ltd. et al., Case No. 1:20-cv-06126-PKC-RLM. Each of the complaints was filed on behalf of a purported class of investors who purchased shares of the Company's stock from December 21, 2017, through November 25, 2020, the date the USACE announced its decision, and seeks damages allegedly caused by violations of the federal securities laws. On March 17, 2021, the two cases were consolidated, and a lead plaintiff and counsel were appointed. A consolidated and amended complaint was filed in June 2021, naming the Company, the Company's CEO and the Pebble Partnership's former CEO as defendants. The Company filed a motion to dismiss the complaint on behalf of all defendants, which the Court denied on January 25, 2023. On April 17, 2023, the parties notified the Court that, following mediation between the parties and the insurance carriers, an agreement-in-principle was reached to settle the consolidated action and that the parties expect to finalize the agreement over the coming weeks. On June 7, 2023, the parties filed the executed settlement agreement with the Court, which (a) provides for a settlement amount within insurance policy limits, and (b) makes clear that the Company denies any liability whatsoever and makes no admission of wrongdoing. On July 24, 2023, the Court held a Fairness Hearing to determine if it would grant preliminary approval of the settlement agreement. Consistent with guidance from the Court at the Fairness Hearing, the parties submitted modest revisions to the settlement agreement documents on July 26, 2023. The parties are now awaiting preliminary approval of the settlement agreement from the Court.

#### Canada

On December 3, 2020, a putative shareholder class action lawsuit was filed against the Company, certain of its current and former officers and directors, and one of its underwriters in the Supreme Court of British Columbia regarding the decrease in the price of the Company's stock following the USACE's November 25, 2020, decision regarding the Pebble Project. The case is captioned *Haddad v. Northern Dynasty Minerals Ltd. et al., Case No. VLC-S-S-2012849*. The claim was filed on behalf of a purported class of investors, wherever they may reside, who acquired common shares of the Company's stock between December 21, 2017, and November 25, 2020, and seeks damages for (i) alleged misrepresentations in the Company's primary market offering documents and continuous disclosure documents, and (ii) allegedly oppressive conduct. The Company has been served the claim and intends to defend itself vigorously. The underwriter has asserted contractual rights of indemnification against the Company for any loss that the underwriter may incur in connection with the lawsuit. On April 20, 2022, the putative plaintiff filed and subsequently served an application to amend his pleadings to harmonize with the pleadings in the Woo case described below, add Mr. Woo as a plaintiff, and add new underwriter defendants. Also on April 20, 2022, the putative plaintiff filed and subsequently served an application for leave to commence a secondary market liability claim under s. 140.3 of the B.C. Securities Act, for an order certifying the action as a class action, and for related relief.

On February 17, 2021, a putative shareholder class action lawsuit was filed against the Company, certain of its current and former officers and directors, and certain of its underwriters in the Supreme Court of British Columbia regarding the decrease in the price of the Company's stock following (i) the USACE's August 24, 2020 announcement that the Pebble Project could not be permitted as proposed, and (ii) the USACE's November 25, 2020 decision regarding the Pebble Project. The case is captioned *Woo v. Northern Dynasty Minerals Ltd. et al.*, Case No. VLC-S-S-211530. The claim was filed on behalf of a purported class of investors, wherever they may reside, who purchased securities of the Company between June 25, 2020, and November 25, 2020, and seeks damages for (i) alleged misrepresentations in the Company's primary market offering documents and continuous disclosure documents, (ii) allegedly oppressive conduct, (iii) alleged unjust enrichment, and (iv) negligence. The Company has been served and intends to defend itself vigorously. The underwriters have



asserted contractual rights of indemnification against the Company for any loss that they may incur in connection with the lawsuit.

In April 2023, an agreement-in-principle was reached to settle the *Haddad* and *Woo* actions following mediation between the parties and the insurance carriers. The parties expect to finalize the agreement over the coming weeks. This pending agreement-in-principle – albeit not yet reduced to a mutually agreed final written agreement and not yet shared with the Court for approval – (a) contemplates a settlement amount within insurance policy limits, and (b) makes clear that the Company denies any liability whatsoever and makes no admission of wrongdoing.

On March 5, 2021, a putative shareholder class action lawsuit was filed against the Company, certain of its current and former officers and directors, and certain of its underwriters in the Ontario Superior Court of Justice regarding the decrease in the price of the Company's stock following the USACE's November 25, 2020 decision regarding the Pebble Project. The case is captioned *Pirzada v. Northern Dynasty Minerals Ltd. et al.*, Case No. CV-21-00658284-00CP. The claim was filed on behalf of a purported class of investors, wherever they may reside, who acquired securities of the Company between June 25, 2020, and November 25, 2020, and seeks damages for (i) alleged misrepresentations in the Company's primary market offering documents and continuous disclosure documents, (ii) allegedly oppressive conduct, and (iii) alleged negligence. On March 30, 2022, the plaintiff made a motion to discontinue the claim without costs and the court granted the discontinuance in April 2022.

#### **Indemnification Obligations**

The Company is subject to certain indemnification obligations to both present and former officers and directors, including Mr. Collier, in respect to the legal proceedings described above. These indemnification obligations will be subject to limitations prescribed by law and the articles of the Company, and may also be subject to contractual limitations.

# 1.2.3 Financing

# Royalty Agreement for Proceeds of up to US\$60 Million on Non-Core Metals

In July 2022, Northern Dynasty announced that the Pebble Partnership, together with certain other wholly-owned subsidiaries of the Pebble Partnership, had entered into the Royalty Agreement with the Royalty Holder to receive up to US\$60 million over the next two years, in return for the right to receive a portion of the future gold and silver production from the Pebble Project for the life of the mine. The Company received an initial non-refundable payment of US\$12 million from the Royalty Holder concurrently with execution of the Royalty Agreement and granted the option to the Royalty Holder to increase its investment to US\$60 million, in aggregate. The Company retained the right to 100% of the copper production from the Pebble Project.

Pursuant to the terms of the Royalty Agreement, the Royalty Holder made the initial non-refundable payment of US\$12 million in exchange for the right to receive 2% of the payable gold production and 6% of the payable silver production from the Pebble Project, in each case after accounting for a notional payment by the Royalty Holder of US\$1,500 per ounce of gold and US\$10 per ounce of silver, respectively, for the life of the mine. If, in the future, spot prices exceed US\$4,000 per ounce of gold or US\$50 per ounce of silver, then the Company will share in 20% of the excess price for either metal. Additionally, the Company will retain a portion of the metal produced for recovery rates in excess of 60% for gold and 65% for silver, and so is incentivized to continually improve operations over the life of the mine. Within two years of the date of the Royalty Agreement, the Royalty Holder has the right to invest additional funds, in US\$12 million increments, for the right to receive additional 2% increments of gold production and 6% of silver production to an aggregate total of US\$60 million, in return for the right to receive an aggregate of 10% of the payable gold and 30% of the payable silver (in each case, in the aggregate) on the same terms as the first tranche of the investment. The Royalty Holder is under no



obligation to invest additional amounts to increase its interest in the gold and silver production from the Pebble Project.

The Pebble Partnership has also granted to the Royalty Holder a right of first refusal in respect of the sale of any gold or silver production from the Pebble Project pursuant to a streaming, royalty, or other similar transaction in exchange for an upfront payment. The Royalty holder has granted to the Pebble Partnership a right of first refusal should it propose to sell any of its rights under the Royalty Agreement.

Subject to certain conditions, the Royalty Agreement does not restrict the Company's ability to form partnerships to assist in the development of the Proposed Project, for example (but not restricted to) other mining companies or Alaska Native Corporations.

#### 1.2.4 Market Trends

Copper prices trended downward from June to August 2018, then increased through to the end of the year and into 2019. Prices decreased in April/May of 2019, then were variable to increasing until late January 2020 when they dropped sharply in response to changing economic conditions related to COVID-19 but rebounded in May and trended upward for the most part to the end of the year. In 2021, prices were variable to increasing to May, dropped in June, and then were stable until October when they became variable to the end of the year. Copper prices increased in early 2022, then decreased from late April to July, and were somewhat stable through to the end of the year. Prices have been variable in 2023, and the average price has decreased slightly. The price for copper closed on August 11, 2023, at US\$3.74/lb.

Gold prices increased in January 2018, then were relatively stable for several months, before decreasing in Q3. Prices increased in the latter part of 2018 and through most of 2019 before stabilizing from September to December 2019 and into 2020. After decreasing sharply in March 2020, the gold price resumed an upward trend in response to uncertainty about global economic conditions related to COVID-19. Prices reached record highs in late July and early August 2020, then decreasing before becoming more stable to the end of the year. Prices were variable for most of 2021, then increased from October to early 2022, but were variable to decreasing for most of the rest of 2022. Prices increased from December 2022 to February 2023, then dropped slightly, increased in March and have been slightly variable since that time. The price for gold closed on August 11, 2023, at US\$1,915.80/oz.

