



# **BLACK DIAMOND GROUP LIMITED**

## **Annual Information Form**

for the year ended December 31, 2015

**March 18, 2016**

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## GLOSSARY OF TERMS

In this Annual Information Form, the following terms shall have the meanings set forth below, unless otherwise indicated.

"**ABCA**" means the *Business Corporations Act* (Alberta), together with any or all regulations promulgated thereunder, as amended from time to time;

"**Annual Information Form**" means this annual information form;

"**APB**" means Australian Portable Buildings Pty. Ltd., a company existing pursuant to the laws of Australia, which is an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of the Corporation;

"**BDI**" means Black Diamond Group Inc., a corporation incorporated pursuant to the ABCA, which is a direct wholly-owned subsidiary of the Corporation;

"**Black Diamond**" or the "**Corporation**" means Black Diamond Group Limited, a corporation incorporated pursuant to the ABCA and, unless the context otherwise requires, includes the Corporation's subsidiaries (including Black Diamond Dene LP, Black Diamond West Moberly LP, Black Diamond Nehiyawak LP and Whitecap Black Diamond LP) and the Corporation's business units. References to Black Diamond for the period prior to December 31, 2009 refer to the Fund;

"**Black Diamond Camps**" means the former Black Diamond Camps operating division of Black Diamond Structures, which division rented and sold remote workforce housing and provided associated services in North America, and which, along with BOXX Modular, was an operating division of Black Diamond Structures from January 1, 2013 until January 1, 2016;

"**Black Diamond Camps and Lodging**" means the new Black Diamond Camps and Lodging business unit of the Corporation effective January 1, 2016, which business unit rents and sells remote workforce housing solutions and provides associated services, including turnkey lodging services, remote facility management and supply chain solutions;

"**Black Diamond Dene LP**" means Black Diamond Dene Limited Partnership, a limited partnership established under the laws of the Province of British Columbia;

"**Black Diamond Energy Services**" means the Black Diamond Energy Services business unit of the Corporation, which business unit rents and sells a complement of oilfield equipment and provides associated services and, effective January 1, 2016, includes the United States well site business which was previously included in Black Diamond Structures;

"**Black Diamond International**" means the Black Diamond International business unit of the Corporation, which business unit rents and sells remote workforce housing and modular workspace solutions and provides associated services in Australia;

"**Black Diamond Logistics**" means the former Black Diamond Logistics business unit of the Corporation, which business unit provided turnkey lodging services, remote facility management and supply chain solutions;

"**Black Diamond LP**" means Black Diamond Limited Partnership, a limited partnership established under the laws of the Province of Alberta;

"**Black Diamond Nehiyawak LP**" means Black Diamond Nehiyawak Limited Partnership, a limited partnership established under the laws of the Province of Alberta;

"**Black Diamond Structures**" means the former Black Diamond Structures business unit of the Corporation, which, through two operating divisions, Black Diamond Camps and BOXX Modular, rented and sold remote workforce housing and modular workspace solutions and provided associated services;

"**Black Diamond West Moberly LP**" means Black Diamond West Moberly Limited Partnership, a limited partnership established under the laws of the Province of British Columbia;

"**Board of Directors**" means the board of directors of the Corporation;

"**BOXX Modular**" means, as applicable, the new BOXX Modular business unit of the Corporation effective January 1, 2016, which business unit rents and sells modular workspace solutions and provides associated services in North America and the former BOXX Modular operating division of Black Diamond Structures, which rented and sold modular workspace solutions and provided associated services, and which, along with Black Diamond Camps, was an operating division of Black Diamond Structures from January 1, 2013 to December 31, 2015;

"**Common Shares**" means the common shares of the Corporation, and following the close of business on August 25, 2011, refers to the common shares of the Corporation following the Share Split;

"**Conversion**" means the reorganization and restructuring of the Fund's trust structure into the Corporation pursuant to a plan of arrangement pursuant to Section 193 of the ABCA on December 31, 2009;

"**Credit Facility**" means the extendible revolving operating facility of Black Diamond as described under the heading "Description of Capital Structure – Long Term Debt Structure – Committed Extendible Revolving Operating Facility";

"**Fund**" means Black Diamond Income Fund, an unincorporated open-ended trust established under the laws of the Province of Alberta which was reorganized and restructured into the Corporation on December 31, 2009 pursuant to the Conversion;

"**LNG**" means liquefied natural gas;

"**Manufacturing Business**" has the meaning ascribed thereto under the heading "General Development of Business – Three Year History – Year Ended December 31, 2013";

"**Person**" includes an individual, a body corporate, a partnership, a trust, a union, a pension fund, a government and a governmental agency;

"**Rights Plan**" means the shareholder protection rights plan of Black Diamond having the terms set forth in the shareholder protection rights plan agreement entered into between Black Diamond and Computershare Trust Company of Canada, as rights agent, on March 4, 2015 as described under "Description of Capital Structure - Shareholder Protection Rights Plan".

"**Senior Secured Notes**" means, collectively, the Senior Secured Notes due 2019 and the Senior Secured Notes due 2022;

"**Senior Secured Notes due 2019**" means the senior secured notes of Black Diamond LP issued on July 7, 2011 as described under the heading "Description of Capital Structure – Long Term Debt Structure – Senior Secured Notes";

"**Senior Secured Notes due 2022**" means the senior secured notes of Black Diamond LP issued on July 3, 2013 as described under the heading "Description of Capital Structure – Long Term Debt Structure – Senior Secured Notes";

"**Shareholders**" means the holders of Common Shares from time to time;

"**Share Split**" means the split of all of the issued and outstanding Common Shares on a two-for-one basis as at the close of business on August 25, 2011;

"**subsidiary**" means, in relation to any Person, any body corporate, partnership, joint venture, association or other entity of which more than 50% of the total voting power of shares or units of ownership or beneficial interest entitled to vote in the election of directors (or members of a comparable governing body) is owned or controlled, directly or indirectly, by such Person;

"**Tax Act**" means the *Income Tax Act* (Canada) and the regulations thereunder, as amended;

"**TSX**" means the Toronto Stock Exchange; and

"**Whitecap Black Diamond LP**" means Whitecap Black Diamond Limited Partnership, a limited partnership established under the laws of the Province of Saskatchewan.

## CONVENTIONS

The Fund completed the Conversion on December 31, 2009, consequently, references to Black Diamond for the period prior to December 31, 2009 refer to the Fund.

Unless otherwise indicated, all dollar amounts set forth in this Annual Information Form are in Canadian dollars.

Unless otherwise specified, information in this Annual Information Form is as at the end of Black Diamond's most recently completed financial year, being December 31, 2015.

### CAUTIONARY STATEMENT REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

Certain statements included in this Annual Information Form are forward-looking statements. These statements relate to future events or the Corporation's future performance. All statements contained herein that are not clearly historical in nature are forward-looking, and the words "may", "will", "should", "could", "expect", "plan", "intend", "anticipate", "believe", "estimate", "propose", "predict", "potential", "continue", or the negative of these terms or other comparable terminology are generally intended to identify forward-looking statements. Such statements represent the Corporation's internal projections, estimates or beliefs concerning, among other things, an outlook on the estimated amounts and timing of capital expenditures, anticipated future debt levels and revenues or other expectations, beliefs, plans, objectives, assumptions, intentions or statements about future events or performance. These statements are only predictions. Actual events or results may differ materially. In addition, this Annual Information Form may contain forward-looking statements attributed to third party industry sources.

Forward-looking statements included in this Annual Information Form include, but are not limited to, statements with respect to:

- the expected trend of macroeconomic conditions and their impact on the Corporation's operations;
- the amount of revenue anticipated to be derived by the Corporation from contracts;
- the amount of capital that the Corporation will expend in 2016 and how such capital will be expended;
- the economic life of the Corporation's assets;
- the Corporation's business strategy;
- the Corporation's future growth and profitability;
- the timing, entitlement and amount of the Corporation's future dividend payments;
- the Corporation's results of operations and performance;
- the Corporation's business prospects and opportunities; and
- realization of the anticipated benefits of acquisitions.

Although the Corporation believes that the expectations reflected in such forward-looking statements are reasonable, undue reliance should not be placed on forward-looking statements because the Corporation cannot give assurance that such expectations will prove to be correct. The Corporation cannot guarantee future results, levels of activity, performance, or achievements. Moreover, the Corporation assumes no responsibility for the outcome of the forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements are based on current expectations, estimates and projections that involve a number of risks and uncertainties which could cause actual results to differ materially from those anticipated by the Corporation and described in the forward-looking statements. Prospective investors should carefully consider the information contained under the heading "Risk Factors" in this Annual Information Form and all other information included in this Annual Information Form before making investment decisions with regard to the Common Shares.

The Corporation's actual results could differ materially from those anticipated in these forward-looking statements as a result of the risk factors set forth below and elsewhere in this Annual Information Form:

- general economic, market and business conditions in Canada, the United States and Australia;
- fluctuations in the price, demand, supply and other market factors relating to natural resources, including without limitation, oil, natural gas, coal, iron ore and other base metals and other commodities and related products and services;
- the Corporation's ability to attract and retain customers;

- failure of counter-parties to perform on contracts, including third party manufacturers of the Corporation's products and third parties which the Corporation subcontracts with to provide services to its customers;
- competition for, among other things, capital and skilled personnel;
- the Corporation's ability to raise capital on acceptable terms;
- political conditions;
- the Corporation's dependence on suppliers of its equipment and subcontracted services;
- incorrect assessments of the value of contracts and acquisitions;
- liabilities and risks, including environmental liabilities and risks;
- fluctuations in foreign exchange or interest rates and stock market volatility;
- uncertainties in weather as it can impact the Corporation's activity and utilization rates;
- fixed costs in relation to variable revenue streams; and
- the presence of heavy competition in the industries in which the Corporation operates.

With respect to forward-looking statements contained in this Annual Information Form, the Corporation has made assumptions regarding, among other things, that counter-parties will perform on contracts entered into with the Corporation; that capital expenditure levels will be consistent with the Corporation's disclosed capital expenditure program; that the Corporation will be able to obtain equity and debt financing on satisfactory terms; that natural resource prices, including, without limitation, oil, natural gas, coal, iron ore and other base metals and other commodities will be substantially in line with current price forecasts; that the Corporation will be able to market its services successfully to current and new customers; that the Corporation will be able to obtain labour and other industry services at reasonable rates; that interest and foreign exchange rates will not vary materially from current levels; and that existing regulatory and royalty regimes will continue without material modification. Management has included the above summary of assumptions and risks related to forward-looking statements included in this Annual Information Form in order to provide readers with a more complete perspective on the Corporation's future operations. Readers are cautioned that these statements may not be appropriate for other purposes.

**Readers are cautioned that the foregoing lists of factors are not exhaustive. The forward-looking statements contained in this Annual Information Form are expressly qualified by this cautionary statement.**

These forward-looking statements are made as of the date of this Annual Information Form and the Corporation disclaims any intent or obligation to update publicly any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or results or otherwise, other than as required by applicable securities laws.

## CORPORATE STRUCTURE

### Name, Address and Incorporation

Black Diamond Group Limited

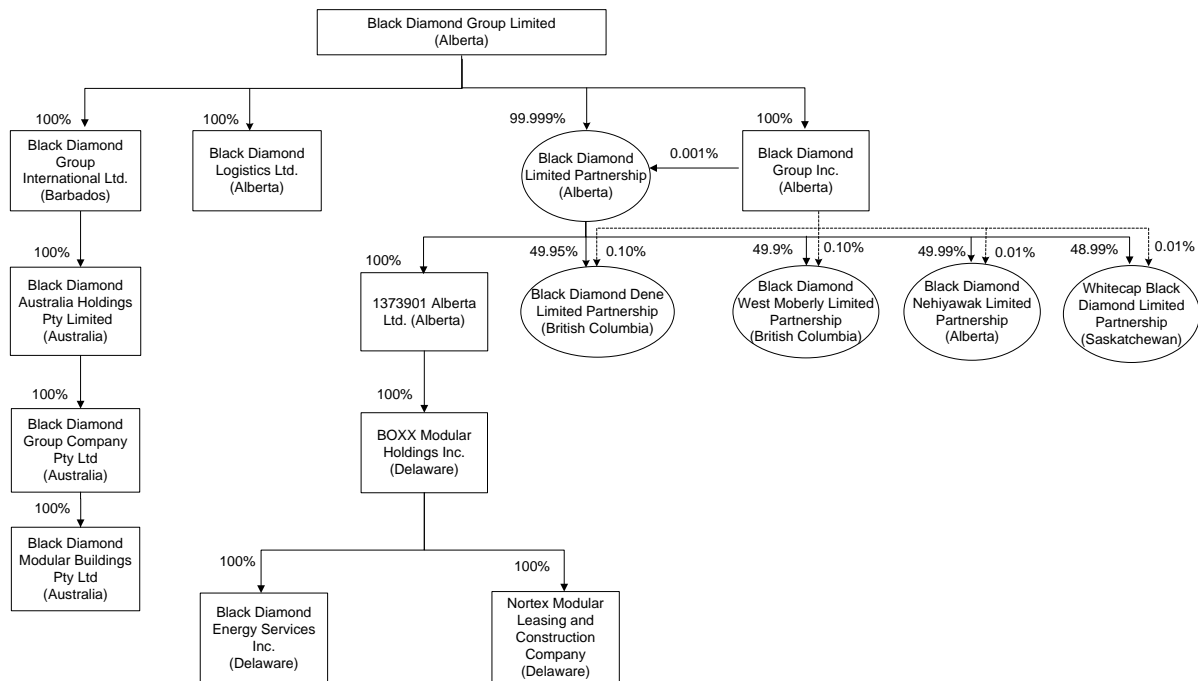
Head Office:  
Suite 2000, 715 – 5th Avenue S.W.  
Calgary, Alberta T2P 2X6

Registered Office:  
Suite 2400, 525 – 8th Avenue S.W.  
Calgary, Alberta T2P 1G1

The Corporation was incorporated pursuant to the ABCA on October 7, 2009. On December 31, 2009, the Corporation and the Fund completed a plan of arrangement pursuant to Section 193 of the ABCA pursuant to which the Fund's trust structure was reorganized and restructured into the Corporation. On December 31, 2009, pursuant to the plan of arrangement, holders of trust units of the Fund received one Common Share for each trust unit held and the Corporation assumed all of the liabilities and obligations of the Fund.

### Intercorporate Relationships

The following diagram illustrates the Corporation's principal operating subsidiaries and partnerships, their respective direct and indirect ownership and their jurisdiction of incorporation, continuance or formation, as the case may be, as at the date of this Annual Information Form.



