

# Management's Discussion and Analysis Year Ended December 31, 2024

This Management Discussion and Analysis ("MD&A") dated February 24, 2025, relates to the operating results and financial condition of Morien Resources Corp. ("Morien" or the "Corporation") and should be read in conjunction with the Corporation's audited consolidated financial statements as at and for the years ended December 31, 2024 and 2023 and the notes thereto.

The following discussion and analysis include consolidated financial information relating to the Corporation's subsidiaries and is presented in Canadian dollars in accordance with IFRS® Accounting Standards as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board ("IFRS") as outlined in the CPA Canada Handbook.

## Forward-Looking Statements and Third-Party Information

This discussion includes certain statements that may be deemed "forward-looking statements". All statements in this discussion other than statements of historical fact, including those that address future milestone and royalty payments, the acquisition of additional mineral assets, expected working capital requirements, future purchases under a Normal Course Issuer Bid, future dividend payments, evaluation activities, events or developments the Corporation expects, or the potential impact of global economic issues such as viral outbreaks, war, an increase in inflation, or labour shortages and labour strikes and supply chain issues, are forward-looking statements. Although the Corporation believes the expectations expressed in such forward-looking statements are based on reasonable assumptions (including assumptions relating to economic, market and political conditions, the Corporation's working capital requirements and the accuracy of information supplied by the operators of the properties in which the Corporation has a royalty interest), such statements are not guarantees of future performance and actual results or developments may differ materially from those in the forward-looking statements. Factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those in forward-looking statements include market prices, evaluation and development results, continued availability of capital and financing and general economic, market or business conditions.

The risk factors identified above are not intended to represent a complete list of the factors which could affect the Corporation. Additional factors are noted under Financial Instruments and Other Risks below.

Any financial outlook or future-oriented financial information in this MD&A, as defined by applicable securities legislation, has been approved by management as of the date of this MD&A. Such financial outlook or future oriented financial information is provided for the purpose of providing information about management's current expectations and plans relating to the future. Readers are cautioned that such outlook or information should not be used for purposes other than for which it is disclosed in this MD&A.

# **Third-Party Information**

Except where otherwise stated, the disclosure in this MD&A relating to properties and operations on the properties in which the Corporation holds royalty interests is based primarily on information disclosed by the owners or operators of these properties publicly or directly to the Corporation and information available in the public domain. As a royalty holder, the Corporation has limited, if any, access to properties included in its royalty portfolio. The Corporation is dependent on the operators of the properties to provide information to the Corporation or on publicly available information to prepare required disclosure pertaining to properties and operations on the properties on which the Corporation holds royalty interests and generally has limited or no ability to independently verify such information. Additionally, the Corporation

occasionally receives operating information from the owners and operators of these properties which it is not permitted to disclose to the public. Although the Corporation does not have any knowledge that such information may not be accurate, there can be no assurance that such information is complete or accurate.

## **Nature of Business**

Morien is a Canada-based, mining development company focused on the identification and purchase of mineral projects. The Corporation holds two royalty interests on the sale of coal from the Donkin Mine ("Donkin", "Donkin Mine" or the "Mine") in Cape Breton, Nova Scotia, and a royalty on the sale of crushed stone from the permitted Black Point Quarry Project ("BP Project" or "Black Point"), in Guysborough County, Nova Scotia. The Donkin Mine was recently idled, and the Corporation is working diligently to advocate for a potential return to production. The BP Project has received positive environmental assessment decisions from both federal and provincial authorities, and although production has not begun, the Corporation is receiving advanced minimum royalty payments ("Advanced Payments") on a quarterly basis. Morien had a Normal Course Issuer Bid ("NCIB") in place from 2015 to 2024, through which it purchased 14.6 million of the Corporation's outstanding common shares. This NCIB program may be reinstated if and when the status of the Donkin Mine is better understood. The Corporation has been focused on identifying mineral interests and projects to purchase, specifically additional royalty assets to complement its existing assets.

## Year End 2024 Update

#### **Donkin Mine**

- Received royalties in the amount of \$82k from Kameron Collieries, owner/operator of the Donkin Mine, related to 2024 coal sales from the remaining Donkin coal stockpile; and
- As of the date of this MD&A, Donkin remains idled. While Kameron has given no indication of its timing to reopen the Mine, Morien will continue to work diligently to advocate for a potential return to production.

## **Black Point Project**

- Received advanced royalty payments for the year in the amount of \$152k from Vulcan Materials related to the advance-stage Black Point Aggregate Project;
- In Q4-2023, Vulcan announced that it was advancing the Black Point Project toward development;
- Vulcan has provided a directional time goal of 18-months to begin development, following the completion of various permit-related commitments as outlined in the project's already-approved environmental assessment:
- Black Point has a 75-year mine life, based on an estimated 400 million tonne resource of high quality, "Class-A" construction aggregate<sup>1</sup>; and
- Capital costs are estimated at \$90-\$120 million and include the construction of a marine terminal, facilitating access to Black Point's target market, the U.S. east coast.

## **Corporate Update**

- Received proceeds of \$44k during 2024 on the sale of a portion of Canterra shares;
- Reduced corporate overhead costs in 2024 by 20% year-over-year to \$672k; and
- Ended 2024 with \$1.1 million in working capital<sup>2</sup> versus \$1.4 million at 2023 year-end.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Resource and mine life estimates based on Vulcan's internal estimates; not supported by a NI 43-101 technical report.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Working capital determined by deducting current liabilities from current assets on Morien's statement of financial position.