Molybdenum prices were on an upward trend that continued though most of 2018, then stabilized in September 2018 and through much of 2019. Prices largely decreased from October 2019 to August 2020, then increased and continued to do so until July 2021. Prices were relatively stable to increasing in 2022, which continued to increase to mid-March 2023 and April when prices decreased. Prices have stabilized but have increased slightly in August. The price for molybdenum closed on August 11, 2023, at US\$26.00/lb.

Silver prices were variable for most of 2018 and 2019; the annual average price increased in 2019. After an increase in early January 2020, the price for silver fell to US\$12.00/oz in March, then began to increase in response to uncertainty about global economic conditions related to COVID-19, reaching over US\$27.00/oz in mid-August 2020. After decreasing for a short time, prices increased for the remainder of the year and the average annual price increased in 2020. Prices were variable in 2021 and 2022, with the average annual price increasing in 2021 but decreasing in 2022. Silver prices largely increased from November 2022 through March 2023 and have been variable since that time. The price for silver closed on August 11, 2023, at US\$22.69/oz.

Average annual prices of copper, gold, molybdenum and silver for the past five years as well as the average prices so far in 2023 are shown in the table below:



	Average metal price 1,2							
Year	Copper US\$/lb	Gold US\$/oz	Molybdenum US\$/lb	Silver US\$/oz				
2018	2.96	1,269	11.94	15.71				
2019	2.72	1,393	11.36	16.21				
2020	2.80	1,769	8.68	20.54				
2021	4.27	1,799	15.94	25.14				
2022	3.99	1,800	18.73	21.74				
2023 (to August 11)	3.92	1,934	26.46	23.42				

- Source for copper, gold and silver is Argus Media at <u>www.metalprices.com</u>. LME Official Cash Price for copper. LBMA PM price for gold. London PM fix for silver.
- 2. Source for molybdenum prices is Platts.

#### 1.3 Selected Annual Information

Not required for the interim MD&A

## 1.4 Summary and Discussion of Quarterly Results

All monetary amounts are expressed in thousands of dollars except per share amounts and where otherwise indicated. Minor differences are due to rounding.

Excerpts from Statements	Jun 30	Mar 31	Dec 31	Sep 30	Jun 30	Mar 31	Dec 31	Sep 30
of Comprehensive Loss	2023	2023	2022	2022	2022	2022	2021	2021
Expenses								
Exploration and evaluation	\$ 1,813	\$ 2,274	\$ 2,947	\$ 1,839	\$ 2,182	\$ 2,301	\$ 2,897	\$ 2,907
General and administrative	2,626	2,445	2,284	2,132	2,517	2,093	2,644	2,405
Legal, accounting and audit	1,449	2,025	698	1,707	1,521	84	(1,386)	3,124
Share-based compensation	403	413	415	1,874	6	6	6	244
Other items <sup>1</sup>	(83)	(97)	(74)	(137)	(38)	(22)	(28)	(14)
Loss for the quarter <sup>2</sup>	\$ 6,208	\$ 7,060	\$ 6,270	\$ 7,415	\$ 6,188	\$ 4,462	\$ 4,133	\$ 8,666
Basic and diluted loss per								
common share	\$ 0.01	\$ 0.01	\$ 0.01	\$ 0.01	\$ 0.01	\$ 0.01	\$ 0.01	\$ 0.02
Weighted average number								
of common shares (000s)	529,779	529,779	529,779	529,779	529,779	529,779	529,751	528,470

<sup>1.</sup> Other items include interest income, finance expense, exchange gains or losses, gain on lease term modification, (gain) loss on disposal of property, plant and equipment, and other income.

Loss before tax

## **Discussion of Quarterly Trends**

Exploration and evaluation expenses ("E&E") have fluctuated depending on activities undertaken. In Q3 and Q4 2021, the Company completed engineering work to finalize the 2021 PEA for the Pebble Project and also completed a summer field program. From Q1 to Q3 2022, the Company focused on the study on the economic contribution assessment of the proposed Pebble Project, advancing and completing the summer field program completing a wildfire cleanup program. In Q4 2022, the Company completed an update to the 2021 PEA to evaluate the impact of the Royalty Agreement. In Q1 and Q2 2023, the Company completed and filed resource



update technical reports and advanced a fully independent PEA. E&E also includes costs for Native community engagement, site leases, land access agreements and annual claim fees.

General and administrative expenses ("**G&A**") trended lower in 2022 as compared to 2021 as the Company incurred less consultation expenses. In Q1 2023, G&A increased from Q4 2022 due to increased consulting and conference and travel costs. The increase in Q2 2023 G&A over Q1 2023 is due the increase in insurance, management and administration and shareholder communication costs, the latter due to the preparation for the annual general meeting, which was offset by lower filing costs.

Legal, accounting and audit expenses have fluctuated in response to legal fees incurred in relation to class action lawsuits, the preparation for and response to the grand jury investigation in Alaska, and response to the Revised Proposed Determination. In Q4 2022, the derecognition of a contingent payable relating to legal fees reduced legal expenses by \$0.8 million. The Company also received insurance proceeds in Q4 2021, Q1 2022, Q1 and Q2 2023, for certain of the legal costs incurred relating to the class action lawsuits and the grand jury investigation which offset fees paid in those quarters.

Share-based compensation expense ("SBC") has fluctuated due to timing of share purchase option ("option") grants which affects the estimate of fair value determined, the quantum of option grants and the vesting periods associated with these option grants. The Company granted 11,254,000 options in Q3 2022 which was the first grant since 2020.

# 1.5 Results of Operations

The following financial data has been prepared from the Financial Statements and is expressed in *thousands* of Canadian dollars unless otherwise stated.

The Company's operations and business are not driven by seasonal trends, but rather are driven towards the achievement of project milestones relating to the Pebble Project such as the achievement of various technical, environmental, socioeconomic and legal objectives, including obtaining the necessary permits, the completion of pre-feasibility and final feasibility studies, preparation of engineering designs, as well as receipt of financings to fund these objectives along with mine construction.

#### 1.5.1 Results of Operations - Three and six months ended June 30, 2023 versus 2022

For the three months, the Company recorded a net loss approximately on par with 2022 as higher interest and other income offset the approximately \$0.1 million increase in net loss from operations, the latter due to an increase in SBC (\$0.4 million) and G&A (\$0.1 million) which was offset by a decrease in E&E (\$0.4 million).

For the six months, the Company recorded a \$2.6 million increase in net loss as loss from operating activities increased by \$2.8 million as a result of a \$1.9 million increase in legal, accounting and audit expenses and a \$0.8 million increase in SBC.

# **Exploration and evaluation expenses**

The breakdown of E&E (in thousands of dollars) for the periods as compared to 2022 is as follows:



E&E	Three months			Six months			
		2023	2022		2023		2022
Engineering	\$	484	\$ 98	\$	1,585	\$	1,046
Environmental		334	561		640		1,098
Property fees		2	_		2		_
Site activities		401	554		671		836
Socioeconomic		669	507		1,217		1,024
Transportation		(73)	435		(73)		435
Other activities and travel		(4)	27		45		44
Total	\$	1,813	\$ 2,182	\$	4,087	\$	4,483

E&E decreased by \$0.4 million both in the quarter and in the six month period due to less environmental costs incurred and less transportation costs, the latter due to a smaller 2023 summer site program which required less helicopters usage. This was offset by increased engineering costs as the Company completed and filed resource update technical reports in March and June 2023 and continued advancing an independent 2023 PEA.

#### **General and administrative expenses**

The following table (in thousands of dollars) provides a breakdown of G&A, and also includes legal, accounting and audit expenses incurred, in the period as compared to 2022:

	Three months		Six months				
G&A		2023	2022		2023		2022
Conference and travel	\$	180	\$ 99	\$	283	\$	149
Consulting		151	120		375		269
Depreciation of right-of-use assets		26	26		50		51
Insurance		845	499		1,581		1,024
Office costs, including information technology		190	245		375		420
Management and administration		851	809		1,582		1,564
Shareholder communication		373	593		639		812
Trust and filing		10	126		186		321
Total G&A		2,626	2,517		5,071		4,610
Legal, accounting and audit		1,449	1,521		3,474		1,605
	\$	4,075	\$ 4,038	\$	8,545	\$	6,215

For the three and six months, G&A increased by \$0.1 million and \$0.5 million as compared to the 2022 comparative periods as the Company incurred higher insurance costs, consulting fees and conference and travel. This was offset by a decrease in shareholder communication as the Company incurred less AGM related costs and trust and filing costs.

