# MAWSON GOLD LIMITED

### MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS FOR THE NINE MONTHS ENDED FEBRUARY 28, 2023

This discussion and analysis of financial position and results of operations is prepared as at April 13, 2023, and should be read in conjunction with the unaudited condensed consolidated interim financial statements and the accompanying notes for the nine months ended February 28, 2023 of Mawson Gold Limited ("Mawson" or the "Company"). The following disclosure and associated financial statements are presented in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards ("IFRS"). Except as otherwise disclosed, all dollar figures included therein and in the following management's discussion and analysis ("MD&A") are quoted in Canadian dollars.

## **Forward Looking Statements**

This MD&A contains certain statements that may constitute "forward-looking statements". Forward-looking statements include but are not limited to, statements regarding future anticipated exploration programs and the timing thereof, and business and financing plans and are based on material factors and assumptions and subject to a variety of risks and uncertainties which could cause actual events or results to differ materially from the forward-looking statements. These include, without limitation, material factors and assumptions relating to, and risks and uncertainties associated with, the availability of financing for activities when required and on acceptable terms, the accuracy of the interpretation of drill results and the estimation of mineral resources and reserves, the geology, grade and continuity of mineral deposits, the consistency of future exploration, development or mining results with our expectations, metal price fluctuations, the achievement and maintenance of planned production rates, the accuracy of component costs of capital and operating cost estimates, current and future environmental and regulatory requirements, favourable governmental relations and support for the development and operation of mining projects, the threat associated with outbreaks of viruses and infectious diseases, including the novel COVID-19 virus, risks related to negative publicity with respect to the Company or the mining industry in general, reliance on a single asset, planned drill programs and results varying from expectations; litigation risks, the availability of permits and the timeliness of the permitting process, local community relations, dealings with non-governmental organizations ("NGOs"), the availability of shipping services, the availability of specialized vehicles and similar equipment, costs of remediation and mitigation, maintenance of title to our mineral properties, industrial accidents, equipment breakdowns, contractor's costs, remote site transportation costs, materials costs for remediation, labour disputes, the potential for delays in exploration or development activities, the preliminary nature of the Rajapalot PEA and the Company's ability to realize the results of the Rajapalot PEA timely completion of future National Instrument 43 101 - Standards of Disclosure for Mineral Projects ("NI 43 101") compliant reports, timely completion of future National Instrument 43 101 - Standards of Disclosure for Mineral Projects ("NI 43 101") compliant reports, timely completion of future feasibility studies, the inherent uncertainty of production and cost estimates and the potential for unexpected costs and expenses, commodity price fluctuations, currency fluctuations, continuing global demand for base metals, and other risks and uncertainties, including those described under "Risk Factors" in the Company's most recent Annual Information Form. Although the Company has attempted to identify important factors that could cause actual actions, events or results to differ materially from those described in forward Looking statements, there may be other factors that cause actions, events or results not to be as anticipated, estimated or intended. The Company provides no assurance that Forward Looking Statements will prove to be accurate. Should one or more of these risks and uncertainties materialize, or should underlying assumptions prove incorrect, actual results may vary materially from any conclusions, forecasts or projections described in the Forward-looking statements. Accordingly, readers are advised not to place undue reliance on Forward Looking Statements. Except as required under applicable securities law, the Company undertakes no obligation to publicly update or revise forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

Historical results of operations and trends that may be inferred from this MD&A may not necessarily indicate future results from operations. In particular, the current state of the global securities markets may cause significant reductions in the price of the Company's securities and render it difficult or impossible for the Company to raise the funds necessary to continue operations.

All of the Company's public disclosure filings, including its most recent management information circular, Annual Information Form, material change reports, press releases and other information, may be accessed via <a href="www.sedar.com">www.sedar.com</a>

or the Company's website at <a href="www.mawsongold.com">www.mawsongold.com</a> and readers are urged to review these materials, including the technical report filed with respect to the Company's mineral properties.

### **Company Overview**

The Company was incorporated on March 10, 2004 under the provisions of the Company Act (British Columbia). The Company's common shares trade on the Toronto Stock Exchange ("TSX") under the symbol "MAW", on the Frankfurt Open Market under the trading symbol "MXR" and on the OTC Pink under the symbol "MWSNF.PK".

Mawson is an exploration and development company. Its flagship Rajapalot gold-cobalt project in Finland is at PEA stage and continues technical and environmental de-risking activities whilst it continues in parallel to increase its already significant gold-cobalt resource through exploration. In Sweden, Mawson is earning into up to 85% of the Skelleftea North outcropping gold exploration project. Mawson also owns 51% of Southern Cross Gold Ltd. ("Southern Cross"), which resulted from a spin-out of Mawson's Australian mineral properties onto the Australian Securities Exchange ("ASX") via an initial public offering ("IPO") in May 2022.

