



**SOLARIS COPPER INC.**

**Management's Discussion & Analysis  
For the years ended December 31, 2018 and 2017**



## **Management's Discussion and Analysis December 31, 2018**

This Management's Discussion and Analysis ("MD&A") of the financial position and results of operations of Solaris Copper Inc. ("Solaris", "Solaris Copper" or the "Company") should be read in conjunction with the consolidated financial statements of Solaris for the year ended December 31, 2018 and the related notes thereto, which have been prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards ("IFRS") as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board. For further information on the Company, reference should be made to its public filings on SEDAR at [www.sedar.com](http://www.sedar.com).

This MD&A is prepared by management and approved for issuance on April 29, 2019. This discussion covers the year and the subsequent period up to the date of issuance of the MD&A. All dollar amounts are expressed in thousands of United States dollars, unless otherwise stated.

Solaris was incorporated under the Business Corporations Act of British Columbia on June 18, 2018 as a wholly owned subsidiary of Equinox Gold Corp. ("Equinox"). On August 3, 2018, Equinox re-organized certain subsidiaries (the "Equinox Subsidiaries"), including Catalyst Copper Corp. ("Catalyst") and Ascenso Inversiones S.A. ("Ascenso"), under its wholly owned subsidiary Lowell Copper Holdings Inc. ("Lowell Copper"), transferred all of the issued and outstanding shares of Lowell Copper to Solaris and distributed 60% of the shares of Solaris to the shareholders of Equinox as a return of capital by way of a plan of arrangement (the "Arrangement"). References to the "Company" in this MD&A are to Solaris as a continuity of interests of Lowell Copper, its subsidiaries, and Catalyst and Ascenso and reflect the combined financial position and results of operations of the Equinox Subsidiaries from the date, as applicable, they were under the common control of Equinox.

Information on risks associated with investing in the Company's securities and technical and scientific information under National Instrument 43-101 concerning the Company's material properties, including information about mineral resources, are contained in the Company's most recently filed technical reports. This MD&A contains forward-looking statements. Readers are cautioned as to the risks related to the forward-looking statements and are directed to page 16 of the MD&A.

### **DESCRIPTION OF BUSINESS**

Solaris Copper is a multi-asset exploration company advancing with a portfolio of projects in the Americas. The Company, through its subsidiaries, is primarily focused on advancing its 100%-owned Warintza copper-molybdenum property in Ecuador. Solaris also holds a 100% interest in the Ricardo early-stage copper-molybdenum property in Chile, which is under option to a subsidiary of Freeport McMoRan, a 60% interest in the La Verde advanced-stage copper-silver-gold property in Mexico with the remaining 40% held by a subsidiary of Teck Resources and has earn-in agreements for two early-stage base metals projects in Peru. Solaris Copper operates as a reporting issuer but is not currently listed on a designated stock exchange.

### **FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS AND MAJOR ACTIVITIES**

- Net loss of \$25 or \$0.00 per share attributable to Solaris shareholders for the three-month period ended December 31, 2018, including exploration expenditures of \$516 and a mark-to-market gain on derivatives of \$847;
- Net loss of \$2,063 or \$0.03 per share attributable to Solaris shareholders for the year ended December 31, 2018 including exploration expenditures of \$2,448 and a mark-to-market gain on derivatives of \$924;
- In the fourth quarter, the Company entered into a definitive earn-in option agreement with Mineral Freeport-McMoRan South America Limitata ("Freeport") with respect to Ricardo.
- Subsequent to December 31, 2018, the Company completed a non-brokered private placement of 15,736,000 common shares at a price of CAD\$0.25 per share for gross proceeds of CAD\$3,934.

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**REVIEW OF PROJECTS**

**Warintza**

Warintza is a porphyry copper-molybdenum project located in south eastern Ecuador in the province of Morona Santiago, Canton Limon Indanza. It consists of eight mining concessions (the “Concessions”) covering a total of 26,777 hectares. The Concessions expire between September 2031 and May 2032 and certain Concessions are subject to a 2% net smelter royalty held by Billiton Ecuador B.V. The Concessions can be renewed for an additional period of 25 years.

Warintza is located in a corridor of mineralization that is known to host numerous exploration and development-stage projects with copper, copper-gold, copper-molybdenum and high-grade gold mineralization including the Mirador Cu-Au development project currently under development by CRCC-Tongguan Investment (formerly owned by Corriente Resources). The Company is currently in discussions with the applicable regulatory officials in Ecuador and the Shuar Indigenous Community to proceed with further exploration and development of the project.