# **Project Developments**

## Donkin Coal Mine - Nova Scotia, Canada

Description of Morien's Royalty

The Corporation owns a gross production royalty on coal sales from the Donkin Mine in Cape Breton, Nova Scotia, owned by Kameron Collieries ULC ("Kameron"), a subsidiary of The Cline Group LLC. Morien's royalty consists of 2.0% of the revenue from the first 500,000 tonnes of coal sales per calendar quarter, net of certain coal handling and transportation costs, and 4.0% of the revenue from coal sales from quarterly tonnage above 500,000 tonnes, net of certain coal handling and transportation costs ("Donkin Royalty"). The royalty is payable to Morien on a quarterly basis. The Donkin Royalty is binding on Kameron and its successors in interest in the Mine for the duration of the Mine's lease.

### Timeline of Recent Events

- July 15, 2023: Nova Scotia's provincial regulator for Donkin, the Department of Labour, Skills and Immigration ("LSI"), issued a Stop Work Order ("SWO") at Donkin in response to a roof fall in one of Donkin's two, 3.5-km-long access tunnels, installed at Donkin in the 1980's by DEVCO, a former federal Crown corporation. No one was injured during the fall, nor any equipment damaged;
- Late July 2023: In keeping with Kameron's safety protocols, the company made a proactive, internal
  decision to implement a comprehensive remediation program which included extensive roof bolting
  over the full length of the 3.5-kilometre-long access tunnel in order to safeguard against future falls;
- Early August 2023: Independent, third-party underground mining consultant hired by Kameron to review Donkin's ground control plan and tunnel remediation work. Recommendation made by consultant to allow production to resume;
- August 15, 2023: In consideration of continued uncertainty surrounding the release of the SWO, Kameron laid off 37 employees at the Mine pending the release of the SWO by LSI;
- September 27, 2023: LSI announced that an independent engineer had been contracted by LSI to complete a technical review of the Donkin Mine;
- October 26-27, 2023: Site visit to Donkin by independent engineer;
- October 27, 2023: LSI grants 30-day extension to independent engineer;
- November 10, 2023: In consideration of continued uncertainty surrounding the timing for release
  of the SWO, Kameron laid off the remaining hourly workforce at the Mine and placed Donkin into
  an idled state with no timeline to resume operations;
- November 15, 2023: LSI releases findings from independent review. Based on the engineer's
  recommendations, LSI issued Kameron two orders which required action; Phase I which required
  Kameron to update its hazard assessment classification system and to add further monitoring
  measures in the access tunnel; and Phase II, which requires a technical review of the ground control
  management plan to ensure it considers seasonal changes and periods of high humidity.
- December 28, 2023: LSI lifts the Donkin SWO in response to Kameron meeting Phase I conditions;
- Early January 2024: Independent engineer hired by Kameron to complete Phase II technical review.
- March 13, 2024: LSI concluded its review of the independent engineer's report on tunneling and ground control plans at Donkin. As stated by LSI "After a thorough internal review and consulting with third-party experts to ensure recommendations have been satisfied, the Department has lifted the existing Compliance Order. The company can now reopen for year-round operation if it chooses to do so."

Morien is of the opinion that any potential return to production at Donkin is not conditioned solely upon the lifting of the Compliance Order, but will be contingent, in part, on improving certain regulatory-related processes that ensure long-term, stable production.

## Morien Advocacy

Morien has taken an active role in advocating for the Mine's reopening which has involved numerous initiatives targeting the broader public, government bureaucrats and local politicians. Morien will continue to work diligently to advocate for a potential return to production and will provide further updates to its shareholders and investors as to the status of operations at the Mine as they become available.

#### Donkin Risks

There are inherent risks in underground mining operations. The Donkin Mine is no exception. Additionally, the Donkin Mine operates in a highly regulated sector within the province of Nova Scotia. As such, there are multiple risk factors, both specific to Kameron and to the coal industry in general, that may individually or in combination affect the future operating and financial performance of Kameron and the Donkin Mine, which could indirectly affect Morien as a royalty holder, and all Donkin stakeholders, including local government.

Many of the circumstances giving rise to these risks are beyond the control of Kameron. Notwithstanding Morien, as a royalty holder, has limited access to information pertaining to the Donkin Mine, the Corporation believes the major risks associated with the Donkin Mine are as follows. It should be noted that the following risk factors are not intended to represent a complete list of the factors which could affect Kameron, the Donkin Mine, or Morien, and future events may vary substantially from what Morien currently foresees.

### **Operating Risks**

Kameron's coal mining operations are subject to operating risks that could impact the amount of coal produced at the Donkin Mine, delay coal deliveries or increase the cost of mining for varying lengths of time. Such difficulties include weather and natural disasters, unexpected maintenance or technical problems, failure of key equipment, industrial action, labour shortages and higher than expected labour costs.

### Geology Risks

Geological uncertainty is an inherent operational risk which could result in rock falls or other failures to mine infrastructure.

#### Infrastructure Risks

Coal produced from the Donkin Mine is transported to customers by a combination of trucking and oceangoing vessels. A number of factors could disrupt these transport services, including a failure of infrastructure providers to increase capacity in order to meet future export requirements.

### Legal and Regulatory Risk

The coal mining sector is subject to a broad range of laws, regulations and standards including in relation to taxation, royalties, occupational health and safety, environmental matters and greenhouse gas emissions. A change in the laws, regulations or standards applicable to Kameron could result in increased costs, regulatory action or litigation or, in extreme cases, threaten the viability of the Donkin operation.

Safety-related regulation of the Donkin Mine is administered and enforced by LSI. According to a May 2023 statement from LSI, Donkin was one of the most regulated and most frequently inspected workplaces in Nova Scotia. LSI has issued SWO's for certain safety-related events at the Donkin Mine since it commenced operations, the majority of which have been related to roof falls. In these cases, Kameron and LSI work jointly to assess the cause and determine the appropriate remediation procedures, and the SWO has been removed once the safety-related event has been addressed and rectified by Kameron. While the duration of each SWO can vary, the SWO's issued at the Donkin Mine have ranged from one day to in some cases longer than one month. The timing for the release of SWO's is unknown to Morien as it depends on LSI's ability to timely assess the situation. More frequent or longer SWO's reduce Kameron's capacity to produce coal and generate revenue from coal sales, and also increase operating costs.