Legal, accounting and audit expenses decreased by less than \$0.1 million in the three months but increased by approximately \$1.9 million in the six months. In the year to date, the Company incurred more legal fees relating to the grand jury investigation.

#### **Other**

The Company recorded an increase of \$0.4 million and \$0.8 million in SBC in the quarter and for the six months due primarily to the vesting of options granted in Q3 2022. SBC fluctuates due to the timing of when options,



RSUs and DSUs are granted, as well as the quantum thereof, and the vesting periods associated with these grants.

# 1.5.2 Financial position as at June 30, 2023 versus December 31, 2022

The total assets of the Company decreased by \$6.5 million due primarily to the \$10.7 million decrease in cash and cash equivalents and the \$3.0 million decrease in mineral property, plant and equipment as a result of the appreciation of the Canadian dollar in relation to the US dollar, both of which were offset by the \$7.2 million increase in amounts receivable and prepaid expenses due to the recording of the U.S. claim action settlement recoverable (refer 1.6 Liquidity).

#### 1.5.3 Plan of Operations

Our business objectives for 2023 subject to available financial resources, are to:

- continue with the appeal and remand of the ROD by the USACE;
- challenge the Final Determination;
- continue with engineering, environmental, permitting and evaluation work on the Pebble Project as required;
- maintain an active corporate presence in Alaska to advance relationships with political and regulatory
  offices of government (both in Alaska and Washington, D.C.), Alaska Native partners and broader
  stakeholder relationships;
- advance efforts toward a successful remand of the ROD, and reversal of the Final Determination;
- maintain the Pebble Project and Pebble claims in good standing;
- continue to seek potential partner(s) with greater financial resources to further advance the Pebble Project; and
- continue general and administrative activities in connection with the advancement of the Pebble Project.

The key milestone in the development of the Company's business is presently the successful completion of an appeal of the ROD.

The ROD has had a material impact on the Company's previously disclosed plan of operations. Accordingly, the Company has altered its intended business activities and milestones to be completed over the next 12 months to focus on the remand of the ROD. In addition, the Company will evaluate available options to challenge the Final Determination. The Company's present business objectives and milestones are anticipated to generally include the following activities over the next 12 months being July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024, contingent on obtaining additional financing:

Milestone/Business Objective	Business Activity within Next 12 Months	Timeframe for Completion	Anticipated Budget during Next 12 Months
Continue with engineering, environmental, permitting and evaluation work on the Pebble Project as required	Work includes ongoing site maintenance to remain in compliance with permitting and demobilization of field equipment as required, additional engineering and evaluation of the Pebble Project including update to mineral resources and 2023 PEA	Ongoing through next twelve months	US\$2,497,000
Maintain an active corporate presence in Alaska	Continue to build relationships with:	Ongoing through next twelve months	US\$4,222,000,



Milestone/Business Objective	Business Activity within Next 12 Months	Timeframe for Completion	Anticipated Budget during Next 12 Months
	<ul> <li>both federal and Alaska state governments and agencies;</li> <li>Native Corporations and communities, an example being the establishment of the Pebble Performance Dividend, which is intended to provide a direct benefit to the people of Bristol Bay;</li> </ul>		
	Right-of-Way Payments to various     Native Corporations		
Pebble claims maintenance	Continue to maintain the Pebble claims in good standing.	Ongoing through next twelve months	US\$1,360,000
Pebble partnering process <sup>1</sup>	Ongoing discussions and possible negotiations to secure a project partner(s) with the financial resources to advance development of the Pebble project. Management will continue to seek suitable partner(s) with the objective to maximize shareholder value through 2023.	Ongoing through next twelve months	US\$1,000,000
General corporate purposes, including appeal and remand of the ROD by the Pacific Ocean Division to the Alaska District USACE on Pebble, challenge of Final Determination; defence of Class Action Lawsuits, settlement of historical liabilities, handling of grand jury investigation	Respond to the Alaska District USACE regarding the remand of the ROD, challenge of Final Determination and defense of legal proceedings	Ongoing through next twelve months	US\$6,796,000

#### Notes

1. There is no assurance that these discussions or possible negotiations will result in any binding agreement with any partner for the development of the Pebble Project. See <u>1.15.5 Risk Factors</u>.

The Company's actual plan of operations and expenditures for the next twelve months may vary depending on future developments and at the discretion of the Company's board of directors and management.

The Company will require additional financing beyond its current cash and working capital in order to carry out these further business activities. The Company believes that its ability to obtain additional financing has been and will continue to be negatively impacted by the ROD and its ability to successfully advance the remand of the ROD and also to challenge the Final Determination. The Company does not have an arrangement in place for any future financing or raising of funds other than through the Royalty Agreement, whereby the Company can sell a further interest in gold and silver production from the Pebble Project at the Royalty Holder's option (see <a href="LiGLiquidity">LiGLIGUIDITION (See LiQuidity)</a>). As such, there is no assurance that the Company will be able to raise the required additional financing when required. In addition, the Company cautions that while a successful appeal and remand of the



ROD will reduce one of the significant risk factors faced by the Pebble Project, significant risk factors will remain for the development of the Pebble Project, as described in <u>1.15.5 Risk Factors</u>.

In the event that remand of the ROD does not result in a positive ROD, or that the Company is unsuccessful on challenging Final Determination, the Company will be required to re-assess its options for advancing the development of the Pebble Project. While the Company is unable to assess the full impact of the remand of the ROD or reversal of the EPA Final Determination at this time, the Company anticipates that a negative result on remand of the ROD or challenge of the Final Determination will have a negative impact on the Company's ability to obtain additional financing and will most likely limit the Company's financing options to further issuances of the Company's equity securities.

The Company may also attempt to reduce the amount of additional financing required by entering into a potential joint venture or other partnership arrangement for the advancement of the Pebble Project. The Company is continuing to evaluate the availability of long-term project financing options among mining companies, private equity firms and others, utilizing conventional asset level financing, debt, royalty and alternative financing options. There is no assurance that Northern Dynasty will be able to partner the Pebble Project or secure additional financing when required. In July 2022, the Company was able to bolster its treasury with the receipt of the first tranche of US\$12 million on the execution of the Royalty Agreement (discussed above under "Royalty Agreement for Proceeds of up to US\$60 Million on Non-Core Metals").

To the extent that Northern Dynasty is unable to raise additional financing, it will have to curtail its operational activities, which will ultimately delay advancement of the Pebble Project.

Northern Dynasty's inability to obtain a positive ROD following the USACE's remand may ultimately mean that it will be unable to proceed with the development of the Pebble Project as currently envisioned or at all. Similarly, the inability to successfully challenge the Final Determination may also ultimately mean that the Company will be unable to proceed with the development of the Pebble Project as currently envisioned or at all.

# 1.6 Liquidity

The Company's major sources of funding have been the issuance of equity securities for cash, primarily through private placements and prospectus offerings to sophisticated investors and institutions and proceeds pursuant to the exercise of options and warrants. The Company's access to financing is always uncertain. There can be no assurance of continued access to equity funding.

As at June 30, 2023, the Company had cash and cash equivalents of \$3.4 million, a decrease of \$10.7 million from December 31, 2022. The Company employed \$10.8 million in its operating activities in the six months ended June 30, 2023. The Company has prioritized the allocation of its available financial resources and considered its plans for raising further funds in order to meet key corporate and Pebble Project expenditure requirements in the near term, being the next 12 months, as outlined above under 1.5.3 *Plan of Operations*. Pursuant to the Royalty Agreement, the Company may, at the option of the Royalty Holder, receive additional tranches of US\$12 million each, up to an additional US\$48 million, until July 2024 (refer Royalty Agreement for Proceeds of up to US\$60 Million on Non-Core Metals). The Company does not have any arrangements in place for additional funding. There can be no assurances that the Company will be successful in obtaining additional financing when required. If the Company is unable to raise the necessary capital resources to meet obligations as they come due, the Company will have to reduce or curtail its operations at some point.