*Warintza Resource Estimate*

Resource	Tonnes	CuEq%	Cu%	Copper (tonnes)	Copper (M lbs)	Mo%	Mo (M lbs)	CuEq (M lbs)
Inferred	194,994,000	0.61	0.42	820,000	1,807	0.031	60,000	2,072

The Warintza Mineral Resource estimate was reported in the "Technical Report, Warintza Project, Ecuador" completed by Mine Development Associates with effective date of June 22, 2018. The Mineral Resource calculation was completed under the supervision of Peter Ronning, P.Eng. and Steven Ristorcelli, C.P.G., who are Qualified Persons as defined under NI 43-101. The reported resource is at a cut-off of 0.3 CuEq. The copper equivalent grade for copper plus molybdenum was calculated as  $CuEq(\%) = Cu(\%) + (6 * Mo(ppm) / 10000)$ . Copper-equivalent calculations reflect gross metal content and have not been adjusted for metallurgical recoveries or relative processing and smelting costs. The copper equivalent grades were used only for establishing cut-off grades for reporting. Step-out drilling at Warintza Central has the potential to extend the known mineralized zone and expand the existing copper resource.

**La Verde**

La Verde is situated in the Sierra Madre del Sur west of Mexico City in Michoacán State, Mexico and consists of the Unificación Santa Maria claim. The project is held 60% by the Company and 40% by Teck Resources Ltd. with the Company acting as the operator of the project.

AMC Mining Consultants (Canada) Ltd. completed a Preliminary Economic Assessment (“PEA”) for the La Verde Project in June 2018. Using metal prices of US\$2.7/lb copper, US\$1,200/oz gold and US\$25/oz silver, the PEA contemplates a conventional truck and shovel open pit mine with a 19-year mine life producing 7.2 million tonnes of concentrate grading 26.7% copper with a pre-tax Internal Rate of Return of 21.2% and a Net Present Value of \$617 million using an 8% discount rate.

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*La Verde Resource Estimate*

Resource	Tonnes	Cu%	Ag (g/t)	Au (g/t)	Copper (M lbs)
Measured	57,527,000	0.45	2.94	0.05	571
Indicated	350,442,000	0.40	2.33	0.03	3,098
<b>Total M&amp;I</b>	<b>407,969,000</b>	<b>0.41</b>	<b>2.42</b>	<b>0.03</b>	<b>3,669</b>
Inferred	337,838,000	0.37	1.94	0.02	2,748

The La Verde Mineral Resource estimate was reported in the “Technical Report, La Verde Copper Project, Michoacán State, Mexico” prepared by AMC Mining Consultants (Canada) Ltd. with an effective date of June 20, 2018. The resource is reported using a base-case cut-off grade of 0.2% copper. The cut-off grade of 0.2% copper is based on experience for similar open-pit projects and a mining conceptual study which used a metal price of \$2.50/lb copper and copper metal recovery of 92%. This Resource estimate is not constrained by a pit shell.

**Ricardo**

The Ricardo property consists of approximately 14,000 hectares strategically located along the West Fissure fault in Chile approximately 25 kilometres south of CODELCO's Chuquicamata Mine, one of the largest copper mines in the world. The West Fissure is highly prospective and hosts numerous other large porphyry copper deposits.

In October 2018, the Company entered into a definitive earn-in option agreement (the “Option Agreement”) with Freeport with respect to the Ricardo property whereby Freeport can earn up to an 80% interest in the Ricardo property for gross expenditures of \$130 million or \$30 million plus the delivery of a feasibility study for a mine at Ricardo.

A summary of the key terms of the Option Agreement is as follows:

- To earn an initial 60% interest in the Ricardo property, Freeport must complete both Stage 1 and Stage 2:
  - Stage 1: Upon receipt of the relevant exploration permits (the “Effective Date”), Freeport will spend \$4.2 million in exploration expenditures over the two years following the Effective Date.
  - Stage 2: Upon completion of Stage 1, Freeport can elect to spend \$4.8 million in the third year following the Effective Date, \$8.0 million in the fourth year following the Effective Date and \$13.0 million in the fifth year following the Effective Date.
- Upon completion of both Stage 1 and Stage 2, Freeport can elect to complete Stage 3 to earn an additional 20% interest in the Ricardo property whereby Freeport will complete the first of (i) funding a feasibility study for a mine at Ricardo and (ii) spending an additional \$100 million in exploration expenditures. Should Stage 3 not be completed within ten years, Freeport can maintain the option by paying to MRRI \$1 million annually until Stage 3 is complete.

In December 2018, the Company received notice from Freeport that the relevant exploration permits had been received and the Effective Date had been set at December 4, 2018.