## Climate Change Risk

See section entitled Risks on page 15 of this MD&A.

#### Donkin's Positive Attributes

- The Mine has received over CAD \$300 million in capital investment from Kameron since 2015;
- The Mine is a short, 30-kilometre truck haul to the Provincial Energy Ventures Ltd.'s ("PEV") port facility in Sydney, Cape Breton, responsible for handling all of the exported coal from Donkin;
- In 2020, PEV acquired, and received delivery of, a large barge-mounted ship loader to allow for expedited loading of coal onto ocean-going vessels, and finished dredging the sea floor around its export facility to a depth of approximately 16.5 metres to accommodate larger, Capesize vessels to significantly reduce the cost of transporting Donkin coal to overseas markets;
- In 2021, the Canadian Coast Guard commenced a \$4.5 million upgrade to the navigational aid lights in the Port of Sydney, the last remaining component to being able to receive larger vessels in Sydney Harbour, a project which is expected to be complete in 2025; and
- The Donkin mining lease contains a substantial coal resource (25+ year mine life) production assumptions based on a Probable Mineable Reserve of 58 million tonnes. The Reserve estimate is based on an Indicated Resource of 174 million tonnes, which does not include an additional 172 million tonnes of Inferred Resources<sup>3</sup>.

### Description of Mine and Royalty Payment Potential

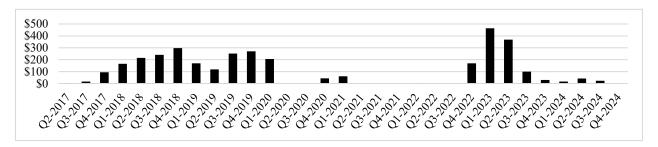
The Donkin Mine is permitted for run-of-mine annual production of 3.6 million tonnes, which is anticipated to produce approximately 3.0 million saleable tonnes after being washed in the onsite coal handling and preparation plant. At 3.0 million saleable tonnes and using a wide range of coal pricing (CAD \$80 to \$200 per tonne), royalty payments to Morien could be in the order of CAD \$6 to \$16 million annually.

Morien incurs general and administrative expenses in respect of the administration and preparation of regulatory filings as a public company, from the collection of royalty revenues, and from evaluation expenses. The royalty estimates listed above are only estimates and are based on assumptions that Morien management consider reasonable as of the date of this MD&A and would only be achieved if Donkin reached permitted production levels. Future results and royalties received, if any, subject primarily to production rates and coal pricing, may vary from those estimated by Morien.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> The above technical disclosures are consistent with the information in the technical report titled "Technical Report, Donkin Coal Project, Cape Breton, Nova Scotia, Canada" dated Nov 2012, found on Morien's SEDAR+ profile.

### Morien's Royalties from Kameron

Morien recognized the following royalties from Kameron between Q2 2017 and Q4 2024 (expressed in thousands of Canadian dollars):



### **Global Coal Markets**

The Donkin Mine's coal product has been marketed overseas primarily as a semi-soft steelmaking coal, and overseas and domestically as a high-energy, ultra-low ash thermal coal.

Regarding physical demand, global coal consumption (combining metallurgical and thermal coal) reached an all-time high for the fourth consecutive year, hitting 8.77 billion tonnes, according to the International Energy Agency's Coal 2024 publication, growing by approximately 1.2 billion tonnes since 2020. The global trade of coal also reached a new all-time high of 1.5 billion tonnes.

In the metallurgical coal market, although the commodity remains a critical ingredient in the production of steel, weakened global demand for steel has persisted, resulting in a 1.9% decline in metallurgical coal consumption in 2024. While China's domestic industrial growth was the main driver of metallurgical coal demand increases in 2023, the country lead the decline in 2024 due primarily to lower industrial activity. However, the seaborne trade of metallurgical coal in 2024 grew by 5% to 368 million tonnes. Over the long-term, steel demand is forecast to increase more than a third by 2050, according to the International Energy Agency. Semi-soft high-volatile B metallurgical coal, a similar quality to that which resides at Donkin, is trading for US\$170 per tonne (FOB U.S. east coast), as of the time of publishing this MD&A, versus its 10-year average of \$158 per tonne.

In the thermal coal market, the commodity remains a key component in electricity generation, which grew 4.4% in 2024, reaching 31,099 terawatt-hours, with thermal coal supplying 10,700 terawatt-hours, an all-time high. The global seaborne trade of thermal coal also hit an all-time high of 1.18 billion tonnes, an increase of 27 million tonnes year-over-year. According to the Global Energy Monitor, the world's total operating coal-fired power capacity grew to 2,175 gigawatts ("GW") in 2024, a growth of approximately 20 GW. Despite the growth in thermal coal utilization, recent demand has been pressured by relatively low natural gas prices (a competing fuel source for thermal coal) and generally mild winter heating seasons in the European Union. Thermal coal in the Atlantic region (CIF ARA) is pricing at approximately US\$100 per tonne, as of the time of publishing this MD&A, versus its 10-year average of \$98 per tonne.

### Black Point Quarry Project - Nova Scotia, Canada

The Black Point Quarry Project ("BPQ Project" or the "Project") is a granite deposit with an estimated mine life of 75-years located along the southern shore of Chedabucto Bay in Guysborough County, Nova Scotia. The Project possesses suitable characteristics for the development of a crushed stone marine export operation for supplying markets in the eastern United States.