Note:

- (1) Individually, the Corporation's remaining subsidiaries (or their predecessors) accounted for (i) less than 10% of the Corporation's consolidated assets as at December 31, 2015, and (ii) less than 10% of the Corporation's consolidated sales and operating revenues for the year ended December 31, 2015. In the aggregate, the remaining subsidiaries (or their predecessors) accounted for less than 20% of each of (i) and (ii) described above.

## **Limited Partnerships**

### ***Black Diamond LP***

Black Diamond LP is a limited partnership registered on September 13, 2006 under the *Partnership Act* (Alberta). BDI is the general partner of Black Diamond LP, which is a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Corporation.

### ***Black Diamond Dene LP***

Black Diamond Dene LP is a limited partnership registered on October 8, 2009 under the *Partnership Act* (British Columbia). BDI, as general partner, and Black Diamond LP and the Fort Nelson First Nation, as limited partners, formed Black Diamond Dene LP through which BDI and the Fort Nelson First Nation work together to provide quality services to resource development as well as other commercial and industrial activity in the Fort Nelson First Nation traditional territory in northeastern British Columbia. Each of Black Diamond LP and the Fort Nelson First Nation own approximately a 50% equity interest in Black Diamond Dene LP.

### ***Black Diamond West Moberly LP***

Black Diamond West Moberly LP is a limited partnership registered on October 21, 2010 under the *Partnership Act* (British Columbia). BDI, as general partner, and Black Diamond LP and the West Moberly First Nations, as limited partners, formed Black Diamond West Moberly LP through which BDI and the West Moberly First Nations work together to provide quality services to resource development as well as other commercial and industrial activity in the West Moberly First Nations traditional territory located at the west end of Moberly Lake, British Columbia, approximately 90 kilometres southwest of Fort St. John, British Columbia. Each of Black Diamond LP and the West Moberly First Nations own approximately a 50% equity interest in Black Diamond West Moberly LP.

### ***Black Diamond Nehiyawak LP***

Black Diamond Nehiyawak LP is a limited partnership registered on April 2, 2013 under the *Partnership Act* (Alberta). BDI, as general partner, and Black Diamond LP and the Beaver Lake Cree Nation, as limited partners, formed Black Diamond Nehiyawak LP through which BDI and the Beaver Lake Cree Nation, located near Lac La Biche, Alberta, work together to provide quality services to resource development as well as other commercial and industrial activity in the Beaver Lake Cree Nation traditional territory in northeastern Alberta. Each of Black Diamond LP and the Beaver Lake Cree Nation own approximately a 50% equity interest in Black Diamond Nehiyawak LP.

### ***Whitecap Black Diamond LP***

Whitecap Black Diamond LP is a limited partnership registered on December 2, 2014 under the *Partnership Act* (Saskatchewan). BDI, as general partner, and Black Diamond LP and the Whitecap Dakota First Nation, as limited partners, formed Whitecap Black Diamond LP through which BDI and Whitecap Dakota First Nation work together to provide services to resource development companies as well as other commercial and industrial activity in the Whitecap Dakota First Nation territory in central Saskatchewan. Each of Black Diamond LP and the Whitecap Dakota First Nation own approximately a 50% equity interest in Whitecap Black Diamond LP.



## GENERAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE BUSINESS

### Three Year History

The following is a summary of the significant events in the development of Black Diamond's business over the last three completed financial years.

#### *Year Ended December 31, 2013*

Effective January 1, 2013, Black Diamond Camps and BOXX Modular became operating divisions under the Black Diamond Structures business unit. The Corporation also established a new business unit entitled Black Diamond International, which business unit rents and sells remote workforce housing and modular workspace solutions and provides associated services in Australia.

On January 14, 2013, an indirect, wholly-owned subsidiary of the Corporation completed the acquisition of 107 modular accommodation and workspace units of Nomad Building Solutions Limited for \$6.37 million. The acquired assets are similar to assets which the Corporation operates in Canada and are well-positioned in the resource-rich states of Queensland and Western Australia.

On January 18, 2013, the Corporation, through an indirect, wholly-owned subsidiary, acquired 90% of the modular rental business of Australian Portable Buildings Pty. Ltd. ("**APB**") and the Corporation directly acquired 20% of APB's portable building manufacturing business (the "**Manufacturing Business**") for total consideration of \$42.59 million, subject to customary post-closing adjustments including a net asset adjustment. As part of the purchase consideration for its 20% minority equity interest in the Manufacturing Business, the Corporation provided a \$5.2 million guarantee to support the business' credit facilities (the "**Manufacturing Guarantee**"). The remaining 10% of the modular rental business and 80% of the Manufacturing Business was acquired by a Canadian modular building manufacturer that is a current supplier to the Corporation. The Manufacturing Business was spun out into a separate corporation at closing. On March 5, 2013, the Corporation announced that an indirect, wholly-owned subsidiary of the Corporation acquired the remaining 10% of APB's modular rental business not already owned by it for \$3.99 million. As at December 31, 2013, the Corporation wrote off its 20% investment in the Manufacturing Business. See "Description of the Business – Business Units – Black Diamond International".

On February 28, 2013, an indirect, wholly-owned subsidiary of the Corporation completed the acquisition, effective January 1, 2013, of 116 modular accommodation and accommodation-related units of Nomad Building Solutions Limited for \$3.92 million.

On March 12, 2013, the Board of Directors approved a 17% increase in the Corporation's monthly dividend effective March 2013 to \$0.07 per share paid monthly, or \$0.84 per share annually, up from \$0.72 per share annually.

On May 9, 2013, the Board of Directors approved a further \$25 million increase in the Corporation's 2013 capital expenditure budget from \$90 million to \$115 million in light of the continued strong demand for the Corporation's workforce lodging and temporary work spaces and to address projects in development.

On July 3, 2013, the Corporation, through Black Diamond LP, issued the Senior Secured Notes due 2022 to The Prudential Insurance Company of America and Pruco Life Insurance Company.

On November 6, 2013, the Board of Directors approved an initial 2014 capital budget of \$100 million and approved a 7% increase in the Corporation's monthly dividend effective December 2013 to \$0.075 per share paid monthly, or \$0.90 per share annually, up from \$0.84 per share annually. The Corporation spent the capital primarily on organic growth opportunities within its business units.

***Year Ended December 31, 2014***

On May 26, 2014, the Corporation announced that it had secured a 1,244 person three year camp contract in the Montney Shale region of northeastern British Columbia. Installation of the first phase of 622 beds was started in the second half of 2014, with rent starting January 2015. The remaining beds are anticipated to be on rent by April 2015.

Effective June 20, 2014, the Corporation extended and increased its credit facility with its banking syndicate from \$145 million to \$150 million. The previous credit facilities were consolidated into one committed extendible revolving operating facility that matured on April 30, 2018, unless extended, and was committed on an interest-only basis until the maturity date. The credit facility had an accordion feature that allowed for the expansion of the facility up to an aggregate of \$250 million, upon lender approval. If all or any portion of the \$100 million accordion was not provided by the syndicate lenders, the credit facility authorized the Corporation to obtain the remaining amount from any third parties, subject to certain conditions.

On June 24, 2014, the Corporation announced that Black Diamond Dene LP acquired, effective February 1, 2014, an operating camp lease and certain related infrastructure of a remote 425-room workforce housing lodge in the Horn River area of northeastern British Columbia. The facility had been operated by a leading North American energy producer and managed by the Corporation since 2008. The Corporation operates the facility as an open camp.

On July 29, 2014, the Corporation announced that a Canadian modular building manufacturer that operated and owned 80% of the Manufacturing Business decided to wind-down the Manufacturing Business by placing the entity that owns it into voluntary administration. At such time the Corporation still indirectly held a 20% minority equity interest in the Manufacturing Business. The Corporation anticipated that payment under the Manufacturing Guarantee would be required and therefore it provided for the Manufacturing Guarantee in its financial statements for the period ended June 30, 2014.

On August 12, 2014, the Board of Directors approved a 6.7% increase in the Corporation's monthly dividend effective August 2014 to \$0.08 per share paid monthly, or \$0.96 per share annually, up from \$0.90 per share annually.

On October 6, 2014, the Corporation commenced a normal course issuer bid to purchase for cancellation up to 3,685,786 Common Shares through the facilities of the TSX. The Corporation acquired 1,907,700 Common Shares at an average price of \$20.38 per share for an aggregate cost of approximately \$39 million pursuant to the normal course issuer bid which expired on December 5, 2015. See "Normal Course Issuer Bid".

On November 5, 2014, the Board of Directors approved an initial 2015 capital budget of \$85 million.

On December 3, 2014, the Corporation announced that it secured two new camp contracts through two of its First Nations limited partnerships commencing in December 2014. Black Diamond Nehiyawak LP secured a 703 bed, nine month guaranteed man-day camp contract for an integrated Canadian oil and natural gas company in the Conklin region south of Fort McMurray, Alberta. Black Diamond Dene LP secured a 131 bed, 15 month guaranteed man-day camp contract for a Canadian oil and gas company in northeastern British Columbia. The Corporation provided full turnkey services at both facilities, which facilities are comprised of existing fleet assets.

***Year Ended December 31, 2015***

On March 4, 2015, the Board of Directors reduced the 2015 capital budget from \$85 million to \$50 million, inclusive of approximately \$29 million of capital committed as at December 31, 2014. The Corporation spent the capital primarily on organic growth opportunities within its business units.

Effective June 18, 2015, the Corporation extended and increased its committed extendible revolving operating facility from \$150 million to \$168 million with an accordion feature that allows for the expansion of the Credit Facility up to an aggregate of \$268 million upon lender approval. If all or any portion of the \$100 million accordion is not provided by the syndicate lenders, the Credit Facility authorizes the Corporation to obtain the remaining amount from any third parties, subject to certain conditions. The increased and extended Credit Facility contains certain improved financial covenants and restrictions which provide the Corporation with greater financial flexibility. Corresponding financial covenant and restriction relief was also granted under the Senior Secured Notes to mirror the covenant changes under the Credit Facility. See "Description of Capital Structure – Long Term Debt Structure – Committed Extendible Revolving Operating Facility".

On July 31, 2015, the Corporation completed the sale of its construction services operation to Northern Frontier Corp., a company whose common shares are listed on the TSX Venture Exchange, for original base consideration of \$9.8 million consisting of 4.5 million common shares of Northern Frontier Corp. valued at approximately \$2.4 million, representing approximately 19.5% of the then issued and outstanding shares in the capital of Northern Frontier Corp. and a promissory note in the principal amount of \$7.4 million due October 31, 2018 bearing interest at 10% per annum. The sale agreement allows for \$1.3 million of the promissory note to be replaced by a five year lease of Northern Frontier Corp. land to Black Diamond at zero rent once conditions are in place for such a lease to be executed. The sale agreement also included a potential earn out of \$11.6 million which could increase total consideration to \$21.4 million. The potential earn-out is equal to 80% of the amount by which the three year, post-closing, average gross revenue generated by the construction services operation of Northern Frontier Corp. exceeds \$25.0 million, less \$0.4 million, up to a maximum of \$11.6 million. The construction services operation, based out of Edmonton, Alberta, installed and dismantled remote workforce lodging and modular offices in western Canada, contributing to the non-rental revenue stream in Black Diamond Structures. The Corporation continues to offer construction and project management services to its customers following the sale transaction but now subcontracts these services. The transaction was a related-party transaction as Trevor Haynes, the Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Corporation, is also the Chairman of Northern Frontier Corp.

On August 4, 2015, the Corporation announced that it had renewed, effective August 15, 2015, a workforce housing camp contract for 448 beds in the steam assisted gravity drainage region of Alberta's oil sands. The contract is for a two year term with an option to extend the term for one additional year at the same rates.

On September 10, 2015, the Corporation announced that it, through Black Diamond Nehiyawak LP, had signed two customers to new contracts for an existing 700 bed workforce accommodation facility in the steam assisted gravity drainage region of Alberta's oil sands. The contracts, effective between October 1, 2015 and April 30, 2016, are for full turnkey accommodation services and will not require any additional capital to be deployed.

On November 5, 2015, the Board of Directors approved a 37.5% reduction in the Corporation's monthly dividend effective November 2015 to \$0.05 per share paid monthly, or \$0.60 per share annually, down from \$0.08 per share paid monthly, or \$0.96 per share annually.

On November 5, 2015, the Board of Directors approved a preliminary 2016 capital budget of \$25 million which will primarily support growth capital requirements for the space rentals business in the United States and eastern Canada.

During 2015, the Corporation's workforce accommodation and lodging bore the brunt of weak pricing across almost all commodity classes, which continues to negatively impact the Corporation's asset utilization and revenue. The energy market in western Canada remains extremely weak with very little forward visibility thereby causing management of the Corporation to have a pessimistic view of utilization rates in the near term. During 2015, the Corporation's space rental platform continued to benefit from its customer, industry and geographic diversification, and continued to see strong demand in the United States and eastern Canada.

### **Recent Developments**

Effective January 1, 2016, the Corporation re-organized its North American business units to streamline its operations and gain efficiencies. A new Black Diamond Camps and Lodging business unit combines the existing workforce accommodation business from the former Black Diamond Structures business unit and the lodging services business from the former Black Diamond Logistics business unit. A new BOXX Modular business unit was broken out separately from the former Black Diamond Structures business unit and includes the Canadian and United States space rentals businesses. The Black Diamond Energy Services business unit now incorporates the United States well site business which was previously included in the former Black Diamond Structures business unit. The Black Diamond International business unit remains the same.

On March 2, 2016, the Board of Directors approved the reduction in the Corporation's 2016 capital budget to \$10.0 million from \$25.0 million, the majority of which will be focused on growth capital. Given the current economic environment, stringent controls have been placed on capital spending, and strategies are in place to promote the utilization of the Corporation's existing fleet of assets.

**Significant Acquisitions**

The Corporation did not complete any significant acquisitions during its most recently completed financial year for which disclosure is required under Part 8 of National Instrument 51-102 – *Continuous Disclosure Obligations*.

**DESCRIPTION OF THE BUSINESS****General**

Founded in 2003, Black Diamond is a provider of remote workforce accommodations, modular space solutions, oilfield products and related services in Canada, the United States and Australia. With its corporate head office located in Calgary, Alberta, Black Diamond provides its products and services to a wide spectrum of industries including oil, natural gas, mining, power, construction, engineering, military, government and education.

Through its direct and indirect subsidiaries, and its approximate 50% equity participation in certain First Nations limited partnerships, Black Diamond operates four complementary business units comprised of Black Diamond Camps and Lodging, BOXX Modular, Black Diamond Energy Services and Black Diamond International.