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### Other Projects

Solaris has earn-in agreements on certain other projects including the Capricho and Paco Orco projects in Peru. The Capricho project is a 4,600-hectare property in Peru prospective for near-surface copper-molybdenum-gold mineralization. The Paco Orco project is a 4,400-hectare property in Peru prospective for lead, zinc and silver. Solaris is focused on obtaining surface access agreements with local landholders and communities for the purposes of permitting exploration programs at both Capricho and Paco Orco.

### SELECTED ANNUAL INFORMATION

The following table summarizes information regarding the Company's operations for the years ended December 31, 2018 and 2017:

<i>\$ in thousands, except per share amounts</i>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2017</b>
Exploration expenses	\$ 2,448	\$ 1,729
General and administrative expenses	550	132
Change in fair value of derivatives	(924)	-
Net loss and comprehensive loss	2,063	1,854
Net loss and comprehensive loss attributable to Solaris shareholders	2,020	1,854
Net loss per share attributable to Solaris shareholders	0.03	0.02
Total non-current liabilities	1,274	-
Total assets	\$ 22,209	\$ 20,352

Exploration expenses increased in 2018 primarily due to increased spending on permitting and community and social projects with respect to the Warintza property in Ecuador. General and administrative costs increased due to additional corporate costs related to the incorporation of Solaris and the Arrangement with Equinox as well as increased legal costs related to completing the Ricardo agreement with Freeport. The increase in costs was offset by a mark-to-market gain on the derivative related to the Company's obligation to issue shares on exercise of Equinox Warrants (see page 9 of this MD&A under "Share Capital" for further information on the Equinox warrants). As the Equinox warrants are denominated in Canadian dollars and the functional currency of the Company is the US dollar, a variable amount of cash will be received when the Equinox warrants are exercised and a derivative exists. At December 31, 2018 the derivative was in an asset position with a \$1,673 derivative asset recorded.

Total assets increased to \$22,209 compared to \$20,352 at December 31, 2017 primarily due to the derivative asset on the warrants outstanding.

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The following tables summarize exploration and evaluation expenditures by property for the year ended December 31, 2018:

**For the year ended December 31, 2018:**

	Warintza	La Verde	Ricardo	Other	2018
Personnel and travel	\$ 548	\$ -	\$ 53	\$ 279	\$ 880
Depreciation	2	3	1	-	6
Field and general	181	62	19	98	360
Community and permitting	713	-	-	47	760
Concession fees	258	43	141	-	442
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 1,702</b>	<b>108 \$</b>	<b>214 \$</b>	<b>424 \$</b>	<b>\$ 2,448</b>

**For the year ended December 31, 2017:**

	Warintza	La Verde <sup>(1)</sup>	Ricardo	Other	2017
Personnel and travel	\$ 208	\$ -	\$ 33	\$ 267	\$ 508
Depreciation	2	-	1	-	3
Field and general	129	-	12	92	233
Community and permitting	643	-	-	-	643
Concession fees	236	-	106	-	342
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 1,218</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>152 \$</b>	<b>359 \$</b>	<b>\$ 1,729</b>

(1) La Verde was acquired by Equinox on December 22, 2017. As a result, there are no expenditures for this property prior to acquisition and only the results for the period from December 22, 2017 to December 31, 2017 are included.

The increase in exploration expenses for the year from \$1,729 in 2017 to \$2,448 in 2018 was primarily the result of increased permitting, community and social spending in Ecuador as the Company works towards permitting an exploration program at the property. The Company also had higher concession fees for the Ricardo project as well as increased community engagement costs related to the projects in Peru and an increase in costs related to the full year of ownership of La Verde in 2018.

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**SUMMARY OF QUARTERLY RESULTS**

The following table summarizes selected unaudited combined financial data for the last eight quarters which have been derived from the financial records of the Company which were prepared based on IFRS applicable to interim financial reporting.

	December 31, 2018	September 30, 2018	June 30, 2018	March 31, 2018
Exploration expenses	\$ 516	\$ 502	\$ 538	\$ 892
General and administration	326	97	59	68
Change in fair value of derivatives	(847)	(77)	-	-
Net loss and comprehensive loss	25	488	595	955
Net loss attributable to Solaris Copper shareholders	26	460	590	944
Net loss per share	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.01	\$ 0.01	\$ 0.01

	December 31, 2017	September 30, 2017	June 30, 2017	March 31, 2017
Exploration expenses	\$ 626	\$ 304	\$ 367	\$ 432
General and administration	54	24	22	32
Net loss and comprehensive loss	664	345	386	459
Net loss attributable to Solaris Copper shareholders	664	345	386	459
Net loss per share	\$ 0.01	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.01	\$ 0.01

The increase in general and administrative costs in the fourth quarter of 2018 was due primarily to increased legal fees on the completion of the Ricardo agreement and timing of expenditures on other properties held by the Company, in addition to increased administrative costs after completion of the Arrangement, including amounts due to Equinox under the Management Services Agreement.