## **Project Status**

In November 2023, Morien announced that Vulcan Materials Company ("Vulcan"), the United States' largest aggregate producer and owner of the BPQ Project, has decided to advance the Project toward development. During Q1-2024, Vulcan indicated a tentative, directional time goal of 18-months to develop

the quarry, following the completion of various permit-related monitoring plans and commitments as outlined in the Project's already-approved environmental assessment.

### Morien Royalty and Milestone Payments

Morien owns a production royalty, to be paid quarterly, on all material sold from the Project. The exact per ton amount is undisclosed, however, it is considered industry competitive. The royalty will be adjusted on an annual basis according to increases in the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics Producer Price Index for Crushed and Broken Granite. Vulcan does not possess any buy-back rights on Morien's royalty.

Morien is due payment of a final milestone payment from Vulcan in the amount of \$400,000, to be paid upon the completion of pending permit-related agreements for the Project.

Morien received milestone payments from Vulcan in the amount of \$1,000,000 in 2014 following the signing and transfer of Morien's interest in Black Point to Vulcan, and \$400,000 in 2016 following receipt of positive provincial and federal environmental approvals for the Project.

### **Advanced Royalty Payments**

Since Q3 2017, Morien has received an advanced minimum royalty payment of \$25,000 per quarter from Vulcan ("Advanced Payments"), subjected to annual inflationary adjustments according to the Producer Price Index ("PPI") for crushed stone. After accounting for the PPI adjustment in Q3 2024, Morien's advanced minimum royalty payment amounted to approximately \$39,000 in Q4 2024.

All Advanced Payments are recorded by Morien as unearned revenue and shall be credited against future production royalties from the Project should it advance to the production stage. As at December 31, 2024, Morien's total recorded unearned revenue amounted to \$905,208.

### **Project History**

In 2014, Morien entered into agreements ("Agreements") with Vulcan and the Municipality of the District of Guysborough for the development of the Project. Under the terms of the Agreements, Vulcan assumed Morien's interest in the Project and became manager and operator in exchange for milestone payments totaling \$1,800,000 and a production royalty payable to Morien over the anticipated 75-year mine life<sup>4</sup>.

In April 2016, the Project received positive environmental assessment decisions from both federal and provincial authorities.

In April 2018, April 2020, April 2022 and April 2024, Vulcan was granted two-year extensions by the Nova Scotia Department of Environment and Climate Change (NSECC) for the Project. According to the conditions of the extensions, Vulcan must within two years of the approval of the date of the last extension (April 2026), commence work on the Project unless granted a further written extension by NSECC.

### About Vulcan Materials Company

Vulcan, a member of the S&P 500 Index with headquarters in Birmingham, Alabama, is the United States largest producer of construction aggregates – primarily crushed stone, sand and gravel – and fourth largest in the world. Vulcan employs nearly 12,000 people and its operations span over 400 facilities.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Resource and mine life estimates based on Vulcan's internal estimates; not supported by a NI 43-101 technical report.

#### Black Point's Positive Attributes

- Sizeable resource of approximately 400 million tonnes according to Vulcan's internal estimates<sup>5</sup>;
- Mine life of 75 years<sup>5</sup>;
- Direct jobs in the range of 50-70 full-time employees;
- Project is adjacent to deep water (>14 metres), which is sheltered and ice-free, enabling construction of a deep-water marine terminal for aggregate shipment to the United States;
- High quality, "Class-A" construction aggregate well suited for the concrete and asphalt market<sup>5</sup>; and
- Black Point has received environmental permits and has strong community support.

## U.S. Aggregate Market

The U.S. aggregate sector provides the basic crushed stone materials that are needed to maintain and expand the country's deteriorating infrastructure, ranked 13th globally. Aggregate, or crushed stone, is used in three primary end-use markets; public construction (highways, bridges, buildings, airports, etc.); private nonresidential construction (manufacturing, retail, offices, industrial and institutional); and private residential construction (houses, apartments, and condominiums).

In the U.S. market, the majority (80% or more) of aggregates are transported by truck from a quarry to the consumer. This form of transport is expensive and limits the typical aggregate operation to a market radius of about 80 kilometres from the quarry. Competition of aggregates is thus constrained by the distance materials can be transported efficiently, resulting in predominantly local or regional operations. The southeastern U.S. aggregate market is a prime target for bulk vessel transported aggregate due in part to the geologic absence of suitable aggregate resources in coastal areas.

### **Project Generation**

Morien's business model includes the identification of new mining projects and opportunities that it deems suitable for development or advancement, with the objective of a sale to a developer or operator in exchange for cash and a royalty. This model was effectively employed in the case of both Donkin and Black Point. To that end, Morien continues to identify and catalogue such opportunities, with a focus on the long-life industrial mineral and bulk commodity market segments in North America. How the Corporation funds future acquisitions (either by cash, shares, debt or a combination) will depend on numerous factors, including the size of the transaction and the financial considerations of Morien at the time of acquisition.

# **Discussion of Operations**

### Years ended December 31, 2024 and 2023

The Corporation recognized \$82,367 royalty revenue in 2024 (2023 - \$962,283) from Kameron related to Donkin coal sales. The Advanced Payments received for Black Point in the year ended 2024 of \$151,837 (2023 - \$139,914) contributes to cumulative unearned revenue of \$905,208 as at December 31, 2024 (2023 - \$753,371).

Corporate and administration expenses amounted to \$692,078 in 2024 (2023 - \$843,164), a decrease of \$151,086, related to reduced employee costs, investor relations efforts and regulatory compliance.

The table below provides a breakdown of the corporate and administration costs for the years ended December 31, 2024 and 2023.