Black Diamond Camps and Lodging rents and sells remote workforce housing solutions in North America. BOXX Modular rents and sells modular workspace solutions in North America. Black Diamond Energy Services rents and sells a complement of oilfield equipment and services in North America. Black Diamond International rents and sells remote workforce housing and modular workspace solutions in Australia.

Black Diamond operates its four complementary business units in 22 strategic locations across Canada, the United States and Australia as shown in the map below:

## Black Diamond Group Limited

Operations

### CANADA

Calgary, AB  
 Edmonton, AB  
 Grande Prairie, AB  
 Conklin, AB  
 Drayton Valley, AB  
 Fort St. John, BC  
 Fort Nelson, BC  
 Vancouver, BC  
 Regina, SK  
 Estevan, SK  
 Stoney Creek, ON  
 Ajax, ON



### UNITED STATES

Dallas, TX  
 Houston, TX  
 Austin, TX  
 Fort Lupton, CO  
 Tallahassee, FL  
 Oklahoma City, OK  
 Upland, CA



### AUSTRALIA

Sydney, NSW  
 Brisbane, QL  
 Perth, WA



### Business Units

Effective January 1, 2016, the businesses of, and services provided by, each of Black Diamond's four complementary business units are described below.

### ***Black Diamond Camps and Lodging***

Black Diamond Camps and Lodging provides workforce housing and associated services primarily in western Canada to a client base which includes oil and natural gas exploration and development companies, mineral and metals mining and processing companies, large catering and food services providers, engineering and construction companies, drillers, general contractors, pipeline constructors, and municipal and provincial governments. Black Diamond Camps and Lodging's products include relocatable dormitories, kitchen/diner complexes, recreation facilities and supporting utility assets which offer customers flexible and expedient solutions to accommodating their workforce in remote locations where local accommodation infrastructure is either insufficient or non-existent. As at January 1, 2016, the workforce housing rental fleet consisted of approximately 3,389 units representing approximately 12,444 beds. In addition to workforce housing rental units, this business unit offers both new and used units for sale and provides delivery, installation, project management and ancillary products and services.

Black Diamond Camps and Lodging typical workforce housing rental equipment (units) consist of wood framed structures mounted on steel I-beam skids, and contain materials which are typical of conventional buildings, such as plywood sheathing, gypsum board, vinyl flooring, metal siding, and rubber membrane roofing. These units are typically equipped with heating and air conditioning, electrical panels and circuitry, plumbing as required, windows, doors and hardware. The units are generally fully furnished with bedroom, recreation amenities and/or cooking equipment. Management of the Corporation is careful to specify new manufactured equipment in such a way as to reasonably extend the rental life of the asset through durability, versatility and desirability. Management is of the view that these units, if properly maintained, will continue to work at market rates for an extended period of time.

Black Diamond Camps and Lodging also provides turnkey lodging services, remote facility management and sophisticated supply chain management services to customers to improve efficiency of remote services. It operates two open lodges which provide lodging services to a variety of customers on a non-dedicated basis. The leases, accommodation facilities and related infrastructure of the open lodges are owned by the Corporation. These two lodges (Sunday Creek and Horn River) combined represented 1,607 beds at January 1, 2016. The following are the camps under management by Black Diamond Camps and Lodging as at January 1, 2016 and the number of beds at each camp:

<u>Camp Name</u>	<u>Number of Beds</u>
Sunday Creek Lodge	1,182
Kirby Lake	703
Kinosis	404
Horn River Lodge	425
Resthaven	152
Enbridge Cabin Operators	112
Others	104
<b>Total:</b>	<b>3,082</b>

### ***BOXX Modular***

BOXX Modular is a provider of modular workspace solutions in the markets it serves. This business unit has grown both organically through the procurement of new manufactured rental equipment and through the acquisition of existing fleet equipment. As at January 1, 2016, the modular workspace rental fleet consisted of 3,712 units of which 2,280 are located in Canada and 1,432 in the United States. Operating from branch offices in Edmonton and Calgary, Alberta, Stoney Creek and Ajax, Ontario, Regina, Saskatchewan, Fort Lupton, Colorado, Dallas, Austin and Houston, Texas, Tallahassee, Florida and Upland, California, this business unit provides high quality, cost effective modular space solutions to a diversified client base which includes general contractors, construction trades, real estate developers, manufacturers, commercial businesses, education providers, government agencies and various companies involved in the resource industry. The products include "single wide" office units, lavatories, storage units, large multi-unit office complexes, training (classroom) facilities, custom manufactured modular facilities and blast resistant structures. These products offer customers flexible and expedient solutions to meet their temporary and permanent workspace and storage needs. In order to provide customers with turnkey

solutions, this business unit offers ancillary rental items such as furniture and office equipment. In addition to rental, this business unit offers both new and used units for sale and provides delivery, installation, project management and ancillary products and services.

The modular workspace rental equipment (units) consist of wood or steel framed structures mounted on either chassis with axles and running gear or on steel channel skids, and contain materials which are typical of conventional buildings, such as plywood sheathing, gypsum board, wood paneling, vinyl flooring, metal siding, and rubber membrane roofing. These units are typically equipped with heating and air conditioning, electrical panels and circuitry, plumbing as required, windows, doors, and hardware. These units are intended to be flexible by allowing for reconfiguration of interior partitions, the addition or removal of washrooms, and in the case of complexes, to be connected to form larger and more versatile space configurations. Management specifies newly manufactured equipment in such a way as to reasonably extend the rental life of the asset through durability, versatility, and desirability. As a result, management is of the view that these units, if properly maintained, will continue to work at market rates in excess of 25 years.

### ***Black Diamond Energy Services***

Black Diamond Energy Services is focussed on the rental of oilfield surface equipment and oilfield drilling accommodation equipment along with full installation and maintenance services from operating locations in Grande Prairie, Alberta, Fort St. John and Fort Nelson, British Columbia, Estevan, Saskatchewan, and Fort Lupton, Colorado. The primary business of Black Diamond Energy Services can be separated into the following two revenue streams:

***Oilfield Rentals:*** consists of various types of oilfield rental equipment used to support drilling, completion and production activities. This includes equipment specific to liquid and solid containment such as 400 barrel tanks, large format frac tanks, flocculation tanks, flare tanks, shale bins, environmental containment systems, fluids management and transfer equipment, and ancillary equipment such as light towers, matting, power generation and various related types of equipment. As at January 1, 2016, the surface rental fleet consisted of 2,373 units.

***Wellsite Quarters and Drill Camps:*** are single and multi-unit complexes which are highly mobile and durable and which, when fully assembled, create a single building to house, feed and provide life support amenities to drilling crews and support staff. These accommodation units relocate often and typically work on day rates which provide volatility to revenue streams, and they are highly specialized with few applications other than drill site accommodation. This segment also includes self contained living quarters for engineers and geologists (commonly referred to as wellsite units or staff quarters) and single unit sleepers. Freestanding fleet units typically work on day rates, and with the exception of wellsites, have a variety of applications both within and outside of the resource sector. As at January 1, 2016, the drill camp and staff quarter fleet consisted of 700 units representing in excess of 1,882 beds.

### ***Black Diamond International***

Black Diamond International rents and sells remote workforce housing and modular workspace solutions and provides associated services in Australia.

Black Diamond International's modular accommodation and workspace rental fleet of various configurations consisted of 1,214 units as at January 1, 2016. The rental fleet assets are similar to assets which the Corporation operates in Canada and are well-positioned in the resource-rich regions of Australia. Black Diamond International's diverse customer base includes natural resource companies, building and construction companies, commercial and general industrial companies, education and government. Black Diamond International's customers are primarily located in the States of Queensland, Western Australia and New South Wales, Australia and its larger customers operate primarily in the mining and natural resource development areas.

## Revenues Generated by Categories of Principal Services

The following sets forth the percentages of total consolidated revenues generated from each of Black Diamond's principal business units for the applicable periods:

Business Unit	Year Ended December 31, 2015 <sup>(1)</sup>	Year Ended December 31, 2014
Black Diamond Structures	60%	57%
Black Diamond Logistics	31%	31%
Black Diamond Energy Services	6%	8%
Black Diamond International	3%	4%

Note:

(1) Effective January 1, 2016, the Corporation re-organized its North American business units to streamline its operations and gain efficiencies. See "General Development of the Business – Recent Developments".

## Business Strategy

Black Diamond's current business strategy is summarized as follows:

**Rental Rate and Utilization.** Black Diamond's rental business has three key drivers: capital cost of rental assets; utilization; and average rental rate. Black Diamond's ability to maintain or increase revenue streams from existing assets depends on its ability to keep the units rented at as high a rental rate as the Corporation can obtain. To accomplish this the Corporation must maintain a high quality fleet in good condition; be able to provide a variety of sizes and types of units to satisfy the varied requirements of Black Diamond's diverse customer base; and develop strong long-term relationships with its primary customer base through service, responsiveness and reliability.

**Increase Fleet Size.** Black Diamond intends to continue to grow all aspects of its rental fleet portfolio. The Corporation expects to accomplish this through a combination of procurement of new manufactured units built to its specifications, and by acquisition of existing units and existing fleets.

**Geographic Expansion.** Black Diamond intends to continue to expand its principal operating business units geographically through the establishment of additional branches and the acquisition of additional fleet assets. This may include locations outside of North America and Australia.

**Expanded Products and Services.** Black Diamond plans to offer a wider variety of modular structures and oilfield equipment to its customers. The Corporation also plans to offer more turnkey solutions to customers by providing additional site services, hospitality services, ancillary rental options, and associated rental equipment. This may include support units and operated remote lodging facilities. Black Diamond also offers the direct sale of equipment.

**Develop New Markets.** Black Diamond intends to target additional industry sectors for the rental of both camp and workspace units and for its remote site services capabilities. To date, Black Diamond has been primarily focused on the oil and natural gas, mining and construction sectors. There are numerous other industries that utilize the products and services offered by Black Diamond.

**Acquisitions.** Black Diamond plans to continue its strategy of targeting acquisitions of businesses where those businesses complement the existing business and are accretive to Shareholders.



### **Renegotiation or Termination of Material Contracts**

Black Diamond has a number of customers that, given the current economic environment, have held off on renewing their workforce accommodation contracts in favor of short-term extensions that provide them with greater flexibility in their capital programs as they work through this period of continued economic uncertainty. Should these customers move back into a long-term contract, forward contracted revenue will increase. Black Diamond continues to work with its customers on finding balanced solutions that address their current circumstances while also ensuring Black Diamond can meet its return on capital criteria.

### **Product Suppliers**

Black Diamond relies on manufacturers for the supply of new equipment for its rental fleets. The manufacturing segment of the modular building industry is relatively well structured in western Canada where there are currently two independent large capacity manufacturers, a number of mid-sized manufacturers, and numerous small scale manufacturers. The Corporation maintains strong relationships with both large manufacturers and a number of the mid-sized and small scale suppliers. To date the Corporation has successfully secured manufacturing capacity to meet its requirements. The Corporation expects to continue to secure sufficient manufacturing space to meet customer demand throughout 2016. See "Risk Factors – Dependence on Suppliers".

### **Employees**

As at December 31, 2015, Black Diamond had a total of 271 employees of which 70 were hourly paid personnel.

### **Sales, Distribution and Marketing**

Black Diamond markets its rental assets, custom sales and site services through in-house sales personnel.

### **Customers**

Black Diamond's customers include oil and natural gas and mineral exploration and production companies, food services providers (caterers), drilling contractors, engineering procurement construction companies, general contractors, pipeline constructors, utilities, oilfield services companies, construction sub-trades, manufacturers, commercial educational institutions, military agencies, industrial companies and municipal, provincial, state and federal governments. During the year ended December 31, 2015, the Corporation had three significant customers who each contributed greater than 10% of the Corporation's consolidated revenue, for a combined total of 50%. See "Risk Factors – Dependence on Significant Customers".

From the Corporation's experience to date, its customers' preferences for its products and services include the following:

- quality and newness of equipment;
- cleanliness of equipment when it arrives on site;
- availability of equipment;
- variety of layouts and amenities to best suit their project needs;
- relationship with strategic First Nation partnerships;
- responsiveness to their needs;
- delivery time, distance and cost; and
- reputation and relationship with the fleet operator.

### **Pricing of Products and Services**

Black Diamond's products and services are priced differently. Workforce accommodation and modular workspace solutions are priced either as long-term monthly rates or as short-term day rates depending on the type of product and the intended project's duration.

Contract rates for workforce accommodation, modular workspace solutions and oilfield rental products are set based on industry factors such as availability of equipment, winter or summer work and guaranteed minimum number of days being contracted.

With BOXX Modular's modular workspace solution products, the Corporation charges higher rates for short-term rentals (three months or less) to reflect the additional costs associated with the turn around of equipment on such a short-term, and to encourage the business unit's customers to enter into longer term commitments. The Corporation similarly offers lower rates for long-term contracts.

### **Seasonality**

The drill camp, free standing fleet and surface rentals segments of Black Diamond Energy Services have historically experienced higher activity in the winter. This is due to the increased drilling and infrastructure construction activity at remote northern sites in Canada where access is restricted during warmer months due to muskeg and wildlife conservation issues. Seasonality has a much lower influence on Black Diamond Energy Services' operations in the United States. The large camp segment of Black Diamond Camps and Lodging is less seasonal due to the typically longer duration of the underlying customer projects. The modular space business of BOXX Modular experiences little seasonality due to the recurring volume and diverse operating locations. See "Risk Factors – Seasonality".

### **Competitive Conditions**

The industries and businesses in which Black Diamond operates are highly competitive and in order to be successful, Black Diamond has to provide services that meet the specific needs of its clients at competitive prices. The principal competitive factors in the markets in which Black Diamond operates are service quality and availability, reliability and performance of equipment used to perform its services, technical knowledge and experience and reputation for safety and value. Competitors offer similar services in all geographic regions in which Black Diamond operates. See "Risk Factors – Competition".

The success of the Corporation's business is connected, in large part, to the general health of the oil and natural gas industry in western Canada and the United States. Accordingly, in addition to the various federal, provincial, state and municipal regulations to which the Corporation adheres in its ongoing operations, it is also sensitive to the industry conditions relating to the oil and natural gas industry, including land tenure, exploration, development, production, refining, transportation and marketing imposed by legislation enacted by various levels of government and with respect to pricing and taxation of oil and natural gas by agreements among the governments of Canada, Alberta, Saskatchewan, British Columbia and the United States. See "Risk Factors – Volatility of Industry Conditions" and "Risk Factors – Government Regulation".