**DISCUSSION OF OPERATIONS**
***For the year ended December 31, 2018 compared 2017:***

The Company recorded a net loss of \$2,063 for the year ended December 31, 2018 compared to a net loss of \$1,854 in 2017. The loss in 2018 included a derivative gain of \$924 related to an obligation to issue shares on exercise of Equinox Warrants which did not exist in 2017. Excluding this gain, the net loss would have been \$2,987 compared to the \$1,854 in 2017. The increased loss related to spending on both permitting and community outreach and social responsibility activities at Warintza, slightly higher property and other costs for Ricardo and other properties, as well as increased general and administrative costs incurred subsequent to the Arrangement with Equinox.

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**LIQUIDITY, CAPITAL RESOURCES AND GOING CONCERN**

	December 31, 2018		December 31, 2017	
Cash	\$	241	\$	92
Other assets		70		37
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities		155		144
Payable to Equinox (long-term)		1,274		-
Total current assets		311		129
Total current liabilities	\$	155	\$	144

Cash used in operating activities during the year ended December 31, 2018 was \$2,905 (2017 - \$1,762). The net outflows during the period were primarily a result of the Company's permitting and community outreach and social responsibility activities at Warintza and Ricardo, as well as concession and maintenance fees for those properties and for La Verde and Ricardo.

The Company received \$3,063 (2017 - \$1,772) in funding from Equinox during the year. At December 31, 2018 \$1,226 of the funds received remain payable to Equinox, along with \$48 which is due and payable under a Management Services Agreement.

Subsequent to December 31, 2018, the Company closed a non-brokered private placement financing of 15,736,000 common shares at a price of CAD\$0.25 per share for gross proceeds of CAD\$3,934.

The Company has incurred operating losses to date and does not generate cash from operations to support its activities. The Company is subject to risks and challenges affecting its operations including, but not limited to, the ability to secure adequate financing to meet expenditure requirements including maintenance costs on its exploration and evaluation assets, and to successfully satisfy its commitments and continue as a going concern. In addition to the funds raised in March 2019, further funding will be required for future obligations and exploration plans. The Company expects to continue to raise the necessary funds through the issuance of common shares, but there can be no guarantees that future equity financing will be available in which case the Company will need to reduce its planned exploration activities.

These factors represent material uncertainties that cast substantial doubt on the ability of the Company to continue as a going concern. The consolidated financial statements do not include the adjustments to the amounts and classification of assets and liabilities that would be necessary should the Company be unable to continue as a going concern. These adjustments may be material.

**COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES**

At December 31, 2018, the Company has the following contractual obligations outstanding:

	Total		Within 1 year		1-2 years		2-3 years		3-4 years		Thereafter	
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$	155	\$	155	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
Total	\$	155	\$	155	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-





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The Company also has an obligation to repay Equinox \$1,274 which is repayable at the discretion of the Company.

### **SHARE CAPITAL**

As of April 25, 2018, the Company had the following securities issued and outstanding:

- 90,309,200 common shares
- 1,339,473 shares issuable on exercise of stock options
- 750,755 shares issuable on vesting of Restricted Share Units
- 12,182,943 shares issuable on the exercise of Equinox Warrants

Under the Arrangement with Equinox, existing shareholders of Equinox received one-tenth of a Solaris common share for each Equinox common share held. A total of 44,663,102 Solaris common shares were distributed to Equinox shareholders. Equinox holds 29,775,513 shares of Solaris.

In addition, holders of options and Restricted Share Units ("RSUs") of Equinox received options and RSUs, respectively, of Solaris which were proportionate to, and reflective of the terms of, their existing options, warrants and RSUs of Equinox. On August 3, 2019, a total of 14,722,000 stock options were issued to acquire 1,472,220 common shares and 8,970,155 RSUs were issued to acquire 897,009 common shares in conjunction with the Arrangement.

Pursuant to the Arrangement, Equinox warrant holders will receive, upon exercise of any Equinox warrant, for the original exercise price, one-tenth of a Solaris share for each Equinox share also issuable upon exercise. Equinox shall, as agent for Solaris, collect and pay to Solaris an amount for each one-tenth of a Solaris share so issued that is equal to the exercise price under the Equinox warrant multiplied by one-tenth. A total of 123,587,166 Equinox warrants were outstanding at the time of the Arrangement which, if all exercised, would require Solaris to issue 12,358,717 Solaris shares for proceeds of CAD\$28,188.

During the period from August 3, 2018 to December 31, 2018, 64,843 shares were issued as a result of the vesting of RSUs and exercise of stock options.