	For the years ended December 31			
	2024	2023	Change	
	\$	\$	\$	
Employee costs	352,981	458,385	(105,404)	
Investor relations and communications	80,039	130,515	(30,476)	
Office and sundry	42,303	36,846	5,457	
Professional fees	80,317	89,282	(8,965)	
Regulatory compliance	116,438	128,136	(11,698)	
	672,078	843,164	(151,086)	

Non-cash, share-based compensation was \$229,645 for the year 2024 (2023 - \$485,550) based on the grant of 2,150,000 options awarded to directors and officers in May 2023 and amortized over the vesting period. The grant replaced the 2,100,000 options that expired, unexercised, in the same month at the same exercise price.

Evaluation expenses were \$58,937 for the year 2024 (2023 - \$9,392). Evaluation expenses relate to the Corporation's project generation efforts. As described above, the Corporation suspended these efforts while the Donkin Mine was on care and maintenance from Q2 2020 to Q3 2022.

Net and comprehensive loss for the year 2024 was \$613,200 or (\$0.01) per share compared to net and comprehensive loss of \$307,693 or (\$0.01) per share in 2023.

## **Fourth Quarter**

In the fourth quarter of 2024, the Corporation had no purchases and cancellation of shares under the Corporation's NCIB, same as in 2023.

The Corporation recognized \$nil royalty revenue in the fourth quarter (2023 - \$29,573) from Kameron related to Donkin coal sales, and received an Advanced Payment from Vulcan Materials for Black Point of \$38,763 (2023 - \$37,156). Related to one of its equity investments, the Corporation recognized an unrealized gain of \$54,825 (2023 - \$27,000) and received proceeds of \$34,440 (2023 - \$nil).

The Corporation suspended its dividend payment during the fourth quarter of 2023. Non-cash, share-based compensation was \$32,128 for the fourth quarter (2023 - \$96,296).

# **Summary of Quarterly Results**

Expressed in thousands of Canadian Fiscal 2024				Fiscal 2023				
dollars except per share amounts	Q4	Q3	Q2	Q1	Q4	Q3	Q2	Q1
Revenue	_	23	42	17	29	101	368	464
Corporate & administration expenses	138	125	195	200	264	189	183	207
Share-based compensation	33	32	70	95	97	96	293	
Evaluation expenses	30	20	4	5	3	—	4	2
Unrealized gain on investment	54	_	35	_	27	_	_	_
Net (loss) income	(55)	(151)	(164)	(243)	(311)	(143)	(120)	266
Basic & diluted income(loss) per share	_	_	_	_	(0.01)	_	_	0.01
Additions to unearned revenue	39	39	37	37	37	37	33	33
Purchase of shares for cancellation	_	_	_	4	_	_	53	117
Increase (decrease) in cash	219	149	(125)	(139)	(139)	127	194	(86)
Cash dividends paid			_			128	128	127
Working capital at period end	1,082	1,152	1,232	1,262	1,378	1,584	1,721	1,646

The Corporation's expenditures and net (loss) income varied from quarter to quarter depending largely on the size of the royalty payments, share-based compensation and corporate and administration support required with respect to its core assets.

### **Selected Annual Financial Information**

The following information has been extracted from the Corporation's audited consolidated financial statements.

Expressed in thousands of Canadian dollars	For the Years Ended December 31			
except per share amounts	2024	2023	2022	
Revenues	82	962	173	
Corporate and administration expenses	672	843	781	
Evaluation expenses	59	9	35	
Loss from operations	(750)	(335)	(543)	
Unrealized gain (loss) on investments	89	27	(2)	
Net loss for the year	(613)	(308)	(545)	
Basic and diluted income (loss) per share	(0.01)	(0.01)	(0.01)	
Additions to unearned revenue	152	140	125	
Purchase of shares for cancellation	_	171	288	
Increase (decrease) in cash	104	96	(957)	
Working capital at year-end	1,082	1,378	1,401	
Cash dividends declared	_	383	253	
Cash dividends declared per share	_	0.0025	0.005	

# **Liquidity and Capital Resources**

At December 31, 2024, the Corporation had working capital of \$1.1 million, compared to \$1.4 million at December 31, 2023.

As of the date of this MD&A, the Corporation had working capital of approximately \$1.0 million, which is considered more than sufficient to meet the Corporation's operating requirements beyond 2025 and 2026.

In Q3 2017, Vulcan began paying Morien an advanced payment of \$25,000 per quarter until sales commence from the BPQ Project or until the project is terminated. All Advanced Payments shall be increased or decreased annually in accordance with changes to the Producer Price Index for crushed stone, commencing July 1, 2018. All Advanced Payments are recorded as unearned revenue and shall be credited by Vulcan against future production royalty payments due to Morien if and when Black Point enters production.

The Corporation continues to hold its royalty interests in the Donkin Mine and BPQ Project. Subject to all the risks and uncertainties outlined in greater detail elsewhere in this MD&A, potential future royalties from the Donkin Mine, depending on the coal sales price, could range from \$6 to \$16 million per year at permitted full production of 3.0 million saleable tonnes per year coal over the 25+ year mine life, and would only be achieved if Donkin recommences operations and reached permitted production levels. Royalties from Black Point could range from \$500,000 to \$1,500,000 per year over the 75-year mine life. There is no guarantee that these royalty levels will be achieved.