At June 30, 2023, the Company had a working capital of \$2.3 million as compared to \$14.8 million at December 31, 2022. The Company has no lease or any other long-term obligations other than those disclosed below:



The following commitments and payables (expressed in thousands) existed at June 30, 2023:

	Payments due by period as of the reporting date						date	
		Total		≤1 year	1	-5 years	> 5	years
Trade and other payables <sup>1</sup>	\$	2,115	\$	2,115	\$	-	\$	-
Payables to related parties		286		286		-		-
Lease commitments <sup>2</sup>		701		203		423		75
Other commitments <sup>3</sup>		306		120		186		
Total	\$	3,408	\$	2,724	\$	609	\$	75

#### Notes to table

- 1. Excludes current and non-current lease liabilities, which are shown separately (refer to note 2 below) and the U.S. class action settlement of US\$6,375 (\$8,445). The U.S. class action settlement will be fully funded by the Company's insurance carriers and the Company will not be required to pay any portion of the settlement.
- 2. Relates to the undiscounted lease payments to be made by the Company over the remaining lease terms.
- 3. Includes payments for the use of offices and shared space from a related party.
- 4. US dollar amounts have been converted at the closing rate on June 30, 2023, of \$1.3247 per US dollar.

The Company has no "Purchase Obligations", defined as any agreement to purchase goods or services that is enforceable and legally binding on the Company that specifies all significant terms, including fixed or minimum quantities to be purchased; fixed, minimum, or variable price provisions; and the approximate timing of the transaction. The Company is responsible for maintenance payments on the Pebble Project claims and annual toll payments and fees pursuant to the right of way agreements (see 1.2.1.5 Socioeconomic). In addition, the Company has payments relating to routine site and office leases, which are included in the table above.

#### 1.7 Capital Resources

The Company's capital resources consist of its cash reserves, which include its cash and equivalents. As at June 30, 2023, other than noted in <u>1.6 Liquidity</u>, the Company has no other long-term debt and no commitments for material capital expenditures.

The Company has no lines of credit or other sources of financing.

# 1.8 Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements

As at June 30, 2023, the Company had no off-balance sheet arrangements.

#### 1.9 Transactions with Related Parties

# Transactions with Hunter Dickinson Services Inc. ("HDSI")

Hunter Dickinson Inc. ("**HDI**") and its wholly owned subsidiary, HDSI are private companies established by a group of mining professionals engaged in advancing and developing mineral properties for a number of private and publicly listed exploration companies, one of which is the Company.

Current directors of the Company, namely Robert Dickinson (Board Chair) and Ron Thiessen (Chief Executive Officer ("CEO")), are active members of the HDI Board of Directors. Mark Peters, the Company's Chief Financial Officer ("CFO"), is also the CFO of HDSI. Other key management personnel of the Company – Adam Chodos, Stephen Hodgson, Bruce Jenkins, Trevor Thomas and Mike Westerlund – are active members of HDI's senior management team.



## The business purpose of the related party relationship

HDSI provides technical services, including geological, engineering, and environmental, and general and administrative services, including administration and management, consulting, corporate communications, regulatory compliance, to the Company, on an as-needed and as-requested basis from the Company.

HDSI also incurs third party costs on behalf of the Company, which include, for example, directors' and officers' insurance, travel, conferences, and technology services.

As a result of this relationship with HDSI, the Company has ready access to a range of diverse and specialized expertise on a regular basis, without having to engage or hire full-time experts. The Company benefits from the economies of scale created by HDSI.

#### The measurement basis used

The Company procures the aforementioned services from HDSI pursuant to an agreement (the "**Services Agreement**") dated July 2, 2010. A copy of the Services Agreement is publicly available under the Company's profile at <a href="https://www.sedarplus.ca">www.sedarplus.ca</a>.

Services from HDSI are provided on a non-exclusive basis as required and as requested by the Company. The Company is not obligated to acquire any minimum amount of services from HDSI. The fees for services are determined based on an agreed upon charge-out rate for each employee performing the service and the time spent by the employee. The charge-out rate also includes overhead costs such as office rent, information technology services and administrative support. Such charge-out rates are agreed and set annually in advance.

Third party expenses are billed at cost, without any markup.

#### Ongoing contractual or other commitments resulting from the related party relationship

Other than noted below, there are no ongoing contractual or other commitments resulting from the Company's transactions with HDSI, other than the payment for services already rendered and billed. The agreement may be terminated upon 60 days' notice from either party.

In an addendum to the Services Agreement, dated October 10, 2015, following a change of control, the Company is subject to termination payments if the Services Agreement is terminated. The Company will be required to pay HDSI \$2.8 million, and an aggregate amount equal to six months of annual salaries payable to certain individual service providers under the Services Agreement and their respective employment agreements with HDSI.

The Company has an office use agreement with HDSI, whereby HDSI is providing two offices and a non-fixed space, on as needed basis, for a five-year term, which commenced May 1, 2021, and ends April 29, 2026. Pursuant to this agreement, the Company has a remaining undiscounted commitment at June 30, 2023 of \$0.3 million, which has been disclosed in the table in <u>1.6 Liquidity</u>. The commitment is a flow through cost at market rates.

#### Transactions during the Reporting Period and Balances with HDSI at the end of the Reporting Period

Disclosure as to transactions with HDSI and any amounts due to or from HDSI is provided in Note 7 in the notes to the Financial Statements which accompany this MD&A, and which are available under the Company's profile at <a href="https://www.sedarplus.ca">www.sedarplus.ca</a>.

## **Key Management Personnel**

The required disclosure for the remuneration of the Company's key management personnel is provided in Note 7 in the notes to the Financial Statements which accompany this MD&A, and which are available under the Company's profile at <a href="https://www.sedarplus.ca">www.sedarplus.ca</a>.



## 1.10 Fourth Quarter

Not applicable

# 1.11 Proposed Transactions

There are no proposed asset or business acquisitions or dispositions, other than those in the ordinary course before the Board of Directors for consideration.

# 1.12 Critical Accounting Estimates

The required disclosure is provided in Note 2 in the notes to the Financial Statements which accompany this MD&A, and which are available under the Company's profile at <a href="https://www.sedarplus.ca">www.sedarplus.ca</a>.

## 1.13 Changes in Accounting Policies including Initial Adoption

The required disclosure is provided in Note 2 in the notes to the Financial Statements which accompany this MD&A, and which are available under the Company's profile at <a href="https://www.sedarplus.ca">www.sedarplus.ca</a>.

#### 1.14 Financial Instruments and Other Instruments

The Company is exposed in varying degrees to a variety of financial instrument-related risks. The Board approves and monitors the risk management processes, inclusive of documented investment policies, counterparty limits, and controlling and reporting structures. The type of risk exposure and the way in which such exposure is managed is provided as follows:

## Credit Risk

Credit risk is the risk of potential loss to the Company if a counterparty to a financial instrument fails to meet its contractual obligations. The Company's credit risk is primarily attributable to its liquid financial assets, including cash and cash equivalents and restricted cash and amounts receivable. The Company limits the exposure to credit risk by only investing with high-credit quality financial institutions in business and saving accounts, guaranteed investment certificates, government treasury bills, low risk corporate bonds and money market funds, which are available on demand by the Company as and when required or mature in timeframes appropriate to the needs of the Company. There has been no change in the Company's objectives and policies for managing this risk except for changes in the carrying amounts of financial assets exposed to credit risk, and there was no significant change to the Company's exposure to credit risk during the period ended June 30, 2023. Amounts receivable include receivable balances with government agencies, prepaid expenses, refundable deposits, and the class action settlement, which will be fully funded by the Company's insurance carriers. Management has concluded that there is no objective evidence of impairment to the Company's amounts receivable.

# Liquidity Risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Company will not be able to meet its financial obligations when they become due. There has been no change in the Company's objectives and policies for managing this risk. The Company's liquidity position is discussed further in Section 1.6 Liquidity.

#### Foreign Exchange Risk

The Company is subject to both currency transaction risk and currency translation risk: the Pebble Partnership, Pebble Services Inc., and U5 Resources Inc., have the US dollar as functional currency; and certain of the



Company's corporate expenses are incurred in US dollars. The fluctuation of the US dollar in relation to the Canadian dollar has an impact upon the losses incurred by the Company as well as the value of the Company's assets as the Company's functional and presentation currency is the Canadian dollar. The Company has not entered into any agreements or purchased any instruments to hedge possible currency risks at this time.

There has been no change in the Company's objectives and policies for managing this risk, except for the changes in the carrying amounts of the financial assets and liabilities exposed to foreign exchange risk. The Company's exposure to foreign exchange risk is as follows:

	June 30	De	cember 31
US dollar denominated financial assets and liabilities (in thousands of Canadian Dollars)	2023		2022
Financial assets:			
Amounts receivable	\$ 8,617	\$	108
Cash and cash equivalents and restricted cash	1,770		7,347
	10,387		7,455
Financial liabilities:			
Non-current trade payables	(385)		(463)
Current trade and other payables	(10,408)		(1,383)
Payables to related parties	(61)		(71)
	(10,854)		(1,917)
Net financial (liabilities) assets exposed to foreign currency risk	\$ (467)	\$	5,538

Based on the above net exposures and assuming that all other variables remain constant, a 10% change in the value of the Canadian dollar relative to the US dollar would result in a gain or loss of \$47 (December 31, 2022 – \$554) in the reported period. This sensitivity analysis includes only outstanding foreign currency denominated monetary items.