Subsequent to December 31, 2018, the Company closed a non-brokered private placement financing of 15,736,000 common shares at a price of CAD\$0.25 per share for gross proceeds of CAD\$3,934. There were no commissions or fees paid on the private placement. The proceeds from the private placement financing will be used to advance exploration permitting at Warintza and for general and working capital purposes.

### **OFF-BALANCE SHEET ARRANGEMENTS**

The Company has no off-balance sheet arrangements.

### **TRANSACTIONS WITH RELATED PARTIES**

Equinox is an insider of Solaris and, accordingly, a related party of Solaris. For the year ended December 31, 2018, the Company received a total of \$3,063 in funding from Equinox. Of this amount, \$1,226 remains payable to Equinox and is classified as a long-term liability. The remaining balance was included as part of the Arrangement adjustments when the Solaris assets were spun-out of Equinox.

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Solaris has a management services agreement in place with Equinox under which \$48 was charged during 2018. This amount is included in the payable to Equinox at December 31, 2018.

### RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES

#### Financial Statement Risk Exposure

The Company is exposed in varying degrees to a variety of financial instrument related risks as described below. The Board of Directors approves and monitors the risk management process.

##### Credit Risk

Credit risk is the risk of financial loss to the Company if a counterparty to a financial instrument fails to meet its contractual obligations and arises principally from the Company's financial assets.

The Company is primarily exposed to credit risk on its cash and amounts receivable. Credit risk exposure is limited through maintaining its cash with high-credit quality financial institutions. The carrying value of these financial assets represents the maximum exposure to credit risk.

##### Liquidity Risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Company will not be able to meet its financial obligations as they become due. The Company ensures that there is sufficient capital in order to meet short term business requirements after taking into account the Company's holdings of cash. The accounts payable of \$155 is due within the next year while the amounts payable to Equinox are classified as long-term as they are not required to be repaid in the next year

##### Foreign Currency Risk

The Company's functional currency is the US dollar. The Company is exposed to currency risk on transactions and balances in currencies other than the functional currency, primarily the Canadian Dollar, Mexican Peso, Peruvian Sol and Chilean Peso. At December 31, 2017 and December 31, 2016, the Company had not entered into any contracts to manage foreign exchange risk.

#### Capital Risk Management

The Company's primary objective when managing capital is to ensure that it will be able to continue as a going concern and that it has sufficient ability to satisfy its capital obligations and ongoing operational expenses, as well as have sufficient liquidity to fund suitable business opportunities as they arise.

The Company manages its capital structure and make adjustments to it as necessary. In order to maintain the capital structure the Company may, from time to time, issue or buy back equity, repay debt, or sell assets. The Company manages and makes adjustments to its capital structure in light of economic conditions.

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### Other Risk Factors

The following risk factors are not a definitive list or description of all the risks associated with Solaris's business but are intended to indicate what management considers to be significant considerations for anyone who reads this MD&A:

#### Ability to raise funding to continue exploration, development and mining activities

Solaris has no revenues from operations and has recorded losses since inception. The Company expects to incur operating losses in future periods due to continuing expenses associated with general and administrative costs, costs of seeking new business opportunities and advancing its mineral projects. Solaris has finite financial resources and its ability to achieve and maintain profitability and positive cash flow will depend significantly upon its ability to secure near and long-term financing. There are no assurances or guarantees that any financing alternative will be successful or that financing will be available at all or on acceptable terms.

#### Limited operating history and uncertainty of future revenues

It is difficult to evaluate the Company's business and future prospects. Solaris is at an early stage of development with operating losses expected to continue for the foreseeable future. While the Company's Board is optimistic about the Company's prospects, there is no certainty that anticipated outcomes and sustainable revenue streams will be achieved.

#### No defined reserves and none of our mineral properties are in production or under development

Solaris is an early exploration and development company and all properties are in the exploration stage. Management has not defined or delineated any proven or probable reserves on any of our properties. Mineral exploration involves significant risk and few properties that are explored contain bodies of ore that would be commercially economic to develop into producing mines. Management cannot confirm the presence of any proven or probable reserves at the La Verde Project, the Warintza Project or any other properties. The failure to establish proven or probable reserves could severely restrict the Company's ability to implement its strategies for long-term growth. In addition, mineral resource figures are estimates only. The estimates are expressions of judgment based on knowledge, mining industry experience, the analysis of drill and other results, as well as industry practices.

Further, mineral resources are not mineral reserves and there is no assurance that any mineral resource estimate will ultimately be classified as proven or probable mineral reserves. Mineral resources which are not mineral reserves do not have demonstrated economic viability.