### **Aboriginal Relationships**

Black Diamond recognizes how important Aboriginal business relationships are when working in Canada's northern frontiers. Black Diamond recognizes the obligations and requirements laid out in the various land claims in the areas where it conducts its business and, with respect to its businesses, Black Diamond is of the view that aboriginal rights are to be respected and the Aboriginal Peoples are to be given opportunities to participate and benefit from the activity on their traditional lands. As such, one of Black Diamond's objectives is to maximize the amount of local and aboriginal participation in its operations. Black Diamond employs a community relations management professional who works closely with all of Black Diamond's First Nations partnerships and the communities in which they operate and reports directly to Black Diamond's senior leadership. See "Risk Factors – Aboriginal Relationships".

### **Environmental Considerations**

The Canadian, United States and various international oil and natural gas and mining industries are regulated by a number of federal, provincial and state governmental bodies and agencies under a variety of complex federal, provincial and state legislation that sets forth numerous prohibitions and requirements with respect to planning and approval processes related to land use, sustainable resource management, waste management, responsibility for the release of presumed hazardous materials, protection of wildlife and the environment and the health and safety of workers. Legislation provides for restrictions and prohibitions on the transport of dangerous goods and the release or emission of various substances, including substances used and produced in association with certain oil and natural gas and mining industry operations. The legislation

addresses various permits, drilling, access road construction, camp construction, well and mine completion, installation of surface equipment, air monitoring, surface and ground water monitoring in connection with these activities, waste management and access to remote or environmentally sensitive areas.

The operations of the Corporation are subject to a variety of federal, provincial, state and local laws, regulations, and guidelines, including various environmental and health and safety statutes and regulations governing health and safety, requirements for its products, the conduct of operations, the protection of the environment, the operation of equipment and the handling and disposal of substances used in its operations, or that may otherwise be present on or in the lands the Corporation owns or occupies. Such legislation also generally imposes potential liability on present owners or occupants of property where contamination has occurred without regard to whether such owner or occupant played a role in the original contaminating event. The Corporation believes that it, and each of its subsidiaries, is currently in compliance with such laws and regulations. The Corporation expends financial and managerial resources to ensure such compliance and will continue to do so in the future. Although such expenditures historically have not been material to Black Diamond, such laws or regulations are subject to change. Accordingly, it is impossible for the Corporation to predict the cost or impact of such laws and regulations on the Corporation's future operations. See "Risk Factors – Environmental Liability" and "Risk Factors – Government Regulation".

### **Foreign Operations**

Black Diamond's primary operations are in Canada; however, a portion of its operations are conducted in the United States and in Australia. The United States and Australia operations are conducted through indirect subsidiaries of Black Diamond, and are consolidated into the Corporation's quarterly and annual financial statements. See "Risk Factors – Foreign Operations" and "Risk Factors – Foreign Currency Exchange Risk".

### **Intangible Property**

The Corporation's customer relationships have value to the Corporation as there are substantial long-term contracts and relationships in place and it is estimated that a significant amount of future revenue will be derived from the existing customer base. Where the value of identifiable intangible assets have been included in the financial statements of the Corporation, they are amortized on a straight line basis as follows:

- customer relationships over four to 20 years;
- non-compete agreements over two to three years; and
- trademarks over 10 years.

## **RISK FACTORS**

**Investors should carefully consider the risk factors set out below and consider all other information contained herein and in the Corporation's other public filings before making an investment decision. The risks set out below are not an exhaustive list and should not be taken as a complete summary or description of all the risks associated with the Corporation's business. If any of the following risks or other risks occur, the Corporation's business, financial condition, results of operations and cash flows could be adversely impacted in a material way.**

### **Volatility of Industry Conditions**

The demand, pricing and terms for workforce accommodation, oilfield equipment rentals and temporary workspace solutions largely depend upon the level of industry activity for oil and natural gas and mineral exploration and development and infrastructure development. This would include resource exploration and development companies, infrastructure and commercial construction companies and real estate developers. Industry conditions are influenced by numerous factors over which the Corporation has no control, including: the level of oil and natural gas and mineral prices; expectations about future oil and natural gas and mineral prices; the cost of exploring for, producing and delivering oil and natural gas and minerals; the expected rates of declining current production; the discovery rates of new oil and natural gas and mineral reserves; available pipeline and other oil and natural gas transportation and infrastructure capacity; demand for and supply of oil and natural gas and minerals; weather conditions; political, military, regulatory and economic conditions; and the ability of oil and natural gas and mining companies to raise equity capital or debt financing for exploration and development work.

The level of activity in the resource production industry is volatile. No assurance can be given that expected trends in resource production activities will continue or that demand for workforce accommodation and oilfield rental equipment will reflect the level of activity in the industry. Any prolonged substantial reduction in resource prices would likely affect resource production levels and therefore affect the demand for services to oil and natural gas and mining customers. A material decline in resource prices or Canadian, United States or Australian resource industry activity could have a material adverse effect on the Corporation's business, financial condition, results of operations and cash flows. Any addition to or elimination or curtailment of government incentives could have a significant impact on the oilfield services industry.

### **Weakness in the Oil and Gas and Mining Industries**

Recent market events and conditions, including global excess oil and natural gas supply, recent actions taken by the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries ("OPEC"), slowing growth in China and other emerging economies, market volatility and disruptions in Asia, and sovereign debt levels in various countries, have caused significant weakness and volatility in commodity prices. These events and conditions have caused a significant decrease in the valuation of oil and natural gas and mining companies and a decrease in confidence in the oil and natural gas and mining industries. These difficulties have been exacerbated in Canada by the recent changes in government at a federal level and, in the case of Alberta, the provincial level and the resultant uncertainty surrounding regulatory, tax and royalty changes that may be implemented by the new governments. In addition, the inability to get the necessary approvals to build pipelines and other facilities to provide better access to markets for the oil and natural gas industry in western Canada has led to additional uncertainty and reduced confidence in the oil and natural gas industry in western Canada.

Depressed oil and natural gas and mineral prices will result in reduced levels of activity in the oil and natural gas and mining industries which may intensify competition and result in lower revenue to the Corporation. Any prolonged substantial reduction in oil and natural gas and mineral prices will reduce activity levels in these industries and change the economic feasibility of industry development projects, resulting in reduced demand for certain of the Corporation's products and services which could have a material adverse effect on the Corporation's business, financial condition, results of operations and cash flows. In addition, commodity price volatility may in the future affect the Corporation's ability to obtain equity or debt financing on acceptable terms.

### **Dependence on Significant Customers**

During the year ended December 31, 2015, the Corporation had three significant customers who each contributed greater than 10% of the Corporation's consolidated revenue, for a combined total of 50%. The loss of these sources of revenue could have a material adverse effect on the Corporation's business, financial condition, results of operations and cash flows. In addition, in certain geographical operating areas, the Corporation may depend on a smaller number of customers, the loss of which would have a material adverse effect on the Corporation's operations in those operating areas and may result in significant equipment relocation costs.

### **Dependence on Agreements and Contracts**

The operations of the Corporation depend on performance under written contracts with its customer base that are generally cancellable only for non-performance. The key factors which determine whether a client continues to use the Corporation are service quality and availability, reliability and performance of equipment used to perform its services, technical knowledge and experience, reputation for safety and competitive price. There can be no assurance that the Corporation's relationship with its customers will continue, and a significant reduction or total loss of the business from these customers, if not offset by sales to new or existing customers, could have a material adverse effect on the Corporation's business, financial condition, results of operations and cash flows.

### **Restrictive Covenants and Leverage**

The Credit Facility and the Senior Secured Notes contain numerous covenants that limit the discretion of management of the Corporation with respect to certain business matters. These covenants will place restrictions on, among other things, the ability of the Corporation to create liens or other encumbrances, to pay dividends or make certain other payments, investments, loans and guarantees and to sell or otherwise dispose of assets and merge or consolidate with another entity. In addition, the Credit Facility and the Senior Secured Notes contain a number of financial covenants that will require the

Corporation to meet certain financial ratios and financial condition tests. A failure to comply with the obligations in the Credit Facility and the Senior Secured Notes could result in a default which, if not cured or waived, could result in a termination of dividends by the Corporation and would permit acceleration of the relevant indebtedness. If the indebtedness under the Credit Facility and the Senior Secured Notes were to be accelerated, there can be no assurance that the assets of the Corporation would be sufficient to repay in full that indebtedness.

The ability of the Corporation to pay dividends or make other payments or advances will be subject to applicable laws and contractual restrictions in the instruments governing any indebtedness of the Corporation (including the Credit Facility and the Senior Secured Notes). The degree to which the Corporation is leveraged could have important consequences for Shareholders including: (i) the Corporation's ability to obtain additional financing for working capital, capital expenditures or acquisitions in the future may be limited; (ii) all or part of the Corporation's cash flow from operations may be dedicated to the payment of the principal of and interest on the Corporation's indebtedness, thereby reducing funds available for future operations or for dividends to Shareholders; (iii) some of the Corporation's borrowings are at variable rates of interest, which exposes the Corporation to the risk of increased interest rates; and (iv) the Corporation may be more vulnerable to economic downturns and be limited in its ability to withstand competitive pressures. These factors could have a material adverse effect on the Corporation's business, financial condition, results of operations and cash flows.

Interest expense has been estimated for the purpose of estimating cash flow available for dividends based on current market conditions that are subject to fluctuations. Such fluctuations could result in an unanticipated material increase in interest rates that could in turn have a material adverse effect on cash available for dividends to Shareholders.

### **Competition**

The workforce accommodation, oilfield equipment rentals and temporary workspace industries in which the Corporation operates are highly competitive. To be successful, the Corporation must provide equipment and services that meet the specific needs of its clients at competitive prices. The principal competitive factors in the markets in which the Corporation operates are service quality and availability, reliability and performance of equipment used to perform its services, technical knowledge and experience, and reputation for safety and price. The Corporation competes with international and regional competitors, several of which are significantly larger than the Corporation. These competitors offer similar services in all of the geographic regions in which the Corporation operates. As a result of competition, the Corporation may be unable to continue to provide its present services, to provide such services at historical operating margins or to acquire additional business opportunities, which could have a material adverse effect on the Corporation's business, financial condition, results of operations and cash flows.

Reduced levels of activity in the workforce accommodation, oilfield equipment rentals and temporary workspace industries can intensify competition and result in lower revenue to the Corporation. Variations in the exploration and development budgets of oil and natural gas and mining companies which are directly affected by fluctuations in oil and natural gas and mineral prices, the cyclical nature and competitiveness of the oil and natural gas and mining industries and governmental regulation, could have an effect upon the Corporation's ability to generate revenue and earnings.

### **Credit Risk**

Credit risk arises from cash held with banks and financial institutions, as well as credit exposure to customers and partners in the form of outstanding accounts. The maximum exposure to credit risk is equal to the carrying value of the financial assets.

The carrying amount of accounts receivable reflects management's assessment of the credit risk associated with the Corporation's customers. The Corporation generally grants unsecured credit to its customers. The allowance for doubtful accounts and past due receivables are reviewed by management on an ongoing basis. Accounts receivable are considered for impairment on a case-by-case basis when they are past due or when objective evidence is received that a customer will default. The Corporation takes into consideration the customer's payment history, their credit worthiness and the current economic environment in which the customer operates to assess impairment. The Corporation accounts for a specific bad debt provision when management considers that the expected recovery is less than the actual amount receivable. When a receivable balance is considered uncollectible it is written off against the allowance for doubtful accounts. Subsequent recovery of amounts previously written off is included in net earnings. Failure to accurately estimate the amount of bad debts of the Corporation or failure to collect accounts receivable on a timely basis or in full could have a material adverse effect on the Corporation's business, financial condition, results of operations and cash flows.

**Vulnerability to Market Changes**

Fixed costs, including costs associated with operating expenses, leases, labour costs and depreciation account for a significant portion of the Corporation's costs and expenses. As a result, reduced productivity resulting from reduced demand, equipment failure, weather or other factors could have a material adverse effect on the Corporation's business, financial condition, results of operations and cash flows.

**Access to Additional Financing**

The Corporation may find it necessary in the future to obtain additional debt or equity financing to support ongoing operations, to undertake capital expenditures or to undertake acquisitions or other business combination transactions. Uncertain levels of near term industry activity coupled with global economic volatility exposes the Corporation to the risk that additional financing will not be available to the Corporation when needed, on terms acceptable to the Corporation or at all. The Corporation's inability to raise financing to support ongoing operations or to fund capital expenditures or acquisitions could limit the Corporation's growth and could have a material adverse effect on the Corporation's business, financial condition, results of operations and cash flow.

Where additional financing is raised by the issuance of Common Shares or securities convertible into Common Shares, control of the Corporation may change and Shareholders may suffer dilution to their investment. The Corporation's activities may also be financed partially or wholly with debt, which may increase the Corporation's debt levels above industry standards. The level of the Corporation's indebtedness from time to time could impair the Corporation's ability to obtain additional financing in the future on a timely basis to take advantage of business opportunities that may arise.

**Dividends**

The amount of future cash dividends paid by the Corporation, if any, will be subject to the discretion of the Board of Directors of the Corporation and may vary depending on a variety of factors and conditions existing from time to time, including fluctuations in the Corporation's earnings, capital expenditure requirements, debt service requirements, operating costs, foreign exchange rates and the satisfaction of the liquidity and solvency tests imposed by the Corporation's lenders and applicable corporate law for the declaration and payment of dividends. Depending on these and various other factors, many of which will be beyond the control of the Corporation, the amount of future cash dividends paid by the Corporation could be reduced or suspended entirely.

The market value of the Common Shares may deteriorate if cash dividends are reduced or suspended. Furthermore, the future treatment of dividends for tax purposes will be subject to the nature and composition of dividends paid by the Corporation and potential legislative and regulatory changes.

**Dependence on Suppliers**

The Corporation sources its equipment and equipment parts from a variety of suppliers, most of whom are located in Canada, the United States and Australia. Should any suppliers be unable to provide the necessary equipment or parts or otherwise fail to deliver products in the quantities required, any resulting delays in the provision of products and services or in the time required to find new suppliers could have a material adverse effect on the Corporation's business, financial condition, results of operations and cash flows.

**Reliance on Key Personnel**

The Corporation's success depends in large measure on certain key personnel. The loss of the services of such key personnel may have a material adverse effect on the Corporation's business, financial condition, results of operations and cash flows. The Corporation does not have any key person insurance in effect for the Corporation. The contributions of the existing management team to the immediate and near term operations of the Corporation are likely to be of central importance. Investors must rely upon the ability, expertise, judgment, discretion, integrity and good faith of the management of the Corporation.