#### Interest rate risk

The Company is subject to interest rate risk with respect to its investments in cash and cash equivalents. There has been no change in the Company's objectives and policies for managing this risk and no significant change to the Company's exposure to interest rate risk during the three and six months ended June 30, 2023.

# Commodity price risk

While the value of the Company's Pebble Project is related to the prices of copper, gold, molybdenum, silver and rhenium and the outlook for these minerals, the Company currently does not have any operating mines and hence does not have any hedging or other commodity-based risks in respect of its operational activities.

Copper, gold, molybdenum, silver, and rhenium prices have fluctuated widely historically and are affected by numerous factors outside of the Company's control, including, but not limited to, industrial and retail demand, central bank lending, forward sales by producers and speculators, levels of worldwide production, short-term changes in supply and demand because of speculative hedging activities, and certain other factors related specifically to gold.

#### Capital Management

The Company's policy is to maintain a strong capital base to maintain investor and creditor confidence and to sustain the future development of the business. The capital structure of the Company currently consists of equity, comprising share capital and reserves, net of accumulated deficit. There were no changes in the Company's approach to capital management during the period. The Company is not subject to any externally imposed capital requirements.



## 1.15 Other MD&A Requirements

Additional information relating to the Company, including the Company's 2022 AIF, is available under the Company's profile on Sedarplus at <a href="https://www.sedarplus.ca">www.sedarplus.ca</a>.

#### 1.15.1 Disclosure of Outstanding Share Data

The capital structure of the Company as of the date of this MD&A is as follows:

	Number
Common shares issued and outstanding	529,956,694
Share options pursuant to the Company's incentive plan	24,318,500
Deferred share units	455,703
Non-incentive plan options <sup>1</sup>	37,600

#### Note to table:

1. These were issued on the acquisition of Cannon Point in October 2015 and expire in December 2024.

#### 1.15.2 Disclosure Controls and Procedures

The Company has disclosure controls and procedures in place to provide reasonable assurance that any information required to be disclosed by the Company under securities legislation is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the applicable time periods and that required information is accumulated and communicated to the Company's management so that decisions can be made about the timely disclosure of that information.

# 1.15.3 Management's Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting ("ICFR")

The Company's management, including the CEO and the CFO, is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate ICFR. ICFR is a process designed by, or under the supervision of, the CEO and CFO and effected by the Company's Board of Directors, management, and other personnel, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of consolidated financial statements for external purposes in accordance with IFRS. The Company's ICFR includes those policies and procedures that:

- pertain to the maintenance of records that, in reasonable detail, accurately and fairly reflect the transactions and dispositions of the assets of the Company;
- provide reasonable assurance that transactions are recorded as necessary to permit preparation of
  financial statements in accordance with IFRS, and that receipts and expenditures of the Company are
  being made only in accordance with authorizations of management and directors of the company; and
- provide reasonable assurance regarding prevention or timely detection of unauthorized acquisition, use
  or disposition of the Company's assets that could have a material effect on the consolidated financial
  statements.

There has been no change in the design of the Company's internal control over financial reporting that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the Company's ICFR during the period covered by this MD&A.

#### 1.15.4 Limitations of Controls and Procedures

The Company's management, including its CEO and CFO, believe that any system of disclosure controls and procedures or ICFR, no matter how well conceived and operated, can provide only reasonable, not absolute,



assurance that the objectives of the control system are met. Furthermore, 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 breakdowns can occur because of simple error or mistake. Additionally, controls can be circumvented by the individual acts of some persons, by collusion of two or more people, or by unauthorized override of controls. The design of any system of controls is also 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.

#### 1.15.5 Risk Factors

The securities of Northern Dynasty are highly speculative and subject to a number of risks. A prospective investor or other person reviewing Northern Dynasty for a prospective investor should not consider an investment in Northern Dynasty unless the investor is capable of sustaining an economic loss of their entire investment. The risks associated with Northern Dynasty's business include:

Northern Dynasty May be Unsuccessful in Obtaining a Positive Record of Decision Under the Remand Process Ordered by the USACE and challenging the Final Determination and may ultimately not be able to Obtain the Required Environmental Permits for the Pebble Project.

The ROD issued on November 25, 2020, has denied Northern Dynasty's environmental permit for development of the Pebble Project under the CWA. This environmental permit is required for Northern Dynasty to proceed with the development of the Pebble Project. While the USACE's Pacific Ocean Division has remanded the ROD to the Alaska District for reconsideration, there is no assurance that the remand of the ROD will result in a positive ROD or that the required environmental permit will be obtained. While the Pebble Partnership may have the ability to respond to comments on the CMP for the Pebble Project as part of the remand process, there is no assurance that this opportunity will result in the USACE accepting that the mitigation concerns have been addressed. Further, the USACE cannot issue a permit under the CWA at this time in view of the Final Determination issued by the EPA even if the Pebble Partnership is successful in submitting a CMP that is acceptable to the USACE. An inability to obtain a positive ROD will mean that Northern Dynasty cannot proceed with the development of the Pebble Project as presently envisioned. There is no assurance that Northern Dynasty will be able to redesign the Pebble Project in a manner that addresses the "significant degradation" finding reached by the USACE or ultimately develop any compensatory mitigation plan that the USACE accepts as appropriately addressing the "significant degradation" determination or that will change the USACE's position that environmental permitting of the Pebble Project under the CWA is against the public interest. Northern Dynasty's inability to address these issues may mean that the Company is ultimately not able to secure the environmental permits that are required to develop the Pebble Project. Accordingly, there is no assurance that Northern Dynasty will ever be able to proceed with the development of the Pebble Project and that investors will be able to recover their investment in the Company.

In addition, the EPA re-initiated the CWA Section 404(c) process, and has issued a Final Determination for the waters of Bristol Bay. The Final Determination has established the Defined Area for Prohibition coextensive with the current mine plan footprint in which the EPA prohibits the disposal of dredged or fill material for the Pebble Project and has also established the Defined Area for Restriction. Such Final Determination will negatively affect the ability of the Pebble Partnership to obtain required permitting and develop the Project, even if the remand of the ROD is successful unless the Final Determination is also challenged and withdrawn. There is no assurance that any challenge by the Company to the Final Determination will be successful. The inability to successfully challenge the Final Determination may ultimately mean that the Company will be unable to proceed with the development of the Pebble Project as currently envisioned or at all.



## Inability to Ultimately Achieve Mine Permitting and Develop the Pebble Project.

The Company may ultimately be unable to secure the necessary permits under United States federal and Alaskan State laws to build and operate Pebble Project. The EPA has undertaken regulatory action through the issuance of the Final Determination to restrict development of the Pebble Project and there is no assurance that the Final Determination will be successfully challenged or withdrawn in future. In addition, there is no assurance that the EPA will not seek to undertake future regulatory action to impede or restrict the Pebble Project even if the Final Determination is successfully challenged. In addition, there are prominent and well-organized opponents of the Pebble Project, and the Company may be unable, even if it presents solid scientific and technical evidence of risk mitigation, to overcome such opposition and convince governmental authorities that a mine should be permitted at the Pebble Project. The Company faces not only the permitting and regulatory issues typical of companies seeking to build a mine, but additional public and regulatory scrutiny due to its location and potential size. Accordingly, there is no assurance that the Company will obtain the required permits.

Although the Company received a denial of its CWA 404 permit application from the USACE, the USACE Pacific Ocean Division remanded the permit decision back to the USACE – Alaska District for reconsideration of specific issues. The uncertainty of the USACE remand and the EPA Final Determination casts doubt as to whether the Company will ever be able to obtain these permits for the Pebble Project as currently planned or within the timeline envisioned. Should the USACE remand be successful, and the Final Determination successfully challenged, of which there is no assurance, the Company will still be required to secure the full range of permits and authorizations from multiple federal and state regulatory agencies, which will take several years. After all permits necessary to begin construction are in hand, a number of years would be required to finance and build a mine and commence operations. During these periods, the Company would likely have no income and so would require additional financing to continue its operations. Unless and until the Company develops the Pebble Project it will be unable to achieve revenues from operations and may not be able to sell or otherwise recover its investment in the Pebble Project, which would have a material adverse effect on the Company and an investment in the Company's common shares.