The Corporation purchased publicly traded shares in 2016 and 2017 for \$131,560. These shares were subsequently split into public and non-public entity shares. Morien sold the publicly traded shares in 2018 for a gain of \$152,170 and retained the non-public entity shares. In 2019, these non-public entity shares were subsequently split into three, unlisted companies; Buchans Resources Limited ("Buchans"), Canadian Manganese Company Inc. ("CDMN"), and Minco Exploration plc ("Minco"). In 2022, CDMN was listed on an active market and Morien sold its position for a realized gain of \$171,500. Morien's remaining

investments are shares in the remaining two unlisted companies, Buchans Resources Limited ("Buchans") and Minco Exploration plc ("Minco"), as well as shares in Canterra Minerals Corporation ("Canterra"), an additional investment created out of an arrangement Canterra completed with Buchans in December 2023. The value of the Canterra shares distributed to Morien has been ascribed a value of \$91,375 as at December 31, 2024. During 2024, the Corporation realized a gain of \$19,140 on the sale of a portion of Canterra shares after the receipt of the final distribution in July 2024. Buchans and Minco have an estimated fair value of \$nil due to insufficient more recent information available. The Corporation holds its investments with a goal of short-term appreciation. Due to current market conditions and the unlikely event of disposition of Buchans and Minco in 2024, the two investments are classified as non-current assets and classified as Level 3 instruments within the fair value hierarchy as at December 31, 2024 and December 31, 2023. The Canterra shares have been transferred to Level 1 instruments in Q2. The Canterra shares have been classified as a non-current asset due to the uncertain timing of disposition in 2025. Other than as discussed in this MD&A (including below under "Outlook" and "Financial Instruments and Other Risks"), the Corporation is not aware of any trends, demands, commitments, events or uncertainties that may result in the Corporation's liquidity or capital resources either materially increasing or decreasing at present or in the foreseeable future.

### **Outlook**

The cessation of operations at the Donkin Mine has directly impacted Morien's future royalty revenues. However, Morien has working capital of \$1.0 million and low corporate overhead expenses, in addition to an Advanced Payment from Vulcan for the BPQ Project, which affords the Corporation the ability to manage these challenging times for the near-term.

The Corporation's immediate focus and strategy is on exploring options for the restart of the Donkin Mine.

At Black Point, Vulcan has announced it is advancing the BPQ Project and indicated a tentative, directional time goal for quarry development of 18-months following the completion of various permit-related monitoring plans and commitments as outlined in Black Point's approved environmental assessment. Until production commences, Morien will continue receiving Advanced Payments of \$25,000 (adjusted annually for PPI, currently recorded as approximately \$39,000) per quarter from Vulcan. The Corporation will continue to support Vulcan in the advancement of the BPQ Project toward development.

The Corporation will continue to evaluate industrial mineral and bulk commodity opportunities that complement its existing portfolio.

# **Contractual Obligations**

For the 2025 fiscal year, the Corporation's only expenditure commitment related to overhead is a one-year office lease for \$9,000.

# **Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements**

As at December 31, 2024, the Corporation had no off-balance sheet arrangements such as guarantee contracts, contingent interests in assets transferred to an entity, derivative instrument obligations or any obligations that trigger financing, liquidity, market or credit risk to the Corporation.

### **Dividends**

On November 23, 2023, the Corporation suspended its quarterly dividend program. The Board of Director's decision followed Kameron's decision on November 10, 2023, to lay off its remaining hourly workforce at the Donkin Mine and to place the Mine into an idled state with no timeline to resume operations.

When the future of the Donkin Mine is better understood, the Board will re-assess the payment of a dividend.

### History of Dividend Payments

In December 2017, the Corporation approved the implementation of a dividend policy and made its inaugural dividend payment on December 27, 2017. Between Q1 2018 and Q1 2020, the Corporation paid quarterly dividends of \$0.0025 per common share.

With Kameron's cessation of operations at the Donkin Mine in March 2020, the Corporation's Board of Directors suspended Morien's quarterly dividend in April 2020. Notwithstanding Morien's strong balance sheet, its Board and Management believed it was prudent to maximize financial flexibility and the dividend suspension was in the best interest of all of the Corporation's stakeholders.

With the recommencement of operations at the Donkin Mine in September 2022, the Board approved the reinstatement of its quarterly dividend program. On November 30, 2022, the Board declared a special dividend of CAD \$0.005 per common share payable on December 20, 2022.

In Q1 2023, the Corporation resumed payment of quarterly dividends of \$0.0025 per common share.

The dividend program was suspended on November 23, 2023 (see comment above).

The Corporation's dividend payments have historically qualified as an 'eligible dividend' for Canadian income tax purposes.

## **Outstanding Share Data**

### **Normal Course Issuer Bid**

On January 31, 2024, the Corporation renewed its NCIB with the TSX Venture Exchange for the period February 1, 2024 to January 31, 2025, allowing the Corporation to purchase, in any 30-day period, up to 2% of its issued and outstanding shares outstanding at the time of the purchases, up to the maximum of 3,614,320 shares.

For the year ended December 31, 2024, the Corporation did not purchase any shares and has not renewed its NCIB.

Total purchases since the NCIB was initiated in 2015 to December 31, 2024, include 14.6 million shares at an average weighted price of \$0.35 per share for a total cost to the Corporation of \$5.2 million.

### **Stock Options**

During the year ended December 31, 2024, no stock options were exercised. As of the date of this MD&A, the Corporation had 2,700,000 stock options outstanding with an average exercise price of \$0.49 for the 1,983,334 stock options that are exercisable.

### **Share Capital**

As of the date of this MD&A, the Corporation has 51,292,000 common shares issued and outstanding and 53,992,000 common shares fully diluted.

# **Critical Accounting Estimates**

The preparation of the financial statements requires the Corporation's management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. The determination of estimates requires the exercise of judgment based on various assumptions and other factors such as historical experience and current and expected economic conditions and are continually evaluated. Actual results may differ from these estimates. The more significant areas requiring the use of management estimates and assumptions are discussed below.

#### **Investments**

The Corporation's accounting policy is to account for investments as fair value through profit and loss. Cost may be an appropriate estimate of fair value if there is insufficient more recent information available to measure fair value. The Corporation uses significant judgment in determining if there is sufficient more recent information available to measure fair value at other than cost.