**Market Price of Common Shares**

The trading price of securities of issuers in the businesses of the Corporation is subject to substantial volatility often based on factors related and unrelated to the financial performance or prospects of the issuers involved. Factors unrelated to the Corporation's performance could include macroeconomic developments nationally, within North America or globally, domestic and global commodity prices or current perceptions of the attractiveness of particular industries. Similarly, the market price of the Common Shares could be subject to significant fluctuations in response to variations in the Corporation's operating results, financial condition, liquidity and other internal factors. Accordingly, the price at which the Common Shares will trade cannot be accurately predicted.

**Safety Performance**

Standards for the prevention of incidents in the industries in which the Corporation operates are governed by service company safety policies and procedures, accepted industry safety practices, customer specific safety requirements and health and safety legislation. Many customers consider safety performance a key factor in selecting workforce accommodation, temporary workspace and oilfield equipment and service providers. Deterioration of the Corporation's safety performance could result in a decline in the demand for the Corporation's products and services and could have a material adverse effect on the Corporation's business, financial condition, results of operations and cash flows.

**Expansion into New Activities**

The operations and expertise of the Corporation's management are currently focused primarily on logistics management as well as the workforce accommodation, oilfield equipment rentals and temporary workspace industries. In the future, the Corporation may acquire or move into new industry related activities, may acquire different industry related assets, and as a result may face unexpected risks or alternatively, significantly increase the Corporation's exposure to one or more existing risk factors, which may in turn result in the Corporation's business, financial condition, results of operations and cash flows being adversely affected.

**Government Regulation**

The Corporation's operations are subject to numerous laws as well as industry regulations and guidelines, many of which are related to health and safety, the conduct of operations, requirements for its equipment, transportation and the environment. Some of the laws, regulations and guidelines that apply to the Corporation's operations also authorize the recovery of natural resource damages by the government, injunctive relief, and the imposition of stop, control, remediation and abandonment orders. While management believes that its businesses will be operated in accordance with applicable laws, the Corporation will remain subject to a varied and complex body of laws and regulations that both public officials and private individuals may seek to enforce. The costs arising from compliance with such laws, regulations and guidelines may be material to the Corporation.

Any regulatory changes that impose additional operating or environmental restrictions or requirements on the Corporation or its customers could adversely affect the Corporation through increased operating costs and potential decreased demand for the Corporation's products and services. The trend in environmental regulation has been to impose more restrictions and limitations on activities that may impact the environment, including the generation and disposal of wastes and the use and handling of chemical substances. Laws, regulations or treaties concerning climate change, greenhouse gas emissions or other environmental matters may have an adverse impact on the demand for oil and natural gas and minerals, which could have a material adverse effect on the Corporation.

**Alternatives to and Changing Demand for Petroleum Products**

Fuel conservation measures, alternative fuel requirements, increasing consumer demand for alternatives to oil and natural gas, and technological advances in fuel economy and energy generation devices could reduce the demand for oil, natural gas and other liquid hydrocarbons which in turn will reduce the demand for the Corporation's products and services which are dependent upon oil and natural gas industry activity. The Corporation cannot predict the impact of changing demand for oil and natural gas products, and any major changes could have a material adverse effect on the Corporation's business, financial condition, results of operations and cash flows.

### **Failure to Realize Anticipated Benefits of Acquisitions and Dispositions**

The Corporation considers acquisitions and dispositions of businesses and assets in the ordinary course of business. Achieving the benefits of acquisitions depends on successfully consolidating functions and integrating operations and procedures in a timely and efficient manner and the Corporation's ability to realize the anticipated growth opportunities and synergies from combining the acquired businesses and operations with those of the Corporation. The integration of acquired businesses may require substantial management effort, time and resources diverting management's focus from other strategic opportunities and operational matters. Management continually assesses the value and contribution of services provided and assets required to provide such services. In this regard, non-core assets may be periodically disposed of so the Corporation can focus its efforts and resources more efficiently. Depending on the state of the market for such non-core assets, certain non-core assets of the Corporation, if disposed of, may realize less than their carrying value on the financial statements of the Corporation.

### **Environmental Liability**

The Corporation is subject to the operating risks inherent in the industries in which the Corporation operates, including environmental damage. The Corporation has established programs to address compliance with current environmental standards and monitors its practices concerning the handling of environmentally hazardous materials. However, there can be no assurance that the Corporation's procedures will prevent environmental damage from occurring from spills of materials handled by the Corporation or that such damage has not already occurred. On occasion, substantial liabilities to third parties may be incurred. The Corporation may have the benefit of insurance maintained by it or a contractor; however the Corporation may become liable for damages against which it cannot adequately insure or against which it may elect not to insure because of high costs or other reasons.

### **Environmental Regulation of the Corporation's Customers**

The Government of Canada and provincial governments in areas where the Corporation does business have been working through various forms of regulation and legislation focused on climate change and greenhouse gas emissions. Future federal legislation, together with provincial emission reduction requirements may require the reduction of emissions or emissions intensity from the Corporation's customers' operations and facilities. A number of the Corporation's customers are involved in the oil and natural gas exploration and development industry, with specific focus on oil sands related projects. Focus and scrutiny has recently intensified on oil sands development, which could lead to incremental environmental regulation or legislation.

Potential changes in requirements may result in increased operating costs and capital expenditures for oil and natural gas and mining industry participants, thereby delaying or decreasing the demand for the Corporation's products and services.

Management of the Corporation is unable to predict the impact of potential emissions targets and it is possible that changes could adversely affect the Corporation's business, financial condition, results of operations and cash flows.

### **Aboriginal Relationships**

A component of Black Diamond's business strategy is based on developing and maintaining positive relationships with the Aboriginal Peoples and communities in the areas where Black Diamond operates. These relationships are important to Black Diamond's operations and customers who desire to work on traditional aboriginal lands. The inability to develop and maintain relationships and to be in compliance with local requirements could adversely affect Black Diamond's business, financial condition, results of operations and cash flows.

### **Operating Risks and Insurance**

The operations of the Corporation are subject to hazards inherent in the workforce accommodation, temporary workspace and oilfield rental industries, such as equipment defects, malfunction and failures, and natural disasters which could result in fires, vehicle accidents, damage to facilities, risk to the health of occupants, business interruption and damage to or destruction of property, equipment and the environment. These risks could expose the Corporation to substantial liability for



personal injury, wrongful death, property damage, pollution, and other environmental damages. The frequency and severity of such incidents will affect operating costs, insurability and relationships with customers, employees and regulators.

Although the Corporation has obtained insurance against certain of the risks to which it is exposed, such insurance is subject to coverage limits and no assurance can be given that such insurance will be adequate to cover the Corporation's liabilities. In addition, there can be no assurance that the Corporation will be able to maintain adequate insurance in the future at rates it considers reasonable and commercially justifiable. The occurrence of a significant uninsured claim, a claim in excess of the insurance coverage limits maintained by the Corporation, or a claim at a time when it is not able to obtain liability insurance, could have a material adverse effect on the Corporation's business, financial condition, results of operations and cash flows.

### **Dilution**

The Corporation may make future acquisitions or enter into financings or other transactions involving the issuance of securities of the Corporation which may be dilutive.

### **Workforce Availability**

The Corporation's ability to provide reliable and quality services is dependent on its ability to hire and retain a dedicated and quality pool of employees. The competition for qualified personnel in the industries in which the Corporation operates is intense and there can be no assurance that the Corporation will be able to continue to attract and retain all personnel necessary for the development and operation of its business. In periods of higher activity, it may become more difficult to find and retain qualified employees which could limit growth, increase operating costs or have other material adverse effects on the Corporation's operations.

### **Variations in Foreign Exchange Rates and Interest Rates**

The Corporation is exposed to foreign currency fluctuations as certain revenues, expenses and working capital derived from its foreign operations are denominated in United States dollars and Australian dollars. As such, the Corporation's United States and Australian subsidiaries are subject to translation gains and losses on consolidation. Realized foreign exchange gains and losses are included in net earnings while unrealized foreign exchange gains and losses arising on the translation of the assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses of the Corporation's foreign operations are included in other comprehensive income.

To the extent that the Corporation engages in risk management activities related to foreign exchange rates, there is a credit risk associated with counterparties with which the Corporation may contract.

An increase in interest rates could result in a significant increase in the amount the Corporation pays to service debt, resulting in a reduced amount available to fund its business activities, and if applicable, the cash available for dividends and could negatively impact the market price of the Common Shares of the Corporation.

### **Foreign Operations**

Some of the Corporation's current operations and related assets are located in the United States and Australia. In addition, the Corporation's growth plans may contemplate establishing operations in additional foreign countries, including countries where the political and economic systems may be less stable than those in Canada, the United States and Australia. Risks of foreign operations include, but are not necessarily limited to, changes of laws affecting foreign ownership, government participation, taxation, royalties, duties, rates of exchange, inflation, repatriation of earnings, social unrest, acts of terrorism and uncertain political and economic conditions resulting in unfavourable government actions such as unfavourable legislation or regulation. While the impact of these factors cannot be accurately predicted, if any of the risks materialize, they could have a material adverse effect on the Corporation's business, financial condition, results of operations and cash flows.

**Seasonality**

The Corporation's business units have slightly different seasonal aspects. Black Diamond Energy Services is exposed to the seasonality of the western Canadian oil and natural gas drilling industry where the busiest months are January through March and the slowest months are April through September. There is greater demand for certain of the equipment and services provided by this business unit in the winter season when the occurrence of freezing permits the movement and operation of heavy equipment. However, if an unseasonably warm winter prevents sufficient freezing, the Corporation may not be able to access wellsites. The large camp segment of Black Diamond Camps and Lodging is less seasonal due to the typically longer project durations at which this equipment is utilized. The modular space business of BOXX Modular experiences little seasonality due to the recurring volume and diverse operating locations. Volatility in the weather can create unpredictability in activity and utilization rates, which could have a material adverse effect on the Corporation's business, financial condition, results of operations and cash flows.

**Dependence on Camp Permits**

In most cases, permits issued by government agencies are required to set up and operate remote workforce accommodations. The issuance of permits is dependent upon water and waste treatment alternatives available, road traffic volumes and fire conditions in forested areas. Failure of the Corporation or the Corporation's customers to receive or renew permits could have a material adverse effect on the Corporation's business, financial condition, results of operations and cash flows.

**Extension of Credit Facility**

The Corporation currently has the Credit Facility available which, unless extended, will mature on April 30, 2019. The Corporation may elect to request an extension of the Credit Facility. There can be no assurance that the Corporation will be able to extend its Credit Facility in the amount it requires or on terms acceptable to it. Any failure of the Corporation to repay or refinance all or any portion of the Credit Facility on its maturity date on acceptable terms could have a material adverse effect on the Corporation's business, financial condition, results of operations and cash flow. There is no assurance that the Corporation will be able to refinance the Credit Facility on its maturity date on acceptable terms, or on any basis.

**Management of Growth**

The Corporation may be subject to growth-related risks including capacity constraints and pressure on its internal systems and controls. The ability of the Corporation to manage growth effectively will require it to continue to implement and improve its operational and financial systems and to expand, train and manage its employee base. The inability of the Corporation to deal with this growth may have a material adverse effect on the Corporation's business, financial condition, results of operations and cash flows.

**Litigation**

In the normal course of the Corporation's operations, it may become involved in, named as a party to, or be the subject of, various legal proceedings, including regulatory proceedings, tax proceedings and legal actions, related to personal injuries, property damage, property tax, the environment and contract disputes. The outcome of outstanding, pending or future proceedings cannot be predicted with certainty and may be determined adversely to the Corporation and as a result, could have a material adverse effect on the Corporation's business, financial condition, results of operations and cash flows.

**Potential Replacement or Reduced Use of Products and Services**

Certain of the Corporation's equipment or systems may become obsolete or experience a decrease in demand through the introduction of competing products that are lower in cost, exhibit enhanced performance characteristics or are determined by the market to be more preferable for environmental or other reasons. The Corporation expends substantial effort to keep current with the changing market for workforce accommodation, oilfield equipment rental and temporary workspace solutions which it provides and technological and regulatory changes. If the Corporation is unable to keep current it could have a material adverse effect on the Corporation's business, financial condition, results of operations and cash flows.

## **Income Taxes**

Income tax provisions, including current and future income tax assets and liabilities in the Corporation's consolidated financial statements, and income tax filing positions require estimates and interpretations of federal, provincial and other taxing authorities income tax rules and regulations, and judgments as to their interpretation and application of the Corporation's specific situation. In addition, there can be no assurance that the Canada Revenue Agency or a provincial or other tax agency will agree with the Corporation's tax filing positions or will not change its administrative practices to the detriment of the Corporation or its shareholders and creditors. While the Corporation believes that its tax filing positions are supportable under applicable law, a number of the Corporation's tax filing positions may be the subject of review by taxation authorities. Therefore, it is possible that additional taxes could be payable by the Corporation and the ultimate value of the Corporation's tax assets and liabilities could change in the future and that such additional taxes and changes to such accounts could be materially adverse to the Corporation.

## **Conflicts of Interest**

The directors and officers of the Corporation may also be directors or officers of other companies which operate in the same industries as that of the Corporation and situations may arise where they are in a conflict of interest with the Corporation. Conflicts of interest, if any, will be subject to and governed by procedures prescribed by the ABCA which require a director or officer of a corporation who is a party to, or is a director or an officer of, or has a material interest in any person who is a party to, a material contract or proposed material contract with the Corporation to disclose his or her interest and, in the case of directors, to refrain from voting on any matter in respect of such contract unless otherwise permitted under the ABCA. See "Directors and Executive Officers – Conflicts of Interest".

## **Forward-Looking Information May Prove Inaccurate**

Shareholders and prospective investors are cautioned not to place undue reliance on the Corporation's forward-looking information. By its nature, forward-looking information involves numerous assumptions, known and unknown risks and uncertainties, of both a general and specific nature, that could cause actual results to differ materially from those suggested by the forward-looking information or contribute to the possibility that predictions, forecasts or projections will prove to be materially inaccurate.

Additional information on the risks, assumptions and uncertainties are found under the heading "Cautionary Statement Regarding Forward-Looking Statements" of this Annual Information Form.

## **DESCRIPTION OF CAPITAL STRUCTURE**

### **Share Capital Structure**

The Corporation is authorized to issue an unlimited number of Common Shares and an unlimited number of preferred shares, each having the rights, privileges, restrictions and conditions described below.