# The Pebble Project Has Not Been Evaluated by Any Preliminary or Final Feasibility Study

The development of the Pebble Project has not been evaluated by any preliminary or final feasibility study. Accordingly, even if the ROD is overturned and the Final Determination successfully challenged, there are substantial risks that we will not be able to proceed with the development of the Pebble Project, that the Pebble Project cannot be economically mined and/or that shareholders will not be able to recover their investment in the Company.

If Northern Dynasty is Unable to Defend the "Class Action" Lawsuits against it, there is No Assurance that Northern Dynasty will not be Subject to Judgements for Damages against it.

As discussed above, Northern Dynasty is the subject of proposed class action lawsuits against it that assert liability against Northern Dynasty on behalf of a purported class of shareholders under securities laws, both in Canada and in the United States. Currently, in the United States, the parties have filed executed settlement agreements that are pending the Court's preliminary approval. In Canada, there is an agreement-in-principle to resolve those actions. The settlement process is being conducted separately in Canada and the United States, but collectively, the settlement and settlements-in-principle in the aggregate are within insurance policy limits. However, the United States settlement could fail if the Court refuses to approve the settlement, as required, or, in Canada the agreements-in-principle could fail due to the parties' inability to reach a final, written settlement agreement or the Courts could refuse to approve the settlements, as required by both jurisdictions. It is also possible that a number of shareholders may object to the proposed settlement and pursue individual (non-class action) claims against the Company.

Should settlement negotiations fail, or the forthcoming settlement agreements be rejected by the applicable Courts, the respective lawsuits would proceed. In that event, while Northern Dynasty intends to vigorously defend these claims, there is no assurance that Northern Dynasty will be successful in defending all claims made



against it. Should Northern Dynasty not be successful in defending these claims, it may be subject to judgements against it and be required to pay substantial amounts in damages to the plaintiffs under these judgements. These damages could result in a material and adverse impairment to Northern Dynasty's financial condition and capital resources and may further impair its ability to pursue the development of the Pebble Project.

In addition, Northern Dynasty is required under the terms of the indemnification agreements that it has entered into with underwriters in connection with Northern Dynasty's public financings to indemnify the underwriters for any losses that they incur. As certain of Northern Dynasty's underwriters have been named as defendants in certain of these class action lawsuits, Northern Dynasty may be required to indemnify and pay monies to the underwriters for any losses that they suffer and expenses that they incur. In addition, Northern Dynasty may be required to indemnify certain of its officers and directors for any losses that they suffer or expenses that they incur. The agreements-in-principle, as currently anticipated, would not require any payments of monies on behalf of the underwriters or any officers and directors.

There is no assurance that Northern Dynasty's existing insurance policies will respond and be sufficient to cover any amounts that it may be required to pay to the plaintiffs in these class action lawsuits should any lawsuit proceed against the Company or the underwriters under our indemnification obligations. We may also be required to indemnify certain of our officers and directors who have been named as party to these lawsuits. Absent a final settlement approved by the Court, these damages could result in a material and adverse impairment to our financial condition and capital resources and may further impair our ability to raise additional financing and pursue the development of the Pebble Project. The same issues and uncertainty apply with respect to potential future lawsuits filed by individual shareholders who object to and "opt-out" of any forthcoming settlement of the various class claims.

#### Grand Jury Investigation.

The Company is cooperating with a grand jury investigation involving the United States Attorney's Office for the District of Alaska, as described above under 1.2.2 Legal Matters. The Company is not able to provide investors with guidance as to the outcome of the grand jury investigation, or whether the investigation will result in any charges or other claims against the Company, the Pebble Partnership or their associated individuals. The Company has incurred and anticipates that it will continue to incur substantial expenses in connection with the grand jury, including legal fees and expenses related to the collection, review, and production of documents, among other things. Any adverse civil or criminal proceedings could have a material adverse impact on Northern Dynasty's prospects and ability to advance development of the Pebble Mine project.

In addition, Northern Dynasty and the Pebble Partnership may face ongoing and further inquiries, demands or allegations concerning future plans for the Pebble Project from the U.S. Congress' House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. Again, any adverse civil or criminal proceedings relating to the Committee's investigation could have a material adverse impact on Northern Dynasty's prospects and ability to advance development of the Pebble Project. In addition, these inquiries or any possible resulting civil or criminal proceedings could erode any existing political support for the Pebble Project, which may reduce the likelihood of the Pebble Project obtaining the required environmental permitting.

The Record of Decision and the Final Determination have had and will have an Ongoing Adverse Impact on Northern Dynasty's Ability to Finance the Pebble Project.

Northern Dynasty believes that the ROD has had a material adverse impact on its ability to finance its operations and will continue to adversely impact its financing options for so long as the ROD remains outstanding. In addition, the Final Determination may adversely impact Northern Dynasty's ability to complete future financings. Appealing the ROD in any future litigation and challenging the Final Determination will require a substantial amount of our current cash and financial resources. As Northern Dynasty has limited cash and working capital and does not have any revenues, and does not anticipate revenues in the foreseeable future,



Northern Dynasty will require additional financing to continue its operations and to fully fund the appeal and remand of the ROD and the challenge of the Final Determination. Northern Dynasty does not have any assurance that it will be able to achieve this financing. If Northern Dynasty is unsuccessful in obtaining a positive ROD after remand or challenge of the Final Determination, Northern Dynasty's financing options may be substantially limited, and it may not be able to generate the necessary financing to enable continued operations without a substantial reduction or restructuring of the Pebble Project. The Company's inability to secure this additional required financing will negatively impact the ability of the Company to continue with the appeal and remand of the ROD and challenge the Final Determination, which may impact the ability of shareholders to recover their investment in the Company.

#### Risk of Secure Title or Property Interest.

There can be no certainty that title to any property interest acquired by the Company or any of its subsidiaries is without defects. Although the Company has taken reasonable precautions to ensure that legal title to its properties is properly documented, there can be no assurance that its property interests may not be challenged or impugned. Such property interests may be subject to prior unregistered agreements or transfers or other land claims, and title may be affected by undetected defects and adverse laws and regulations.

The Pebble Partnership's mineral concessions at Pebble are located on State of Alaska lands specifically designated for mineral exploration and development. Alaska is a stable jurisdiction with a well-developed regulatory and legal framework for resource development and public lands management, a strong commitment to the rule of law and lengthy track record for encouraging investment in the development if its land and natural resources.

#### The Pebble Project is Subject to Political and Environmental Regulatory Opposition.

The Pebble Project faces concerted opposition from certain individuals and organizations who are motivated to preclude any possible mining in the Bristol Bay Watershed (the "BBW"). The BBW is an important wildlife and salmon habitat area. Accordingly, one of the greatest risks to the Pebble Project is seen to be political/permitting risk, which may ultimately preclude construction of the Pebble Project. Opposition may include legal challenges to exploration and development permits, which may delay or halt development. Other tactics may, and have been, employed by opposition groups to delay or frustrate development at Pebble, included political and public advocacy, electoral strategies, media and public outreach campaigns, attempting to purchase intervening land rights, and protest activity. These efforts could materially increase the cost and time for development of the Pebble Project and the related infrastructure, or require changes to development plans, which could adversely impact project economics.

# The Pebble Partnership's Mineral Property Interests Do Not Contain Any Mineral Reserves or Any Known Body of Economic Mineralization.

Although there are known bodies of mineralization on the Pebble Project, and the Pebble Partnership has completed core drilling programs within, and adjacent to, the deposits to determine measured and indicated resources, there are currently no known reserves or body of commercially viable ore. Accordingly, the Pebble Project must be considered an exploration prospect only. Extensive additional work is required before Northern Dynasty or the Pebble Partnership can ascertain if any mineralization may be economic and hence constitute "ore".

# Mineral Resources Disclosed by Northern Dynasty or the Pebble Partnership for the Pebble Project are Estimates Only.

Northern Dynasty has included mineral resource estimates that have been made in accordance with 43-101. These resource estimates are classified as "measured resources", "indicated resources" and "inferred resources". Northern Dynasty advises United States investors that although the SEC now recognizes estimates of "measured mineral resources", "indicated mineral resources" and "inferred mineral resources", there is no



assurance any mineral resources that Northern Dynasty may report as "measured mineral resources", "indicated mineral resources" and "inferred mineral resources" under 43-101 would be the same had Northern Dynasty prepared the resource estimates under the standards adopted under the SEC Modernization Rules. Investors are cautioned not to assume that any part or all of the mineral deposits classified as "measured resources" or "indicated resources" will ever be converted into "mineral reserves". Further, "inferred resources" have a great amount of uncertainty as to their economic and legal feasibility. Under Canadian securities law, estimates of "inferred mineral resources" cannot form the basis of feasibility or prefeasibility studies, or any economic study except a Preliminary Economic Assessment as prescribed under NI 43-101.