#### Income taxes

The Corporation's accounting policy for taxation requires management's judgment in assessing whether deferred tax assets and any deferred tax liabilities are recognized on the statement of financial position. Deferred tax assets, including those arising from tax loss carry-forwards, capital losses and temporary differences are recognized only where it is considered probable that they will be recovered, which is dependent on the generation of sufficient future taxable profits. Assumptions about the generation of future taxable profits depend on management's estimates of future cash flows. These depend on estimates of future production and sales volumes underlying the Corporation's royalties, commodity prices, reserves, capital expenditures, dividends and other capital management transactions.

Judgments are also required about the application of income tax legislation. These judgments and assumptions are subject to risk and uncertainty, hence there is a possibility that changes in circumstances will alter expectations, which may impact the amount of any deferred tax assets and deferred tax liabilities recognized on the balance sheet and the amount of other tax losses and temporary differences not yet recognized. In such circumstances, some or the entire carrying amount of any recognized deferred tax assets and liabilities may require adjustment, resulting in a corresponding credit or charge to income.

## Accounting pronouncements issued but not yet adopted

On April 9, 2024, the IASB issued IFRS 18 "Presentation and Disclosure in the Financial Statements" ("IFRS 18") replacing IAS 1. IFRS 18 introduces categories and defined subtotals in the statement of profit or loss, disclosures on management-defined performance measures, and requirements to improve the aggregation and disaggregation of information in the financial statements. As a result of IFRS 18, amendments to IAS 7 "Statements of Cash Flows" ("IAS 7") were also issued to require that entities use the operating profit subtotal as the starting point for the indirect method of reporting cash flows from operating activities and also to remove presentation alternatives for interest and dividends paid and received. Similarly, amendments to IAS 33 "Earnings per Share" were issued to permit disclosure of additional earnings per share figures using any other component of the statement of profit or loss, provided the numerator is a total or subtotal defined under IFRS 18. IFRS 18 is effective for annual reporting periods beginning on or after January 1, 2027, and is to be applied retrospectively, with early adoption permitted. The Corporation is currently assessing the impact of the standard on its consolidated financial statements.

### **Financial Instruments and Other Risks**

#### **Financial Instruments**

The Corporation's financial instruments consist of cash, short-term investment, trade and other receivables, investments and trade and other payables. The fair values of the Corporation's financial instruments are considered to approximate the carrying amounts. Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. The fair value hierarchy establishes levels to classify the inputs to valuation techniques used to measure fair value.

Level 1: Inputs are quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities. Investments in common shares that have direct listings on an exchange are classified as Level 1.

Level 2: Inputs are quoted prices in markets that are not active, quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities in active markets, inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the asset or liability (for example, interest rate and yield curves observable at commonly quoted intervals, forward pricing curves used to value currency and commodity contracts, volatility measurements used to value option contracts and observable credit default swap spreads to adjust for credit risk where appropriate), or inputs that are derived principally from or corroborated by observable market data or other means.

Level 3: Inputs are unobservable (supported by little or no market activity).

During the year ended December 31, 2024, there was a transfer of an equity instrument from Level 3 to Level 1 classified assets.

### Risks

In conducting its business, the principal risks and uncertainties faced by the Corporation relate primarily to the success of third-party operators, with which the Corporation holds royalty agreements, successfully developing and operating their projects, evaluation results, commodity prices underlying the Corporation's royalties, access to capital and general market conditions. Exploration and development of mining operations involve many risks, many of which are outside the Corporation's control.

#### Credit risk

Credit risk is the risk of financial loss to the Corporation if a customer or counterparty to a financial instrument fails to meet its obligations.

The carrying amount of financial assets represents the maximum credit exposure. The maximum exposure to credit risk at the reporting date was:

	December 31, 2024	December 31, 2023
Cash	477,416	373,110
Short-term investment	588,105	1,007,730
Trade and other receivables	56,455	38,733
Investments	91,375	27,000
	1,213,351	1,446,573

The Corporation manages credit risk by holding the majority of its cash with Schedule 1 Canadian banks. Management believes the risk of loss to be low with Schedule 1 Canadian banks. Exposure on trade receivables is limited as all trade receivables are with two customers which the Corporation has strong working relationships and are reputable large international companies with a history of timely payment. The Corporation has an allowance for doubtful accounts at year-end of \$nil (2023 – \$nil), as management considers the credit risk to be low. No amounts were written off during the year (2023 – \$nil).

### Interest rate risk

The Corporation has no interest-bearing debt and is not exposed to any significant interest rate risk.

### Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Corporation will encounter difficulty in meeting the obligations associated with its financial liabilities that are settled by delivering cash or another financial asset. The Corporation's approach to managing liquidity is to ensure, as far as possible, that it will always have sufficient liquidity to meet its liabilities when due, under both normal and stressed conditions. As at December 31, 2024, the Corporation had cash and short-term investment of \$1,065,521 (December 31, 2023 – \$1,380,840) to settle current liabilities of \$41,512 (December 31, 2023 – \$61,699).

## Foreign currency risk

Morien operates in Canada and its equity financings have been in Canadian dollars. APMUSA is based in the USA but is not currently in active operations; therefore, the exposure to foreign currency risk is limited. The Corporation does not use any form of hedging against fluctuations in foreign exchange.

The Corporation's exposure to USD dollar currency risk was \$624,251 as at December 31, 2024 (December 31, 2023 – \$1,009,872). Sensitivity to a plus or minus 10% change in the USD dollar exchange rate would affect comprehensive loss and deficit by approximately \$62,425 (December 31, 2023 – \$100,730).

### Commodity price risk

The Corporation is exposed to commodity price risk. Commodity price risk is defined as the potential adverse impact on earnings and economic value due to commodity price movements and volatilities. The Corporation monitors prices for the commodities underlying the Corporation's royalties. At this point the Corporation does not enter into any hedging to offset risk.