#### *Common Shares*

Holders of Common Shares are entitled to notice of, to attend and to one (1) vote per share held at any meeting of Shareholders (other than meetings of a class or series of shares of the Corporation other than the Common Shares as such). Holders of Common Shares are entitled to receive dividends as and when declared by the Board of Directors on the Common Shares as a class, subject to prior satisfaction of all preferential rights to dividends attached to all shares of other classes of shares of the Corporation ranking in priority to the Common Shares in respect of dividends. Holders of Common Shares are entitled in the event of any liquidation, dissolution or winding-up of the Corporation, whether voluntary or involuntary, or any other distribution of the assets of the Corporation among its shareholders for the purpose of winding-up its affairs, and subject to prior satisfaction of all preferential rights to return of capital on dissolution attached to all shares of other classes of shares of the Corporation ranking in priority to the Common Shares in respect of return of capital on dissolution, to share rateably, together with the holders of shares of any other class of shares of the Corporation ranking equally with the Common Shares in respect of return of capital, in such assets of the Corporation as are available for distribution.

### *Preferred Shares*

Subject to the filing of Articles of Amendment in accordance with the ABCA, the Board of Directors may at any time and from time to time issue the preferred shares in one or more series, each series to consist of such number of shares as may, before the issuance thereof, be determined by the Board. Subject to the filing of Articles of Amendment in accordance with the ABCA, the Board of Directors may from time to time fix, before issuance, the designation, rights, privileges, restrictions and conditions attaching to each series of preferred shares including, without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the amount, if any, specified as being payable preferentially to such series on a distribution, the extent, if any, of further participation on a distribution, voting rights, if any, and dividend rights (including whether such dividends be preferential, or cumulative or non-cumulative), if any. Holders of each series of preferred shares are entitled, in priority to holders of Common Shares and any other shares of the Corporation ranking junior to the preferred shares from time to time with respect to the payment of dividends, to be paid rateably with holders of each other series of preferred shares, the amount of accumulated dividends, if any, specified as being payable preferentially to the holders of such series. In the event of a distribution, holders of each series of preferred shares are entitled, in priority to holders of Common Shares and any other shares of the Corporation ranking junior to the preferred shares from time to time with respect to payment on a distribution, to be paid rateably with holders of each series of preferred shares the amount, if any, specified as being payable preferentially to the holders of such series on a distribution.

### **Shareholder Protection Rights Plan**

Effective March 4, 2015 (the "**Effective Date**"), the Corporation adopted the Rights Plan which Shareholders approved at the annual and special meeting of Shareholders held on May 7, 2015. The Rights Plan will expire after the annual meeting of Black Diamond in 2018, unless it is reconfirmed at such meeting or it is otherwise terminated in accordance with its terms.

The objectives of the Rights Plan are to provide adequate time for the Board of Directors and Shareholders to assess an unsolicited take-over bid for Black Diamond, to provide the Board of Directors with sufficient time to explore and develop alternatives for maximizing Shareholder value if a take-over bid is made, and to provide Shareholders with an equal opportunity to participate in a take-over bid. The Rights Plan encourages a potential acquirer who makes a take-over bid to proceed either by way of a "Permitted Bid" (as defined in the Rights Plan), which generally requires a take-over bid to satisfy certain minimum standards designed to promote fairness, or with the concurrence of the Board of Directors. If a take-over bid fails to meet these minimum standards, the Rights Plan provides that holders of Common Shares, other than the acquirer, will be able to purchase additional Common Shares at a significant discount to market, thus exposing the acquirer to substantial dilution of its holdings.

Pursuant to the Rights Plan, effective on the Effective Date, one right ("**Right**") was issued and attached to each outstanding Common Share and one Right is also issued and attached to each Common Share issued after the Effective Date. If a person, or a group acting jointly or in concert, acquires (other than pursuant to an exemption available under the Rights Plan including by way of a Permitted Bid) beneficial ownership of 20% or more of the outstanding voting shares of Black Diamond, Rights (other than those held by such acquiring person) will permit the holder to purchase that number of Common Shares having an aggregate market price (determined in accordance with the Rights Plan) equal to two times the exercise price of the Rights for an amount in cash equal to the exercise price. The exercise price of the Rights is \$100.00 per Right.

A copy of the Rights Plan is available on the Corporation's SEDAR profile located at [www.sedar.com](http://www.sedar.com).

### **Long Term Debt Structure**

#### *Committed Extendible Revolving Operating Facility*

Effective June 18, 2015, Black Diamond extended and increased its committed extendible revolving operating facility from \$150 million to \$168 million with covenants that provide greater flexibility. Black Diamond's committed extendible revolving operating facility of \$168 million matures on April 30, 2019 (the "**Credit Facility**") and is available by way of prime rate advances, U.S. base rate advances, LIBOR advances, bankers acceptances and letters of credit using interest rates that fluctuate based on the ratio of net total funded debt to EBITDA. The Credit Facility is interest only payable monthly in arrears until the April 30, 2019 maturity date and incurs standby fees for any unused portion of the facility at rates that fluctuate based on the ratio of net total funded debt to EBITDA. The Credit Facility is collateralized by a general security

agreement from Black Diamond, a guarantee and general security agreement from each of its material subsidiaries and a pledge of the equity interests owned by Black Diamond in such material subsidiaries. The Credit Facility has an accordion feature that allows for the expansion of the facility up to an aggregate of \$268 million, upon lender approval. If all or any portion of the \$100 million accordion is not provided by the lenders, the Credit Facility authorizes the Corporation to obtain the remaining amount from any third party subject to certain conditions in the Credit Facility.

A copy of the Credit Facility is available on the Corporation's SEDAR profile located at [www.sedar.com](http://www.sedar.com).

### *Senior Secured Notes*

On July 7, 2011, Black Diamond LP completed a private placement of \$62 million principal amount of senior secured notes of Black Diamond LP, which notes have an interest rate of 5.44% per annum and are due on July 8, 2019 (the "**Senior Secured Notes due 2019**"). The Senior Secured Notes due 2019 are repaid through annual payments, each in the amount of \$12.4 million with the first annual payment having occurred on July 7, 2015. The notes are secured and rank equally with the Corporation's senior credit facility and the Senior Secured Notes due 2022.

On July 3, 2013, Black Diamond LP completed a private placement of \$40 million principal amount of senior secured notes of Black Diamond LP, which notes have an interest rate of 4.58% per annum and are due on July 3, 2022 (the "**Senior Secured Notes due 2022**"). The Senior Secured Notes due 2022 are repaid through annual payments, each in the amount of \$13.3 million with the first annual payment beginning July 3, 2020. The notes are secured and rank equally with the Corporation's senior credit facility and the Senior Secured Notes due 2019.

### **DIVIDENDS**

Following the Conversion, the Corporation commenced a monthly dividend program in January 2010 whereby a monthly dividend would be paid on or about the 15th day of each month to Shareholders of record on the last business day of the preceding month, subject to the Corporation's ongoing financial requirements. Since the commencement of the monthly dividend program, the Board of Directors has increased the amount of the monthly dividend six times and decreased the amount of the monthly dividend once. On November 10, 2010, the Board of Directors approved a 5.6% increase in the Corporation's monthly dividend. On November 9, 2011, the Board of Directors approved a 15% increase in the Corporation's monthly dividend. On May 1, 2012, the Board of Directors approved a 9% increase in the Corporation's monthly dividend. On March 12, 2013, the Board of Directors approved a 17% increase in the Corporation's monthly dividend. On November 6, 2013, the Board of Directors approved a 7% increase in the Corporation's monthly dividend. On August 12, 2014, the Board of Directors approved a 6.7% increase in the Corporation's monthly dividend. On November 5, 2015, the Board of Directors approved a 37.5% reduction in the Corporation's monthly dividend.

The Corporation is a resident in Canada and a taxable public corporation. All dividends paid to Shareholders since inception of the dividend program are "eligible" dividends under the Tax Act. It is expected that the dividends declared and paid in the future will be "eligible dividends" for income tax purposes and thus qualify for the enhanced gross-up and tax credit regime available to certain holders of Common Shares. Although it is expected that dividends of the Corporation will qualify as "eligible dividends" for the purposes of the Tax Act, and thus qualify for the enhanced gross-up and tax credit regime available to certain holders of Common Shares, no assurances can be given that all dividends will be designated as "eligible dividends" or qualify as "eligible dividends". See "Risk Factors – Dividends".

The Board of Directors will determine the actual timing, payment and amount of dividends, if any, that may be paid by the Corporation from time to time. Payment of dividends in the future, if any, will be dependent on, among other things, fluctuations in capital expenditure requirements, debt service requirements, operating costs, foreign exchange rates and the satisfaction of the liquidity and solvency tests imposed by the Corporation's lenders and applicable corporate law for the declaration and payment of dividends. Depending on these and various other factors, many of which will be beyond the control of the Corporation, the amount of dividends paid by the Corporation could be reduced or suspended entirely. See "Risk Factors – Dividends".

Pursuant to the Credit Facility and the Senior Secured Notes, the Corporation is restricted from making dividends to its Shareholders if: (a) a demand is or has been made for the repayment of all or a portion of the amounts outstanding under the Credit Facility; (b) a default or event of default under the Credit Facility or the Senior Secured Notes has occurred or would

result from the making of such dividends or (c) the aggregate amount of all dividends and other payments made to Shareholders, on a trailing four quarters basis, exceeds "Excess Cash Flow", which is determined on the basis of EBITDA less cash income taxes less \$20 million less debt service (with debt service excluding repayments of principal in respect of the Senior Secured Notes that are financed under the Credit Facility or by the issuance of other senior secured notes).

The following is a summary of the monthly dividends made by the Corporation since January 1, 2013.

<b>For the Month Ended</b>	<b>Dividend per Common Share</b>	<b>Payment Date</b>
<b>2013</b>		
January	\$0.060	February 15, 2013
February	\$0.060	March 15, 2013
March	\$0.070	April 15, 2013
April	\$0.070	May 15, 2013
May	\$0.070	June 17, 2013
June	\$0.070	July 15, 2013
July	\$0.070	August 15, 2013
August	\$0.070	September 16, 2013
September	\$0.070	October 15, 2013
October	\$0.070	November 15, 2013
November	\$0.070	December 16, 2013
December	\$0.075	January 15, 2014
<b>2014</b>		
January	\$0.075	February 17, 2014
February	\$0.075	March 17, 2014
March	\$0.075	April 15, 2014
April	\$0.075	May 15, 2014
May	\$0.075	June 16, 2014
June	\$0.075	July 15, 2014
July	\$0.075	August 15, 2014
August	\$0.080	September 15, 2014
September	\$0.080	October 15, 2014
October	\$0.080	November 17, 2014
November	\$0.080	December 15, 2014
December	\$0.080	January 15, 2015
<b>2015</b>		
January	\$0.080	February 13, 2015
February	\$0.080	March 16, 2015
March	\$0.080	April 15, 2015
April	\$0.080	May 15, 2015
May	\$0.080	June 15, 2015
June	\$0.080	July 15, 2015
July	\$0.080	August 17, 2015
August	\$0.080	September 15, 2015
September	\$0.080	October 15, 2015
October	\$0.080	November 16, 2015
November	\$0.050	December 15, 2015
December	\$0.050	January 15, 2016
<b>2016</b>		
January	\$0.050	February 15, 2016
February	\$0.050	March 15, 2016

## NORMAL COURSE ISSUER BID

On October 6, 2014, the Corporation commenced a normal course issuer bid (the "NCIB") to purchase for cancellation up to 3,685,786 Common Shares through the facilities of the TSX. The Corporation entered into an "automatic securities purchase plan" (as defined under applicable securities laws) with an investment dealer for the purpose of making purchases under the NCIB. The Corporation acquired 1,907,700 Common Shares at an average price of \$20.38 per share for an aggregate cost of approximately \$39 million pursuant to the NCIB which expired on October 5, 2015.

## MARKET FOR SECURITIES

### Trading Price and Volume

The Common Shares are listed and posted for trading on the TSX under the symbol "BDI". The following table sets forth the high and low sales prices (which are not necessarily the closing prices) and the trading volumes for the Common Shares on the TSX as reported by the TSX for each month or, if applicable, partial month since the beginning of Black Diamond's most recently completed financial year.

<u>Period</u>	<u>Price Range (\$)</u>		<u>Trading Volume</u>
	<u>High</u>	<u>Low</u>	
<b><u>2015</u></b>			
January	13.30	9.65	3,906,280
February	14.53	9.97	4,899,384
March	14.26	12.20	7,919,008
April	17.37	12.33	4,656,138
May	18.06	14.52	4,617,190
June	18.26	14.85	4,192,886
July	17.66	13.32	2,429,743
August	14.03	6.70	6,299,668
September	10.17	7.96	9,320,309
October	10.22	7.85	5,640,320
November	8.99	6.58	5,486,164
December	7.37	5.70	3,794,801
<b><u>2016</u></b>			
January	7.39	4.32	6,185,419
February	5.81	3.82	4,321,773
March (1 to 17)	5.21	4.00	4,838,437

### Prior Issuance of Outstanding Unlisted Securities

During the year ended December 31, 2015, the only securities which Black Diamond issued which class of securities are outstanding but are not listed or quoted on a marketplace were options to purchase 765,000 Common Shares at an exercise price of \$12.35 per share granted on January 9, 2015 and options to purchase 10,000 Common Shares at an exercise price of \$13.67 per share granted on March 20, 2015.

### ESCROWED SECURITIES AND SECURITIES SUBJECT TO CONTRACTUAL RESTRICTION ON TRANSFER

To the Corporation's knowledge, none of the securities of the Corporation are held in escrow or are subject to a contractual restriction on transfer as at the date hereof.

## DIRECTORS AND EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

### Name, Occupation and Security Holdings

The following table sets forth certain information in respect of the Corporation's directors and executive officers:

Name, Province/State and Country of Residence	Position(s) with the Corporation <sup>(1)</sup>	Principal Occupation During the Five Preceding Years
Trevor Haynes Alberta, Canada	Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer and a Director	President and Chief Executive Officer of the Corporation.
Toby Labrie Alberta, Canada	Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer	Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of the Corporation since March 3, 2016; Senior Vice President, Finance of the Corporation from October 21, 2015 until March 3, 2016; from October 21, 2014 until October 21, 2015, Vice President, Finance, Structures Business Unit of the Corporation; from January 1, 2012 until October 21, 2014, Vice President, Finance and Controller of the Corporation; and prior thereto, Controller of the Corporation.
Steven Stein Alberta, Canada	Executive Vice President, President, Logistics and a Director	Executive Vice President and President, Logistics of the Corporation since October 22, 2014; Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of the Corporation; and prior thereto, Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of the Corporation.
Troy Cleland Alberta, Canada	Executive Vice President, North America and Chief Operating Officer	Executive Vice President, North America and Chief Operating Officer of the Corporation since January 1, 2016; from October 21, 2014 until January 1, 2016, Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer, Structures of the Corporation; from November 5, 2012 until October 21, 2014, Senior Vice President, Structures of the Corporation; from January 1, 2012 to November 5, 2012, Senior Vice President, Partnerships and Acquisitions of the Corporation; and prior thereto, Vice President, Corporate Development of the Corporation.
Harry Klukas Alberta, Canada	Executive Vice President, International	Executive Vice President, International of the Corporation since January 1, 2012; and prior thereto, Senior Vice President of the Corporation.
Paul G. Wright Alberta, Canada	Executive Vice President and Chief Risk Officer	Executive Vice President and Chief Risk Officer of the Corporation since March 3, 2016; and Senior Vice President, Finance, Risk and Corporate Planning of ATCO Power Ltd., a power generation facility company, from August 2011 until December 2015.