All amounts of mineral resources are estimates only, and Northern Dynasty cannot be certain that any specified level of recovery of metals from the mineralized material will in fact be realized or that the Pebble Project or any other identified mineral deposit will ever qualify as a commercially mineable (or viable) ore body that can be economically exploited. Mineralized material, which is not mineral reserves, does not have demonstrated economic viability. In addition, the quantity of mineral reserves and mineral resources may vary depending on, among other things, metal prices and actual results of mining. There can be no assurance that any future economic or technical assessments undertaken by the Company with respect to the Pebble Project will demonstrate positive economics or feasibility.

The mineral resource estimates contained herein have not been adjusted for any risk that the required environmental permits may not be obtained for the Pebble Project. The risk associated with the ability of the Pebble Project to obtain required environmental permits is a risk to the reasonable prospects for eventual economic extraction of the mineralization and their definition as a mineral resource.

# There Is No Assurance That Northern Dynasty Will Be Able To Partner The Pebble Project.

One of Northern Dynasty's business objectives is to enter into a joint venture or other partnership arrangement with a third-party partner to fund the advancement of the development of the Pebble Project. There is no assurance that Northern Dynasty will be able to enter into an arrangement with a partner for the development of the Pebble Project, and the negative impact of the ROD, Final Determination, and the investigations regarding the Pebble Project may negatively impact the Company's ability to enter into any arrangement. To the extent that Northern Dynasty does not enter into any agreement to partner the Pebble Project, it will continue to be required to fund all exploration and other related expenses for advancement of the Pebble Project, of which there is no assurance.

# Limited Capital Resources, Negative Operating Cash Flow and Financing Requirements.

The Company currently has limited cash and working capital and a negative operating cash flow and anticipates that it will continue to have negative operating cash flow for the foreseeable future as it does not have revenues from mining or any other activities. As a result, operating cash flow will continue to be negative until the Company receives revenue from production at the Pebble Project to offset expenses incurred, of which there is no assurance. Accordingly, the Company will require substantial additional capital to fund both its plan of operations for the next twelve months and its future exploration and development activities. The Company does not have any arrangements in place for this additional funding and there is no assurance that such funding will be achieved when required. The Company has historically relied on equity financings to finance its operations but there is no assurance that future equity financings will be available to the Company. Also, any additional equity financing may result in substantial dilution to existing shareholders. Any failure to obtain additional financing or failure to achieve profitability and positive operating cash flows will have a material adverse effect on its financial condition and results of operations. Specifically, the Company may be required to reduce or curtail its operations within the next twelve months if it is not able to secure additional financing. Further there is no assurance that the Royalty Holder under the Royalty Agreement will exercise its right to purchase any additional rights to future gold and silver production from the Pebble Project, or that the Company will enter into additional streaming or royalty agreement financing arrangements for the Pebble Project.



Northern Dynasty Has No History of Earnings and No Foreseeable Earnings, and May Never Achieve Profitability or Pay Dividends.

Northern Dynasty has only had losses since inception and there can be no assurance that Northern Dynasty will ever be profitable. Northern Dynasty has never declared or paid any dividends on its common shares. Northern Dynasty intends, for the foreseeable future, to retain its future earnings, if any, to finance its exploration activities and its operations. Northern Dynasty presently has no ability to generate earnings from its mineral properties as its mineral properties are in the pre-development stage.

Northern Dynasty's Condensed Consolidated Interim Financial Statements have been Prepared Assuming Northern Dynasty will continue on a Going Concern Basis.

Northern Dynasty has prepared its Financial Statements on the basis that Northern Dynasty will continue as a going concern. At June 30, 2023, the Company had working capital of \$2.3 million. Northern Dynasty has prioritized the allocation of its financial resources and considered its future plans to raise further funds in order to meet key corporate and Pebble Project expenditure requirements in the near term, including the funding of the appeal and remand of the ROD and legal challenges to the Final Determination. However, additional financing will be required to progress both the Company's operations over the next twelve months, which include the appeal and remand of the ROD and legal challenges to Final Determination, and any material expenditures at the Pebble Project and for working capital. Northern Dynasty's continuing operations and the underlying value and recoverability of the amounts shown for mineral property interest are entirely dependent upon the existence of economically recoverable mineral reserves at the Pebble Project, the ability of the Company to finance its operating costs, the completion of the exploration and development of the Pebble Project, the Pebble Partnership obtaining the necessary permits to mine, and on future profitable production at the Pebble Project. Furthermore, failure to continue as a going concern would require that Northern Dynasty's assets and liabilities be restated on a liquidation basis, which would likely differ significantly from their going concern assumption carrying values. Refer also to discussion in 1.6 Liquidity.

As the Pebble Project is Northern Dynasty's only Mineral Property Interest, any Failure to establish that the Pebble Project Possesses Commercially Viable and Legally Mineable Deposits of Ore may cause a Significant Decline in the Trading Price of Northern Dynasty's Common Shares and reduce its ability to obtain New Financing.

The Pebble Project which is owned through the Pebble Partnership, is Northern Dynasty's only mineral project. Northern Dynasty's principal business objective is to carry out further exploration and related activities to establish whether the Pebble Project possesses commercially viable deposits of ore. If Northern Dynasty is not successful in its plan of operations, Northern Dynasty may have to seek a new mineral property to explore or acquire an interest in a new mineral property or project. Northern Dynasty anticipates that such an outcome would adversely impact the price of Northern Dynasty's common shares. Furthermore, Northern Dynasty anticipates that its ability to raise additional financing to fund exploration of a new property or the acquisition of a new property or project would be impaired because of the failure to establish commercial viability of the Pebble Project.

If Prices for Copper, Gold, Molybdenum, Silver and Rhenium Decline, Northern Dynasty May Not Be Able To Raise the Additional Financing Required To Fund Expenditures for the Pebble Project.

The ability of Northern Dynasty to raise financing to fund the Pebble Project will be significantly affected by changes in the market price of the metals for which it explores. The prices of copper, gold, molybdenum, silver and rhenium are volatile, and are affected by numerous factors beyond Northern Dynasty's control. The level of interest rates, the rate of inflation, the world supplies of and demands for copper, gold, molybdenum, silver and rhenium and the stability of exchange rates can all cause fluctuations in these prices. Such external economic factors are influenced by changes in international investment patterns and monetary systems and political developments. The prices of copper, gold, molybdenum, silver and rhenium have fluctuated in recent years, and future significant price declines could cause investors to be unprepared to finance exploration of



copper, gold, molybdenum, silver and rhenium, with the result that Northern Dynasty may not have sufficient financing with which to fund its activities related to the advancement of the Pebble Project.

The Russian-Ukrainian Conflict – Potential Effects Which Could Detrimentally Affect the Global Economy, Peace and Stability in Europe and Beyond, and Our Business and Share Price

Russian military forces invaded Ukraine in February 2022. In response, Ukrainian military personnel and civilians are actively resisting the invasion. Many countries throughout the world have provided aid to the Ukraine in the form of financial aid and in some cases military equipment and weapons to assist in their resistance to the Russian invasion. The North Atlantic Treaty Organization ("NATO") has also mobilized forces to NATO member countries that are close to the conflict as deterrence to further Russian aggression in the region. The outcome of the conflict is uncertain and is likely to have wide-ranging consequences on the peace and stability of the region and the world economy. In addition, certain countries including Canada and the United States, have imposed strict financial and trade sanctions against Russia, which sanctions may have far reaching effects on the global economy. The long-term impacts of the conflict and the sanctions imposed on Russia remain uncertain and could have an adverse impact on the Company's business and results of operations and may have wide-ranging consequences on the peace and stability of the region and the world economy.

The conflict could affect the economies and securities markets of countries in ways that cannot necessarily be foreseen at the present time. These events could also exacerbate other pre-existing political, social and economic risks. Such events could also cause substantial market volatility, exchange trading suspensions and closures and affect the Company's performance, the price of its securities and its ability to successfully raise capital at reasonable rates or at all. As a result, the market price of the Common Shares may decline even if the Company's operating results, underlying asset values or prospects have not changed.

Although we do not have employees, suppliers or business activities in Ukraine or Russia at this time, the conflict may have a detrimental impact on our business and operations at some point in the future if the conflict spreads, escalates or affects Europe or the world more broadly.

Mining is Inherently Dangerous and Subject to Conditions or Events beyond the Company's Control, which could have a Material Adverse Effect on the Company's Business.