#### Risks from international operations

Solaris has mineral properties and interests in Ecuador, Mexico, Chile, Peru and Guatemala which are exposed to various levels of economic, political, legal and other risks and uncertainties. These risks and uncertainties vary from country to country and include, but are not limited to, terrorism, hostage taking, military repression, crime, political instability, corruption, currency controls, extreme fluctuations in currency exchange rates, high rates of inflation, labour unrest, the risks of war or civil unrest, expropriation and nationalization, renegotiation or nullification of existing concessions, licenses, permits, approvals and contracts, illegal mining, changes in taxation and mining laws, regulations and policies, restrictions on foreign exchange and repatriation, and changing political conditions and governmental regulations relating to foreign investment and the mining business. These countries have experienced political, social and economic unrest in the past and protestors have from time to time targeted foreign mining companies and their mining operations.

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**December 31, 2018***Speculative nature of mineral exploration and development*

The exploration for and development of mineral deposits involves significant risk. Few properties that are explored are ultimately developed into producing mines. Substantial expenditures are required to establish reserves through drilling, to develop processes to extract the resources and, in the case of new properties, to develop the extraction and processing facilities and infrastructure at any site chosen for extraction. Development of Solaris's mineral projects will only follow upon obtaining satisfactory results. There is no assurance that Solaris's exploration and development activities will result in any discoveries of commercial bodies of ore, or that any of Solaris's mineral projects will be brought into commercial production. Whether a mineral deposit will be commercially viable depends on a number of factors, some of which are: the particular attributes of the deposit, accuracy of estimated size, continuity of mineralization, average grade, proximity to infrastructure, availability and cost of water and power, anticipated climatic conditions, commodity prices and government regulations, including regulations relating to prices, taxes, royalties, land tenure, land use, importing and exporting of minerals and environmental protection. The exact effect of these factors cannot be accurately predicted but the combination of these factors may result in Solaris being unable to receive an adequate return on invested capital.

The processes of exploration, development and operations also involve risks and hazards, including environmental hazards, industrial accidents, labour disputes, unusual or unexpected geological conditions or acts of nature.

Although Solaris evaluates the risks and carries insurance policies to mitigate the risk of loss where economically feasible, not all of these risks are reasonably insurable and insurance coverages may contain limits, deductibles, exclusions and endorsements. Solaris cannot assure that its coverage will be sufficient to meet its needs. Such a loss may have a material adverse effect on the Company.

The cost of compliance with changes in governmental regulations has a potential to reduce the profitability of operations. Solaris intends to comply fully with all environmental regulations. The current or future operations of Solaris, including exploration, development activities and commencement of production on Solaris's current properties and any future properties of Solaris, require permits from various federal, provincial and local governmental authorities, and such operations are and will be governed by laws and regulations governing prospecting, development, mining, production, exports, taxes, labour standards, occupational health, waste disposal, toxic substances, land use, environmental protection, mine safety and other matters.

There can be no assurance, however, that all permits that Solaris may require for its operations and exploration activities will be obtainable on reasonable terms or on a timely basis or that such laws and regulations will not have an adverse effect on any mining project which Solaris might undertake.

Failure to comply with applicable laws, regulations, and permitting requirements may result in enforcement actions thereunder, including orders issued by regulatory or judicial authorities causing operations to cease or be curtailed, and may include corrective measures requiring capital expenditures, installation of additional equipment, or remedial actions. Parties engaged in mining operations may be required to compensate those suffering loss or damage by reason of mining activities and may have civil or criminal fines or penalties imposed for violations of applicable laws or regulations and, in particular, environmental laws.

Amendments to current laws, regulations and permits governing operations and activities of mining companies, or more stringent implementation thereof, could have a material adverse effect on Solaris and cause increases in capital expenditures or production costs or reduction in levels of production at producing properties or require abandonment or delays in development of new mining properties.

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Failure to comply with applicable laws, regulations and permitting requirements may result in enforcement actions thereunder, including orders issued by regulatory or judicial authorities causing operations to cease or be curtailed, and may include corrective measures requiring capital expenditures, installation of additional equipment or remedial actions. Parties engaged in mining operations or in the exploration or development of mineral properties may be required to compensate those suffering loss or damage by reason of the mining activities and may have civil or criminal fines or penalties imposed for violations of applicable laws or regulations.

#### Commodity price risk

The price of Solaris' common shares, financial results and exploration, and development and mining activities in the future may be materially adversely affected by declines in the price of copper and molybdenum. Copper and molybdenum prices fluctuate widely and are affected by numerous factors beyond Solaris' control, such as the sale or purchase of metals by various central banks and financial institutions, interest rates, exchange rates, inflation or deflation, fluctuation in the value of the United States dollar and foreign currencies, global and regional supply and demand, and the political and economic conditions of major metals-producing and metals-consuming countries throughout the world.