<b>Name, Province/State and Country of Residence</b>	<b>Position(s) with the Corporation <sup>(1)</sup></b>	<b>Principal Occupation During the Five Preceding Years</b>
Michael Lambert Alberta, Canada	Executive Vice President	Executive Vice President since August 8, 2014 and Chief Financial Officer of the Corporation from August 8, 2014 until March 3, 2016; from September 2011 until August 2014, Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of Parkland Fuel Corporation, a fuel and petroleum products marketing company; and prior thereto, Chief Financial Officer of the Forzani Group Ltd., a sporting goods retail company.
Glen Clark Alberta, Canada	Senior Vice President, Business Development Australia	Senior Vice President, Business Development Australia of the Corporation since September 1, 2015; from October 21, 2014 until September 1, 2015, Senior Vice President, Structures Canada of the Corporation; from January 1, 2012 until October 21, 2014, Senior Vice President, Commercial Development of the Corporation; and prior thereto, Division Vice President, Black Diamond Camps and Logistics, a former business unit of the Corporation.
Mark Lewis Alberta, Canada	General Counsel and Corporate Secretary	General Counsel of the Corporation since October 21, 2015 and Corporate Secretary of the Corporation since March 4, 2015; from November 6, 2013 until October 21, 2015, Vice President, Legal of the Corporation; from July 12, 2012 until November 6, 2013, General Counsel of the Corporation; and prior thereto, Manager, Legal at ENMAX Corporation, a power generation and distribution, and retail electricity and natural gas company.
Ann Buckingham Alberta, Canada	Vice President, Corporate Administration	Vice President, Corporate Administration of the Corporation since November 1, 2014; from October 2011 until November 1, 2014, Chief of Staff of the Corporation; and prior thereto, Chief Operations Officer for a real estate investment company.
Patrick Melanson Alberta, Canada	Vice President and Chief Information Officer	Vice President and Chief Information Officer of the Corporation since January 25, 2016; from February 3, 2014 until January 25, 2016, Vice President, Information Technology of the Corporation; from October 4, 2013 to January 31, 2014, Principle of INTECA, an information technology management consulting company; from October 1, 2012 to October 3, 2013, Senior Vice President, Product and Resource Management of EVRAZ, Inc. North America, a steel manufacturing company; and prior thereto Vice President, Chief Information Officer of EVRAZ, Inc. North America.

<b>Name, Province/State and Country of Residence</b>	<b>Position(s) with the Corporation <sup>(1)</sup></b>	<b>Principal Occupation During the Five Preceding Years</b>
Josh Skoreyko Alberta, Canada	Vice President, Camps and Lodging North America	Vice President, Camps and Lodging North America of the Corporation since October 21, 2015; from November 3, 2014 until October 21, 2015, Division Vice President, Logistics of the Corporation; and prior thereto, Senior Director of Aramark Remote Workplace Services, a remote modular camp and catering services company.
Chris Rowe Texas, United States	Vice President, BOXX Modular North America	Vice President, BOXX Modular North America of the Corporation since October 21, 2015; from January 1, 2014 until October 21, 2015, Division Vice President, Structures USA of the Corporation; and prior thereto, senior positions with BOXX Modular (North America).
Mike Klukus Alberta, Canada	Vice President, Energy Services North America	Vice President, Energy Services North America of the Corporation since October 21, 2015; from October 21, 2014 until October 21, 2015, Division Vice President, Energy Services of the Corporation; from January 1, 2012 until October 21, 2014, Division Vice President, Camps of the Corporation; and prior thereto, Division General Manager, Black Diamond Camps and Logistics, a former business unit of the Corporation.
Neil Runions Alberta, Canada	Treasurer	Treasurer of the Corporation since December 14, 2012; and prior thereto, Managing Director of the Corporate Finance Division for the Prairies at the Bank of Montreal.
Paul de Rosenroll Alberta, Canada	Vice President, Health, Safety and the Environment, Risk and Compliance	Vice President, Health, Safety and the Environment, Risk and Compliance of the Corporation since October 21, 2015; from October 21, 2014 until October 21, 2015, Vice President, Administration and Process, Structures Business Unit of the Corporation; from April 1, 2014 until October 21, 2014, Senior Vice President, Structures: Process and Administration; from January 1, 2014 until March 31, 2014, Senior Vice President, Process Improvement and Training of the Corporation; from January 1, 2013 until January 1, 2014, Senior Vice President, Facilitation Integration and Training of the Corporation; from January 1, 2012 to January 1, 2013, Senior Vice President, Facilitation Integration and Training and Health, Safety and Environment of the Corporation; and prior thereto, Vice President, Corporate Services, Health, Safety and Environment of the Corporation.
Robert G. Brawn <sup>(3)</sup> Alberta, Canada	Lead Director	President of 1573568 Alberta Ltd., a private investment company.

<b>Name, Province/State and Country of Residence</b>	<b>Position(s) with the Corporation <sup>(1)</sup></b>	<b>Principal Occupation During the Five Preceding Years</b>
Robert J. Herdman <sup>(2)</sup> Alberta, Canada	Director	Independent businessman.
Minaz Kassam <sup>(2)</sup> Alberta, Canada	Director	Managing Partner of Kassam Chartered Accountancy (formerly Kassam and Company Chartered Accountants).
Marshall McRae Alberta, Canada	Director	Independent businessman since December 31, 2014; from October 16, 2013 until December 31, 2014, Interim Executive Vice President of the Corporation and from October 16, 2013 until August 8, 2014, Interim Chief Financial Officer of the Corporation; and prior thereto, independent financial and management consultant.
David Olsson <sup>(3)</sup> Victoria, Australia	Director	Senior China Practice Consultant to King & Wood Mallesons, a law firm, since July 2013; and prior thereto, Senior Partner of King & Wood Mallesons.
Robert Wagemakers <sup>(2)(3)</sup> Alberta, Canada	Director	Independent businessman since July 31, 2012; from July 31, 2011 to July 30, 2012, Special Consultant to Nabors Drilling, a division of Nabors Canada; and prior thereto, Vice President, Marketing of Nabors Drilling.

## Notes:

- (1) All of the directors of the Corporation have been appointed to hold office until the next annual general meeting of Shareholders or until their successor is duly elected or appointed, unless their office is earlier vacated. Messrs. Haynes and Stein have been directors of the Corporation since October 7, 2009, Messrs. Brawn, Kassam and Wagemakers have been directors of the Corporation since November 11, 2009, Mr. Herdman has been a director of the Corporation since March 7, 2012, Mr. McRae has been a director of the Corporation since March 4, 2015 and Mr. Olsson has been a director of the Corporation since January 1, 2014. Prior to the Conversion, Messrs. Brawn, Kassam and Wagemakers were directors of BDI, the former administrator of the Fund, since June 2006. Messrs. Haynes and Stein have been directors of BDI since June 2006.
- (2) Member of the Audit Committee.
- (3) Member of the Compensation, Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee.
- (4) The Corporation does not have an executive committee.

As at the date of this Annual Information Form, the executive officers and directors of the Corporation, beneficially owned, or controlled or directed, directly or indirectly, an aggregate of 5,641,813 Common Shares, being approximately 13.7% of the outstanding Common Shares.

### Cease Trade Orders, Bankruptcies, Penalties or Sanctions

#### *Bankruptcies*

To the knowledge of Black Diamond, except as described below, no director or executive officer of Black Diamond (nor any personal holding company of any of such persons) or shareholder holding a sufficient number of securities of Black Diamond to affect materially the control of Black Diamond: (a) is, as of the date of this Annual Information Form, or has been within the ten years before the date of this Annual Information Form, a director or executive officer of any company (including Black Diamond) that, while that person was acting in that capacity, or within a year of that person ceasing to act in that capacity, became bankrupt, made a proposal under any legislation relating to bankruptcy or insolvency or was subject to or instituted any proceedings, arrangement or compromise with creditors or had a receiver, receiver manager or trustee

appointed to hold its assets; or (b) has, within the ten years before the date of this Annual Information Form, become bankrupt, made a proposal under any legislation relating to bankruptcy or insolvency, or become subject to or instituted any proceedings, arrangement or compromise with creditors, or had a receiver, receiver manager or trustee appointed to hold the assets of the director, executive officer or shareholder.

Robert Herdman, a director of Black Diamond, served as a director of SemBioSys Genetics Inc. ("**SemBioSys**"), a development stage biotechnology company, until May 1, 2012. On June 22, 2012, a secured creditor of SemBioSys was granted an order under the *Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act* (Canada) appointing a receiver to take possession of and deal with specific assets of SemBioSys which had been pledged to that creditor.

#### ***Cease Trade Orders***

To the knowledge of Black Diamond, except as described below, no director or executive officer of Black Diamond (nor any personal holding company of any of such persons) is, as of the date of this Annual Information Form, or was within ten years before the date of this Annual Information Form, a director, chief executive officer or chief financial officer of any company (including Black Diamond), that: (a) was subject to a cease trade order (including a management cease trade order), an order similar to a cease trade order or an order that denied the relevant company access to any exemption under securities legislation, in each case that was in effect for a period of more than 30 consecutive days (collectively, an "**Order**"), that was issued while the director or executive officer was acting in the capacity as director, chief executive officer or chief financial officer; or (b) was subject to an Order that was issued after the director or executive officer ceased to be a director, chief executive officer or chief financial officer and which resulted from an event that occurred while that person was acting in the capacity as director, chief executive officer or chief financial officer.

Robert Herdman, a director of Black Diamond, served as a director of SemBioSys until May 1, 2012. On May 25, 2012, the Alberta Securities Commission issued a cease trade order against SemBioSys for failure to file the required certification of interim filings for the interim period ended March 31, 2012. The securities commission of each of British Columbia, Manitoba, Ontario and Quebec issued similar orders in respect of the failure to file the certification of interim filings.

#### ***Penalties or Sanctions***

To the knowledge of Black Diamond, no director or executive officer of Black Diamond (nor any personal holding company of any of such persons), or shareholder holding a sufficient number of securities of Black Diamond to affect materially the control of Black Diamond, has been subject to: (a) any penalties or sanctions imposed by a court relating to securities legislation or by a securities regulatory authority or has entered into a settlement agreement with a securities regulatory authority; or (b) any other penalties or sanctions imposed by a court or regulatory body that would likely be considered important to a reasonable investor in making an investment decision.

#### **Conflicts of Interest**

There are potential conflicts of interest to which the directors and officers of the Corporation will be subject in connection with the operations of Black Diamond. In particular, certain of the directors and officers of the Corporation are involved in managerial or director positions with other companies whose operations may, from time to time, be in direct competition with those of Black Diamond or with entities, from time to time, provide financing to, or make equity investments in, competitors of Black Diamond or supply services to the Corporation. Conflicts, if any, will be subject to the procedures and remedies available under the ABCA. See "Risk Factors – Conflicts of Interest". The ABCA requires a director or officer of a corporation who is a party to, or is a director or an officer of, or has a material interest in any person who is a party to, a material contract or proposed material contract with the Corporation, to disclose his or her interest and, in the case of directors, to refrain from voting on any matter in respect of such contract unless otherwise permitted under the ABCA.

## **LEGAL PROCEEDINGS AND REGULATORY ACTIONS**

### **Legal Proceedings**

The Corporation is not a party to any legal proceeding nor was it a party to, nor is or was any of its property the subject of any legal proceeding, during the financial year ended December 31, 2015, nor is the Corporation aware of any such contemplated legal proceedings, which involve a claim for damages, exclusive of interest and costs, that may exceed 10% of the current assets of the Corporation.

### **Regulatory Actions**

During the financial year ended December 31, 2015, there were no (i) penalties or sanctions imposed against the Corporation by a court relating to securities legislation or by a securities regulatory authority; (ii) any other penalties or sanctions imposed by a court or regulatory body against the Corporation that would likely be considered important to a reasonable investor in making an investment decision, or (iii) settlement agreements the Corporation entered into before a court relating to securities legislation or with a securities regulatory authority.

## **INTEREST OF MANAGEMENT AND OTHERS IN MATERIAL TRANSACTIONS**

There are no material interests, direct or indirect, of any director or executive officer of the Corporation, any person or company that beneficially owns, or controls or directs, directly or indirectly, more than 10% of any class or series of the Corporation's outstanding voting securities, or any associate or affiliate of any of the foregoing persons or companies, in any transaction within the three most recently completed financial years or during the current financial year which has materially affected or is reasonably expected to materially affect the Corporation, other than as disclosed elsewhere in this Annual Information Form including the divestiture on July 31, 2015 by the Corporation of its construction services operation to Northern Frontier Corp., a company of which Trevor Haynes, the Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Corporation, is the Chairman and a shareholder. See "General Development of the Business – Three Year History – Year Ended December 31, 2015".

## **TRANSFER AGENT AND REGISTRAR**

The registrar and transfer agent for the Common Shares is Computershare Trust Company of Canada, at its principal offices in Calgary, Alberta and Toronto, Ontario.

## **MATERIAL CONTRACTS**

Except for contracts entered into in the ordinary course of business (unless otherwise required by applicable securities requirements to be disclosed), there were no material contracts entered into by the Corporation or its subsidiaries during the most recently completed financial year, or before the most recently completed financial year that are still in effect other than the Rights Plan referred to under the description "Description of Capital Structure – Shareholder Protection Rights Plan" and the Credit Facility referred to under the description "Description of Capital Structure – Long Term Debt Structure – Committed Extendible Revolving Operating Facility".

## **INTERESTS OF EXPERTS**

### **Name of Expert**

The only person or company who is named as having prepared or certified a report, valuation, statement or opinion described or included in a filing, or referred to in a filing, made under National Instrument 51-102 by the Corporation during, or relating to, the Corporation's most recently completed financial year, and whose profession or business gives authority to the report, valuation, statement or opinion made by the person or company, is Ernst & Young LLP, Chartered Professional Accountants, the Corporation's independent auditors.

### Interests of Expert

Neither Ernst & Young LLP, Chartered Professional Accountants, nor any partner or employee of Ernst & Young LLP, Chartered Professional Accountants, is or is expected to be elected, appointed or employed as a director, officer or employee of the Corporation or of any associate or affiliate of the Corporation.