Hazards such as fire, explosion, floods, structural collapses, industrial accidents, unusual or unexpected geological conditions, ground control problems, power outages, inclement weather, seismic activity, cave-ins and mechanical equipment failure are inherent risks in the Company's exploration, development and mining operations. These and other hazards may cause injuries or death to employees, contractors or other persons at the Company's mineral properties, severe damage to and destruction of the Company's property, plant and equipment and mineral properties, and contamination of, or damage to, the environment, and may result in the suspension of the Company's exploration and development activities and any future production activities. Safety measures implemented by the Company may not be successful in preventing or mitigating future accidents.

Northern Dynasty Competes with Larger, Better Capitalized Competitors in the Mining Industry.

The mining industry is competitive in all its phases, including financing, technical resources, personnel and property acquisition. It requires significant capital, technical resources, personnel and operational experience to effectively compete in the mining industry. Because of the high costs associated with exploration, the expertise required to analyze a project's potential, and the capital required to develop a mine, larger companies with significant resources may have a competitive advantage over Northern Dynasty. Northern Dynasty faces strong competition from other mining companies, some with greater financial resources, operational experience and technical capabilities than Northern Dynasty possesses. As a result of this competition, Northern Dynasty may be unable to maintain or acquire financing, personnel, technical resources or attractive mining properties on terms Northern Dynasty considers acceptable or at all.



Compliance with Environmental Requirements will take Considerable Resources and Changes to these Requirements could Significantly Increase the Costs of Developing the Pebble Project and Could Delay These Activities.

Northern Dynasty and the Pebble Partnership must comply with stringent environmental legislation in carrying out work on the Pebble Project. Environmental legislation is evolving in a manner that will require stricter standards and enforcement, increased fines and penalties for non-compliance, more stringent environmental assessments of proposed projects and a heightened degree of responsibility for companies and their officers, directors and employees. Changes in environmental legislation could increase the cost to the Pebble Partnership of carrying out its exploration and, if warranted, development of the Pebble Project. Further, compliance with new or additional environmental legislation may result in delays to the exploration and, if warranted, development activities.

Changes in Government Regulations or the Application thereof and the Presence of Unknown Environmental Hazards on Northern Dynasty's Mineral Properties May Result in Significant Unanticipated Compliance and Reclamation Costs.

Government regulations relating to mineral rights tenure, permission to disturb areas and the right to operate can adversely affect Northern Dynasty. Northern Dynasty and the Pebble Partnership may not be able to obtain all necessary licenses and permits that may be required to carry out exploration at the Pebble Project. Obtaining the necessary governmental permits is a complex, time-consuming and costly process. The duration and success of efforts to obtain permits are contingent upon many variables not within the Company's control. Obtaining environmental permits may increase costs and cause delays depending on the nature of the activity to be permitted and the interpretation of applicable requirements implemented by the permitting authority. There can be no assurance that all necessary approvals and permits will be obtained and, if obtained, that the costs involved will not exceed those that the Company previously estimated. It is possible that the costs and delays associated with the compliance with such standards and regulations could become such that the Company would not proceed with the development or operation of the Pebble Project.

# Litigation.

The Company is, and may in future be, subject to legal proceedings, including regarding actions discussed in 1.2.2 Legal Matters in the pursuit of its Pebble Project. Given the uncertain nature of these actions, the Company cannot reasonably predict the outcome thereof. If the Company is unable to resolve these matters favorably, it will likely have a material adverse effect of the Company.

Northern Dynasty is Subject to Many Risks that are Not Insurable and, as a Result, Northern Dynasty will Not Be Able to Recover Losses through Insurance Should Such Certain Events Occur.

Hazards such as unusual or unexpected geological formations and other conditions are involved in mineral exploration and development. Northern Dynasty may become subject to liability for pollution, cave-ins or hazards against which it cannot insure. The payment of such liabilities could result in an increase in Northern Dynasty's operating expenses, which could, in turn, have a material adverse effect on Northern Dynasty's financial position and its results of operations. Although Northern Dynasty and the Pebble Partnership maintain liability insurance in an amount which they consider adequate, the nature of these risks is such that the liabilities might exceed policy limits, the liabilities and hazards might not be insurable against, or Northern Dynasty and the Pebble Partnership might elect not to insure against such liabilities due to high premium costs or other reasons, in which event Northern Dynasty could incur significant liabilities and costs that could materially increase Northern Dynasty's operating expenses.



If Northern Dynasty Loses the Services of the Key Personnel that it Engages to Undertake its Activities, then Northern Dynasty's Plan of Operations May Be Delayed or be More Expensive to Undertake than Anticipated.

Northern Dynasty's success depends to a significant extent on the performance and continued service of certain contractors, including HDSI (refer 1.9 *Transactions with Related Parties*). The Company has access to the full resources of HDSI, an experienced exploration and development firm with in-house geologists, engineers and environmental specialists, to assist in its technical review of the Pebble Project. There can be no assurance that the services of all necessary key personnel will be available when required or, if obtained, that the costs involved will not exceed those previously estimated. It is possible that the costs and delays associated with the loss of services of key personnel could become such that the Company would not proceed with the development or operation of a mine at the Pebble Project.

#### The Volatility of Northern Dynasty's Common Shares Can Expose Northern Dynasty to the Risk of Litigation.

Northern Dynasty's common shares are listed on the TSX and NYSE American. Securities of mining companies have experienced substantial volatility in the past, often based on factors unrelated to the financial performance or prospects of the companies involved (see previous risk). These factors include macroeconomic developments in North America and globally, currency fluctuations and market perceptions of the attractiveness of particular industries. The price of Northern Dynasty's common shares is also likely to be significantly affected by short-term changes in copper, gold, molybdenum, silver and rhenium prices or in Northern Dynasty's financial condition or results of operations as reflected in quarterly earnings reports.

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

#### Northern Dynasty Will Require Additional Funding to Meet the Development Objectives of the Pebble Project.

Northern Dynasty will need to raise additional financing (through share issuances, debt or asset level partnering) to achieve permitting and development of the Pebble Project. In addition, a positive production decision at the Pebble Project would require significant capital for project engineering and construction. Accordingly, the continuing permitting and development of the Pebble Project will depend upon Northern Dynasty's ability to obtain financing through debt financing, equity financing, entering into a joint venture of the project or other means. There can be no assurance that Northern Dynasty will be successful in obtaining the required financing, or that it will be able to raise the funds on terms that do not result in high levels of dilution to shareholders. If Northern Dynasty is unable to raise the necessary capital resources, it may at some point have to reduce or curtail its operations, which would have a material adverse effect on its ability to pursue the permitting and development of the Pebble Project.

While we may attempt to reduce the amount of additional financing required by entering into a potential joint venture or other partnership arrangement for advancement of the Pebble Project, there is no assurance that we may be able to conclude any such agreements. In addition, any joint venture or other form of partnership arrangement for the Pebble Project is anticipated to result in a dilution in our ownership interest in the Pebble Project.

There is also no assurance that we will be successful in securing any long-term project financing utilizing conventional asset level financing, debt, royalty, and alternative financing options, such as stream financing. Any project debt financing that we may obtain in the future will require future repayments of principal and interest from cash flows generated by the Pebble Project. Likewise, any potential sale of royalty interests in minerals produced from the Pebble Project would require future payments of royalties from cash flows generated by the Pebble Project. If we enter into any streaming arrangements for the Pebble Project, it is anticipated that we would be required to sell minerals produced from the Pebble Project at preferential rates as consideration for up-front funding provided by the party providing the stream financing. As a result, any of these financing options are anticipated to impact the cash flows from the Pebble Project that would be available



to the Company should the Pebble Project proceed to development. Our board of directors has not made any determination as to whether to proceed with any of the above forms of financing and there is no assurance that these financing options will be available to advance development of the Pebble Project.

## 1.15.6 Qualified Persons

Stephen Hodgson, P.Eng., and David Gaunt, P.Geo., qualified persons who are not independent of Northern Dynasty, have reviewed and approved the scientific and technical information in this MD&A.

#### 1.15.7 U.S. Securities Matters

The Company is a "foreign issuer" under the U.S. Exchange Act and entitled to file continuous disclosure reports with the SEC under the Multi-Jurisdictional Disclosure System ("MJDS") between Canada and the United States, and to provide disclosure on our mineral properties, including the Pebble project, in accordance with NI 43-101 disclosure standards and CIM Definition Standards. For this reason, information contained in this MD&A in respect of the Pebble project may not be comparable to similar information made public by United States companies subject to the reporting and disclosure requirements under the United States federal securities laws and the rules and regulations thereunder.