#### Exchange rate fluctuations

Solaris reports its results in U.S. dollars, while many of Solaris' investments, costs and revenues may be denominated in other currencies. This may result in additions to Solaris' reported costs or reductions in Solaris' reported revenues. Fluctuations in exchange rates between currencies in which Solaris invests, reports, or derives income may cause fluctuations in its financial results that are not necessarily related to Solaris's underlying operations.

#### Joint ventures

Solaris may enter into joint venture or similar arrangements with regard to future exploration, development and production properties (including potentially Solaris' concessions). There is a risk any future joint venture partner does not meet its obligations and Solaris may therefore suffer additional costs or other losses. It is also possible that the interests of Solaris or future joint venture partners are not aligned resulting in project delays or additional costs and losses. Solaris may have minority interests in the companies, partnerships and ventures in which it invests and may be unable to exercise control over the operations of such companies.

#### Infrastructure

Mining, processing, development and exploration activities depend, to one degree or another, on adequate infrastructure. Reliable roads, bridges, power sources and water supply are important determinants which affect capital and operating costs. Unusual or infrequent weather phenomena, terrorism, sabotage, government or other interference in the maintenance or provision of such infrastructure could adversely affect Solaris' operations, financial condition and results of operations.

#### General

The costs, timing and complexities of developing our projects may be greater than anticipated because such property interests are not located in developed areas, and, as a result, our property interests are not currently served by appropriate road access, water and power supply and other support infrastructure. Cost estimates may increase significantly as more detailed engineering work is completed on a project. It is common in new mining operations to experience unexpected costs, problems and delays during construction, development and mine start-up. In addition, delays in the early stages of mineral production often occur. Accordingly, we cannot provide assurance that our activities will result in profitable mining operations at our mineral properties. The Company cannot assure that it will achieve production or that it will ever be profitable if production is achieved. The Company does not expect to receive revenue for the foreseeable future.

**SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES, JUDGEMENTS AND ESTIMATES**

In preparing the Company's consolidated financial statements in conformity with IFRS, management has made judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the application of the Company's accounting policies and the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, income and expense. Actual results may differ. All estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions are recognized in the period in which the estimates are revised and in any future periods affected. Information about critical judgements and estimates in applying accounting policies that have the most significant effect on amounts recognized in the consolidated financial statements are as follows:

**Judgments***Determination of functional currencies*

The functional currency for each of the Company's subsidiaries is the currency of the primary economic environment in which the entity operates. The Company has determined the functional currency of each entity is the US dollar. Assessment of functional currency involves certain judgements to determine the primary economic environment and the Company reconsiders the functional currency of its entities if there is a change in events and conditions which determined the primary economic environment.

**Key sources of estimation uncertainty***Carve-out basis of accounting*

The preparation of these consolidated financial statements pursuant to the carve-out basis of accounting as described in Note 3 to the consolidated financial statements requires the identification and allocation of the pre-arrangement assets, liabilities, results from operations and cash flows of the Equinox subsidiaries that are deemed to be attributable to Solaris. The comparative carve-out 2017 information required management to allocate, on a pro-rata basis, the exploration and other expenditures which required estimates and judgements in performing the allocation.

*Valuation of mineral properties*

The Company carries the acquisition costs of its mineral properties at cost less any provisions for impairment. The Company undertakes periodic reviews of the carrying values of mineral properties and whenever events or changes in the circumstances indicate that their varying values may exceed their fair value. In undertaking these reviews, management of the Company is required to make significant estimates. These estimates are subject to various risks and uncertainties, which may ultimately influence the expected recoverability of the carrying values of the mineral properties and related expenditures.

*Valuation of derivative and other financial instruments*

The valuation of the Company's derivative financial instruments requires the use of option pricing models or other valuation techniques. Measurement of the Company's obligation to issue shares upon exercise of Equinox warrants is based on a Monte Carlo pricing model which uses assumptions with respect to share price, expected life, share price volatility, correlation assumptions and discount rates. Changes in these assumptions and estimates result in changes in the fair value of these instruments and a corresponding change in the amount recognized in profit or loss. Significant assumptions related to derivatives are disclosed in Note 10 to the consolidated financial statements.



**Management's Discussion and Analysis**  
**December 31, 2018**Income taxes

The determination of the Company's tax expense for the period and deferred tax assets and liabilities involves significant estimation and judgment by management. In determining these amounts, management interprets tax legislation in a variety of jurisdictions and makes estimates of the expected timing of the reversal of deferred tax assets and liabilities. Management also makes estimates of future earnings, which affect the extent to which potential future tax benefits may be used. The Company is subject to assessments by various taxation authorities, which may interpret legislation differently. These differences may affect the final amount or the timing of the payment of taxes. The Company provides for such differences where known based on management's best estimate of the probable outcome of these matters.