### Recent highlights include:

- Released the maiden preliminary economic assessment ("PEA") on Rajapalot, outlining an after tax NPVs of US \$211,000,000 at 27% IRR. Rajapalot is envisaged as a nine year mine life at a steady state average production of 92 koz gold equivalent for total production of around 700 koz of gold and 2,800 t cobalt at an attractive AISC of US \$824/oz Au. If in steady-state production today, Rajapalot would be the EUs sixth largest gold mine and third largest cobalt mine.
- Completed the restructuring of Mawson's Australian assets into a new entity, Southern Cross which was IPO'd onto the ASX in May 2022. In total Southern Cross has raised AUD \$27,800,000 of external capital, diluting Mawson's ownership to 51%. Mawson's shareholding had a value of ~AUD \$65 m (~CDN \$59 m as of March 29, 2023), and is subject to an ASX escrow until May 2024.
- Completed a 5,000 ha magnetic survey of Rompas-Rajapalot, and announced the results which highlighted over 30 exploration targets in a 4 km x 4 km area lying between Rajapalot inferred resource, and the ~10 km long sub-cropping Rompas system which reported a drilling highlight of 6 m at 617 g/t Au. The targets are structurally dominant, similar to those responsible for ~5 Moz Au in recent Finnish discoveries.
- Commenced a series of exploration programs, which will undertake geochemical sampling and base of till ("BOT") drilling to develop regional exploration targets for incremental resource growth.
- Mawson's subsidiary Southern Cross' continued exploration success at Sunday Creek. Highlight holes from the project include 119.2 metres @ 3.9 g/t AuEq (3.2 g/t Au and 0.4% Sb), 305.8 m @ 2.4 g/t AuEq (1.6 g/t Au, 0.5% Sb), and 42.0 m @ 4.8 g/t AuEq (3.5 g/t Au and 0.8% Sb). Step-out and infill drilling continues across multiple prospects which along a >1,350 m drill-defined strike to 800 m depth, with 4 rigs active on site, and plans to move to 5 rigs during 2023.
- Exploration success at Skelleftea North, with high grades intercepted in the first 2 holes ever drilled into the property. The highlight intersection was 1.8 m at 28.4 g/t Au, including 0.4 m at 132 g/t Au in DB2202 and included visible gold. Mawson acquired an option to earn up to 85% of the 2,500 ha property, which sits within 22 km of 7moz ounces mined production, in January 2022.
- Progressed permit critical items for Rajapalot permitting. including environmental baseline work and
  incorporation of feedback of the evaluation and participation plan related to the land use planning process.
  A recent country-wide survey also found that Rajapalot's local municipality has one of the most favourable
  views on mining in Finland.

The preliminary economic assessment for Rajapalot is preliminary in nature, includes inferred resources that are considered too speculative geologically to have the economic considerations applied to them that would enable them to be categorized as mineral reserves and there is no certainty the preliminary economic assessment will be realized. For additional details on the Rajapalot preliminary economic assessment, please refer to the news release dated October 20, 2022, and the NI 43-101 technical report filed on November 29, 2022 which may be found on the Company's website at <a href="https://www.mawsongold.com">www.mawsongold.com</a> and under the Company's profile on SEDAR at <a href="https://www.sedar.com">www.sedar.com</a>.

## **Director and Officer Update**

Effective March 21, 2023 the Company accepted the resignation of Mr. Ivan Fairhall as Chief Executive Officer ("CEO") and director of the Company. Upon Mr. Fairhall's resignation, Ms. Noora Ahola, a current director of the

Company, was appointed to the role of Interim CEO. Mr. Fairhall will remain as a consultant to the Company to ensure a smooth handover of affairs.

Ms. Ahola joined Mawson in 2014 as Manager Environment, and has served as the Company's Environmental Director since 2016 and was appointed as Managing Director of the Company's wholly owned Finnish subsidiary, Mawson Oy, in 2020. Ms. Ahola's skills and technical experience has been instrumental in the day-to-day local operations in Finland. Working together with the Company's management and technical teams, Ms. Ahola's appointment as the Company's Interim CEO ensures minimal disruption in operations and continued focus on the long-term growth of the Company and its projects.