Ernst & Young LLP, Chartered Professional Accountants, is independent of the Corporation in accordance with the Chartered Professional Accountants of Alberta Rules of Professional Conduct.

### AUDIT COMMITTEE INFORMATION

#### Audit Committee Mandate and Terms of Reference

The Mandate and Terms of Reference of the Audit Committee of the Board of Directors is attached hereto as Schedule "A".

#### Composition of the Audit Committee

The Audit Committee of the Corporation is comprised of Robert J. Herdman (Chair), Minaz Kassam and Robert Wagemakers.

The following table sets out an assessment of each of Audit Committee member's independence, financial literacy and relevant educational background and experience supporting such financial literacy.

<u>Name and Municipality of Residence</u>	<u>Independent</u>	<u>Financially Literate</u>	<u>Relevant Education and Experience</u>
Robert J. Herdman (Chair) Calgary, Alberta	Yes	Yes	Mr. Herdman's education and experience relevant to the performance of his responsibilities as an Audit Committee member are derived from his in excess of 20 years experience as a senior audit partner with PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP (a public accounting firm) during which time Mr. Herdman had extensive dealings with audit committees and boards of large public companies, extensive exposure to the regulatory and compliance environment in Canada and the United States. Mr. Herdman is a Chartered Accountant and is Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants. Mr. Herdman received a Bachelor of Education degree from the University of Calgary.

<u>Name and Municipality of Residence</u>	<u>Independent</u>	<u>Financially Literate</u>	<u>Relevant Education and Experience</u>
Minaz Kassam Calgary, Alberta	Yes	Yes	Mr. Kassam's education and experience relevant to the performance of his responsibilities as an Audit Committee member are derived from his experience as a Chartered Accountant. Mr. Kassam is the Managing Partner of Kassam Chartered Accountancy (formerly Kassam and Company Chartered Accountants), a position he has held since September 2007. From 1994 to September 2007, Mr. Kassam was a Senior Partner with Vertefeuille Kassam, Chartered Accountants LLP. Mr. Kassam has also developed practical experience and understanding of procedures for financial reporting from his service on boards and audit committees of numerous public and private issuers. Mr. Kassam received his Bachelor of Commerce from the University of Calgary in 1988 and is a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Alberta.
Robert Wagemakers Calgary, Alberta	Yes	Yes	Mr. Wagemakers' experience relevant to the performance or his responsibilities as an Audit Committee member are derived from his more than 39 years experience in the oil and natural gas sector during which time, Mr. Wagemakers has developed practical experience for financial reporting through his interaction with Chief Financial Officers over the years including during his tenure as Special Consultant for Nabors Drilling, a division of Nabors Canada from July 31, 2011 to July 30, 2012 and prior thereto, as Vice President, Marketing for Nabors Drilling from 2001 until July 2011. In 2013, Mr. Wagemakers graduated from the Directors Education Program of the Institute of Corporate Directors.

### **Pre-Approval of Policies and Procedures**

Under the Mandate and Terms of Reference of the Audit Committee, the Audit Committee is required to review and pre-approve any non-audit services to be provided to the Corporation or its subsidiaries by the external auditors and consider the impact on the independence of such auditors. The Audit Committee may delegate to one or more independent members the authority to pre-approve non-audit services, provided that the member report to the Audit Committee at the next scheduled meeting such pre-approval and the member comply with such other procedures as may be established by the Audit Committee from time to time.

The Audit Committee has determined that in order to ensure the continued independence of the auditors, only limited non-audit related services will be provided to the Corporation by Ernst & Young LLP, Chartered Professional Accountants, and in such case, only with the prior approval of the Audit Committee.

### **Audit Service Fees**

The Audit Committee has reviewed the nature and amount of non-audit services provided by Ernst & Young LLP, Chartered Professional Accountants, to the Corporation to ensure auditor independence. The following table provides information about the fees billed to Black Diamond and its subsidiaries for professional services rendered by Ernst & Young LLP, Chartered Professional Accountants, Black Diamond's external auditor, in each of the last two fiscal years:

Nature of Services	Aggregate Fees Billed	
	Year Ended December 31, 2015	Year Ended December 31, 2014
Audit Fees <sup>(1)</sup>	\$432,950	\$421,500
Audit-Related Fees <sup>(2)</sup>	\$72,000	\$84,000
Tax Fees <sup>(3)</sup>	\$149,329	\$209,695
All Other Fees <sup>(4)</sup>	\$54,780	\$Nil
Total	\$709,059	\$715,195

## Notes:

- (1) "Audit Fees" include fees necessary to perform the annual audit and quarterly reviews of the Corporation's consolidated financial statements. Audit Fees include fees for review of tax provisions and for accounting consultations on matters reflected in the financial statements. Audit Fees also include audit or other attest services required by legislation or regulation, such as comfort letters, consents, reviews of securities filings and statutory audits.
- (2) "Audit-Related Fees" include services that are traditionally performed by the auditor. These audit-related services include employee benefit audits, due diligence assistance, accounting consultations on proposed transactions, internal control reviews and audit or attest services not required by legislation or regulation.
- (3) "Tax Fees" include fees for all tax services other than those included in "Audit Fees" and "Audit-Related Fees". This category includes fees for tax compliance, tax planning and tax advice. Tax planning and tax advice includes assistance with tax audits and appeals, tax advice related to mergers and acquisitions, and requests for rulings or technical advice from tax authorities.
- (4) "All Other Fees" include all other non-audit services.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Additional information relating to Black Diamond may be found on SEDAR at [www.sedar.com](http://www.sedar.com).

Additional information, including directors' and officers' remuneration and indebtedness, principal holders of Black Diamond's securities and securities authorized for issuance under equity compensation plans will be contained in Black Diamond's information circular – proxy statement relating to the annual meeting of Shareholders to be held on May 3, 2016.

Additional information is also provided in Black Diamond's consolidated financial statements and management's discussion and analysis for the year ended December 31, 2015, which documents may be found on the Corporation's SEDAR profile located at [www.sedar.com](http://www.sedar.com).



## SCHEDULE "A"

### AUDIT COMMITTEE

#### MANDATE AND TERMS OF REFERENCE

##### Role and Objective

The Audit Committee (the "**Committee**") is a committee of the board of directors (the "**Board**") of Black Diamond Group Limited ("**Black Diamond**" or the "**Corporation**") to which the Board has delegated its responsibility for the oversight of the following:

1. nature and scope of the annual audit;
2. the oversight of management's reporting on internal accounting standards and practices;
3. the review of financial information, accounting systems and procedures; and
4. financial reporting and financial statements,

and has charged the Committee with the responsibility of recommending, for approval of the Board, the audited financial statements, interim financial statements and other mandatory disclosure releases containing financial information.

The primary objectives of the Committee are as follows:

1. to assist directors of Black Diamond in meeting their responsibilities (especially for accountability) in respect of the preparation and disclosure of the financial statements of Black Diamond and related matters;
2. to facilitate communication between directors and the external auditors;
3. to consider the external auditor's independence;
4. to consider the credibility and objectivity of financial reports; and
5. to preserve the role of the outside directors by facilitating in depth discussions between directors on the Committee, management and the external auditors.

##### Membership of Committee

1. The Committee will be comprised of at least three (3) directors of Black Diamond or such greater number as the Board may determine from time to time and all members of the Committee shall be "independent" (as such term is used in National Instrument 52-110 – Audit Committees ("**NI 52-110**") unless the Board determines that the exemption contained in NI 52-110 is available and determines to rely thereon.
2. The Board may from time to time designate one of the members of the Committee to be the Chair of the Committee.
3. All of the members of the Committee must be "financially literate" (as defined in NI 52-110) unless the Board determines that an exemption under NI 52-110 from such requirement in respect of any particular member is available and determines to rely thereon in accordance with the provisions of NI 52-110.

##### Mandate and Responsibilities of Committee

It is the responsibility of the Committee to:

1. Oversee the work of the external auditors, including the resolution of any disagreements between management and the external auditors regarding financial reporting.
2. Satisfy itself on behalf of the Board with respect to Black Diamond's internal control systems.
3. Review the annual and interim financial statements of Black Diamond and related management's discussion and analysis ("**MD&A**") prior to their submission to the Board for approval. The process should include but not be limited to:
  - reviewing changes in accounting principles and policies, or in their application, which may have a material impact on the current or future years' financial statements;
  - reviewing significant accruals, reserves or other estimates such as the goodwill impairment evaluation;
  - reviewing accounting treatment of unusual or non-recurring transactions;
  - ascertaining compliance with covenants under loan agreements;
  - reviewing disclosure requirements for commitments and contingencies;
  - reviewing adjustments raised by the external auditors, whether or not included in the financial statements;
  - reviewing unresolved differences between management and the external auditors;
  - monitoring the effectiveness of the financial reporting environment; and
  - obtaining explanations of significant variances with comparative reporting periods.
4. Review the financial statements, prospectuses and other offering documents, MD&A, annual information forms ("**AIF**") and all public disclosure containing audited or unaudited financial information (including, without limitation, annual and interim press releases and any other press releases disclosing earnings or financial results) before release and prior to Board approval. The Committee must be satisfied that adequate procedures are in place for the review of Black Diamond's disclosure of all other financial information and will periodically assess the accuracy of those procedures.
5. Review and approve the disclosure of audit committee information required to be included in the AIF of the Corporation prior to its filing with regulatory authorities.
6. With respect to the appointment of the external auditors by the Board:
  - recommend to the Board the external auditors to be nominated;
  - recommend to the Board the terms of engagement of the external auditor, including the compensation of the auditors and a confirmation that the external auditors will report directly to the Committee;
  - on an annual basis, assess the reasonableness of the audit fee;
  - on an annual basis, conduct an assessment of the external auditor's performance;
  - on an annual basis, review and discuss with the external auditors all significant relationships such auditors have with the Corporation to determine the auditors' independence;
  - when there is to be a change in auditors, review the issues related to the change and the information to be included in the required notice to securities regulators of such change; and

- review and pre-approve any non-audit services to be provided to Black Diamond or its subsidiaries by the external auditors and consider the impact on the independence of such auditors. The Committee may delegate to one or more independent members the authority to pre-approve non-audit services, provided that the member(s) report to the Committee at the next scheduled meeting such pre-approval and the member(s) comply with such other procedures as may be established by the Committee from time to time.
7. Review with the external auditors (and internal auditor if one is appointed by Black Diamond) their assessment of the internal controls of Black Diamond, their written reports containing recommendations for improvement, and management's response and follow-up to any identified weaknesses. The Committee will also review annually with the external auditors their plan for their audit and consider the impact of business risks of the Corporation on the audit plan. The Committee will monitor the execution of the audit plan, with emphasis on the more complex and risky areas of the audit. Upon completion of the audit, the Committee will review annually with the external auditors their report upon the consolidated financial statements of Black Diamond and its subsidiaries and the Committee will evaluate the audit findings contained in the audit report.
  8. Review with the external auditors on an annual basis the Canadian Public Accountability Board's ("**CPAB**") public inspection results report and, in a year when the Corporation's file is inspected by CPAB, the Committee will also review with the external auditors the inspection findings contained in such report.
  9. Review risk management policies and procedures of Black Diamond (i.e. hedging, litigation and insurance) and consider the impact of business risks on the audit plan.
  10. Establish a procedure for:
    - the receipt, retention and treatment of complaints received by Black Diamond regarding accounting, internal accounting controls or auditing matters; and
    - the confidential, anonymous submission by employees of Black Diamond of concerns regarding questionable accounting or auditing matters.
  11. Review and approve Black Diamond's hiring policies regarding partners and employees and former partners and employees of the present and former external auditors of Black Diamond.
  12. Complete a comprehensive review of the external audit firm on a periodic basis, once every five years at minimum, which comprehensive review will generally include an evaluation of the following:
    - trends in the audit firm's performance, industry expertise and professional skepticism;
    - the quality control environment of the audit firm, including safeguards against independent threats;
    - the quality of thought, leadership and transparency of communications on any controversial matters;
    - the results of annual assessments, how the firm has responded to those assessments and how the firm handled any partner rotations during the period; and
    - the quality of the engagement team.

The Committee has authority to communicate directly with the internal auditors (if any) and the external auditors of the Corporation. The external auditors shall be required to report directly to the Committee. The Committee will also have the authority to investigate any financial activity of Black Diamond. All employees of Black Diamond are to cooperate as requested by the Committee.

The Committee may also retain persons having special expertise and/or obtain independent professional advice to assist in filling their responsibilities at such compensation as established by the Committee and at the expense of Black Diamond without any further approval of the Board.

### **Meetings and Administrative Matters**

1. At all meetings of the Committee every resolution shall be decided by a majority of the votes cast. In case of an equality of votes, the Chairman of the meeting will be entitled to a second or casting vote.
2. The Chair will preside at all meetings of the Committee, unless the Chair is not present, in which case the members of the Committee that are present will designate from among such members the Chair for purposes of the meeting.
3. A quorum for meetings of the Committee will be a majority of its members, and the rules for calling, holding, conducting and adjourning meetings of the Committee will be the same as those governing the Board unless otherwise determined by the Committee or the Board.
4. Meetings of the Committee should be scheduled to take place at least four times per year. Minutes of all meetings of the Committee will be taken. The Chief Financial Officer will attend meetings of the Committee, unless otherwise excused from all or part of any such meeting by the Chairman.
5. The Committee will meet with the external auditor at least once per year (in connection with the preparation of the year-end financial statements) and at such other times as the external auditor and the Committee consider appropriate.
6. Agendas will be circulated to Committee members along with background information on a timely basis prior to the Committee meetings.
7. The Committee may invite such officers, directors and employees of the Corporation and its subsidiaries as it sees fit from time to time to attend at meetings of the Committee and assist in the discussion and consideration of the matters being considered by the Committee.
8. Minutes of the Committee will be recorded and maintained and circulated to directors who are not members of the Committee or otherwise made available at a subsequent meeting of the Board.
9. The Committee may retain persons having special expertise and may obtain independent professional advice to assist in fulfilling its responsibilities at the expense of the Corporation.
10. Any members of the Committee may be removed or replaced at any time by the Board and will cease to be a member of the Committee as soon as such member ceases to be a director. The Board may fill vacancies on the Committee by appointment from among its members. If and whenever a vacancy exists on the Committee, the remaining members may exercise all its powers so long as two members remain on the Committee. Subject to the foregoing, following appointment as a member of the Committee, each member will hold such office until the Committee is reconstituted.
11. Any issues arising from these meetings that bear on the relationship between the Board and management should be communicated to the Lead Director of the Board by the Committee Chair.