Share-based compensation

The Company utilizes the Black-Scholes Option Pricing Model ("Black-Scholes") to estimate the fair value of stock options granted to directors, officers and employees. The use of Black-Scholes requires management to make various estimates and assumptions that impact the value assigned to the stock options including the expected volatility of the stock price, the risk-free interest rate, dividend yield, the expected life of the stock options and the number of options expected to vest. Any changes in these assumptions could change the amount of share-based compensation recognized. Significant assumptions related to share-based payments are disclosed in Note 11 to the consolidated financial statements.

**CHANGE IN ACCOUNTING STANDARDS INCLUDING INITIAL ADOPTION**Accounting policies

See Note 5 of the consolidated financial statements for the Company's significant accounting policies. The Company adopted IFRS upon incorporation and prior period comparative information has been presented using the same policies.

Changes in accounting standards not yet adopted

The IASB issued the following new or revised pronouncements that may affect the Company's future financial statements.

IFRS 16: Leases ("IFRS 16")

On January 13, 2016, the IASB issued IFRS 16 - *Leases*. The standard is effective for annual periods beginning on or after January 1, 2019. The Company intends to adopt IFRS 16 in its financial statements for the annual period beginning January 1, 2019. The standard introduces a single lessee accounting model and requires a lessee to recognize assets and liabilities for all leases with a term of more than 12 months, unless the underlying asset is of a low value. As the Company does not have any leases the adoption of this standard will not have an impact on the Company's reported financial results.

IFRIC 23, Uncertainty over Income Tax Treatments ("Interpretation 23")

On June 7, 2017, the IASB issued IFRIC Interpretation 23, *Uncertainty over Income Tax Treatments*. The Interpretation provides guidance on the accounting for current and deferred tax liabilities and assets in circumstances in which there is uncertainty over income tax treatments. Interpretation 23 is applicable for annual periods beginning on or after January 1, 2019. The Company intends to adopt Interpretation 23 in its financial statements for the annual period beginning on January 1, 2019 and does not expect it to have a material impact on the financial statements.

**Management's Discussion and Analysis  
December 31, 2018****LIMITATIONS OF CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES**

Management has implemented disclosure control and procedures and internal controls over financial reporting intended to allow for the appropriate fair presentation of financial and other information that the Company is required to disclose. Any disclosure controls and procedures or internal controls over financial reporting, no matter how well conceived and operated, can provide only reasonable, not absolute, assurance that the objectives of the control system are met. Further, the design of a control system must reflect the fact that there are resource constraints, and the benefits of controls must be considered relative to their costs. Because of the inherent limitations in all control systems, the Company's management 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 judgements in decision-making can be faulty and that breakdowns can occur because of a 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 the control. The design of any control system 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. The Company's officers are not required to certify the design and evaluation of the Company's disclosure controls and procedures and internal controls over financial reporting and have not completed such an evaluation. Inherent limitations on the ability of the certifying officers to design and implement on a cost-effective basis disclosure controls and procedures and internal controls over financial reporting for the Company may result in additional risks to the quality, reliability, transparency and timeliness of interim and annual filings and other reports provided under securities legislation.

**CAUTIONARY STATEMENT ON FORWARD-LOOKING INFORMATION**

This MD&A contains forward-looking statements or forward-looking information within the meaning of applicable securities laws concerning the Company's beliefs and plans, including but not limited to statements with respect to future plans and objectives of Solaris, potential mineralization, exploration results, the availability of financial resources; capital, operating and cash flow estimates; and other matters. These statements relate to analyses and other information that are based on forecasts of future results, estimates of amounts not yet determinable and assumptions of management.

Any statements that express or involve discussions with respect to predictions, expectations, beliefs, plans, projections, objectives, assumptions, intentions or future events or performance are not statements of historical fact and may be "forward-looking statements".

Forward-looking statements are subject to a variety of known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors which could cause actual events or results to differ from those expressed or implied by the forward- looking statements, including but not limited to those included in this MD&A.

The Company's forward-looking statements are based on the beliefs, expectations and opinions of management on the date the statements are made and should not be relied on as representing the Company's views on any subsequent date. The Company specifically disclaims any intention or any obligation to update forward-looking statements if circumstances or management's beliefs, expectations or opinions should change, except as required by applicable law. For the reasons set forth above, investors should not place undue reliance on forward-looking statements.

**TECHNICAL INFORMATION**

Scott Heffernan, MSc, P.Geo., a Director of Solaris, is the Qualified Person under NI 43-101 for Solaris Copper and has reviewed, approved and verified the technical content of this document.