## Equity price risk

The Corporation holds three equity instruments in the mining category; two do not have a quoted market price in an active market and one is traded on a Canadian securities market. Management has assessed the value of those instruments at \$91,375 fair value as at December 31, 2024 (2023 – \$27,000).

## Climate Change

The Corporation acknowledges that global climate issues continue to attract public attention and influence regulatory reporting requirements. However, as a small royalty company, the Corporation's influence in the mining industry from the perspective of the perceived impact of climate change, is indirect. Additionally, the Corporation's royalty portfolio consists of coking coal, as well as crushed stone, both of which are considered critical materials for a transition to a low-carbon economy.

Morien believes that steel producers may de-carbonize the steel-making process in time, if and when alternative, lower carbon technology becomes commercially viable, in order to keep with the requirements of a net zero economy. However, given the significant amount of integrated steelmaking infrastructure already in place around the globe, as well as the current lack of commercially available low-carbon steel-making solutions, Morien expects coking coal to play an essential role in new steel production for the next several decades, which is consistent with the steel industry's consensus view.

Although the Corporation believes it has minimal or no direct exposure to climate-related risks, such matters could directly impact the operators of its royalty properties. The Corporation considers the materiality of third-party climate-related risks through more than one lens, including physical risk and regulatory risk.

Physical Risk: Based on the Corporation's current understanding, the potential physical risks resulting from climate change are long-term in nature and associated with a high degree of uncertainty regarding timing, scope, and severity of potential impacts. Many experts believe global climate change could increase extreme variability in weather patterns which may cause operational difficulties, including damage to equipment and infrastructure, at the operations or projects upon which the Corporation has a royalty interest.

Regulatory Risk: Foreign and domestic governments continue to evaluate and implement policy, legislation and regulations focused on restricting greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. While some of the costs associated with reducing GHG emissions may be offset by increased energy efficiency and technological innovation, increased government regulation could result in increased costs at the operations or projects upon which the Corporation has a royalty interest if the current regulatory trend continues. However, the degree to which this might happen, if at all, is unknown to the Corporation, as it is neither the manager or operator of the

operations and projects upon which it has royalty interests, and thus has limited to no access to such information.

#### **Other Risk Factors**

Donkin Mine Risks

See Donkin section on mine-related risk on page 5 of this MD&A.

Dependence on Third Party Property Owners and Operators

The Corporation is not the operator of the Donkin Coal Mine or Black Point Project. There is no assurance that the current operators, or their successors, if any, will continue with the development of the projects in a manner that is beneficial, or most beneficial, to the Corporation.

The revenue derived from the Corporation's royalty portfolio will be based on the activities of third-party property owners and operators. These owners and operators are responsible for determining the manner in which the properties underlying the royalties are exploited, including decisions to commence, expand, continue or reduce production from a property, and decisions to advance evaluation efforts and/or conduct development of non-producing properties. The Corporation will have little or no input on such matters. The interests of third-party owners and operators and those of the Corporation on the relevant properties may not always be aligned. As an example, it will, in almost all cases, be in the interest of the Corporation to advance development and production on properties as rapidly as possible in order to maximize near term cash flow, while third-party owners and operators may, in many cases, take a more cautious approach to development as they are at risk on the cost of development and operations. The inability of the Corporation to control the operations for the properties in which it has a royalty interest may result in a material and adverse effect on the Corporation's profitability, results of operation and financial condition.

Similarly, where the Corporation's interest in a mineral property is a royalty interest, there is a risk that the third-party operator may be unable or unwilling to fulfill its obligations under its agreements with the Corporation, or experience financial, operational or other difficulties including insolvency, which could limit the third party's ability to perform its obligations under the royalty interest. The Corporation will not be entitled to any compensation if the operations shut down or the third-party operators discontinue their operations on a temporary or permanent basis. At any time, any operator of a property in which the Corporation has a royalty or net profit interest may decide to suspend or discontinue operations.

Limited Access to Data and Disclosure for Royalty Portfolio

The Corporation is neither the property owner nor operator for the properties underlying its royalty portfolio, and the Corporation has no input into how the operations are conducted. Also, the Corporation has varying access to data on the operations or to the actual properties themselves. This will affect its ability to assess the value of the royalty interest or enhance the royalty's performance. This could also result in delays in cash flow from that anticipated by the Corporation based on the stage of development of the applicable properties underlying its royalty portfolio. The Corporation's royalty payments may be calculated by the royalty payers in a manner different from the Corporation's projections. The limited access to data and disclosure regarding the operations of the properties in which the Corporation has an interest may restrict the Corporation's ability to assess the value or enhance its performance, which may result in a material and adverse effect on the Corporation's profitability, results of operation and financial condition.

# Disclosure Controls and Internal Controls over Financial Reporting

The Chief Executive Officer ("CEO") and Chief Financial Officer ("CFO") are responsible for establishing and maintaining the Corporation's disclosure controls and internal controls over financial reporting to provide reasonable assurance: (a) that material information about the Corporation and its subsidiaries would

have been made known to them, and; (b) regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes.

Venture issuers are not required to provide representations in their annual and interim filings relating to the establishment and maintenance of, nor are they required to establish, disclosure controls and procedures and internal controls over financial reporting, as defined in National Instrument 52-109. In particular, the CEO and CFO certifying officers do not make any representations relating to the establishment and maintenance of: (a) controls and other procedures designed to provide reasonable assurance that information required to be disclosed by the issuer in its annual filings, interim filings or other reports filed or submitted under securities legislation is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in securities legislation, and; (b) processes to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with the issuer's GAAP.

### Other Information

Additional information regarding the Corporation is available on SEDAR+ at <a href="www.sedarplus.ca">www.sedarplus.ca</a> and on the Corporation's website at <a href="www.morienres.com">www.morienres.com</a>.