On February 13, 2023 the Company announced the appointment of Mr. Bruce Griffin to the Board of Directors of Mawson, as Independent Director. Mr. Griffin is an accomplished resources industry professional with over 30 years of experience. He serves as Executive Chairman of Sheffield Resources Ltd. and as a non-executive director of CVW CleanTech Inc. In addition, Mr. Griffin has held several chief executive and senior management roles with mineral sands and titanium dioxide pigment companies. Prior roles include executive, commercial, strategy and management consulting positions with BHP, Graincorp and Bain & Company, which followed a 9-year career with Shell. He holds undergraduate degrees in chemical engineering and economics, as well as a Master of Business Administration.

As of the date of this MD&A the directors and officers of the Company are as follows:

Michael Hudson Director, Executive Chairman

Noora Ahola Director, Interim CEO Nick DeMare Chief Financial Officer

Colin Maclean Director
Philip Williams Director
John Jentz Director
Bruce Griffin Director

Mariana Bermudez Corporate Secretary

### **Property Assets and Exploration Activities**

#### Finland

Mawson's flagship is the 100%-owned Rajapalot gold-cobalt project, located 30 km by car from Rovaniemi, the capital of Finnish Lapland. At Rajapalot, the Company has made a significant greenfield discovery and on November 29, 2022 published a maiden PEA on the asset. Highlights of the PEA are as follows:

#### Robust economics which underscore significant value of current resource base

- o \$211 M post-tax NPV<sub>5</sub> using \$1,700/oz gold ("Au") and \$60,000/t cobalt ("Co")
- o AISC<sup>1</sup> \$824/oz Au life of mine ("LoM")
- >92 koz gold equivalent "AuEq²" steady state average production rate.
- o 9 year LoM producing ~700 koz Au and ~2800 t Co

## • A significant European mine

- If in production today, Rajapalot could be the EU's third largest cobalt mine and sixth largest gold mine
- o Ethical metals sourcing with majority local support and 100% renewable power

# • 27% post tax IRR, \$191 M initial capex

Strong cashflows, with \$338 M free cash flow in years 1 to 5, and \$101 M in LoM cobalt by-product revenues

Table 1: PEA key production and financial metrics

Production Input		Life of Mine
Mill Feed (underground)	Mt ROM	10.1
Annual Throughput	Mt/a	1.2
Life of Mine	years	9
Gold Head Grade	g/t Au	2.26
Gold Content	koz	736
Feed to Co Processing <sup>1</sup>	Mt	6.1
Cobalt Head Grade	ppm	529
Sulphur Head Grade	%	2.07%
Cobalt Content	t Co	3,203
Gold Recovery	%	95%
Cobalt Recovery	%	88%
Sulphur Recovery	%	88%

Production Output		Y 2-8	LoM
Gold Production	koz Au	82	699
Cobalt Production	kt Co	306	2,806
AuEq Production	koz AuEq	92	798
Cobalt Concentrate	kt (dry)	34	314
Cobalt Con grade	% Co	3.0	9%

Financial Metric		Life of Mine
Au Price	US\$/oz	1,700
Co Price	US\$/t	60,000
EUR:USD	100	1.1
Discount rate	%	5%
Corp tax rate	%	20%
Depreciation rate	%	25%
Capex (initial / sustaining)	US\$ M	191 / 100
Opex	US\$ M	566
Revenue	US\$ M	1,286
Gold	US\$ M	1,185
Cobalt	US\$ M	101
Ave EBITDA (years 2-8)	US\$ M	84
After tax FCF (years 1-5)	US\$ M	338
Pre-tax NPV5	US\$ M	271
Pre-tax IRR	%	30%
Post-tax NPV	US\$ M	211
Post-tax IRR	%	27%
Post-tax payback	years	2.9

US\$/oz Au 1. Proportion of mined material campaign processed through flotation

The PEA highlights a number of fundamental efficiencies that the Rajapalot project enjoys, including:

824

- Robust resource, with 85% of ounces delineated extracted through conventional and efficient mechanized underground mining techniques.
- Underground only mining operation, utilising predominately long hole open stoping, which is cost effective and widely used in the region.
- High 95% gold recovery to dore through a conventional and energy efficient gravity + CIL extraction circuit.
- Cobalt concentrate production via a single low cost increment flotation processing circuit that follows CIL
- Access to low cost renewable power, with the powerline connecting 28km direct to an existing hydropower substation.
- Low infrastructure burden, located just 30km from the capital of Lapland. Power line and ~15 km water discharge line are the only new connections necessary.
- Access to a relatively inexpensive and highly skilled and productive labour force.

### Strategic Cobalt

AISC

Cobalt has been identified by the EU as a "critical raw material", and Rajapalot is already Europe's 7th largest cobalt resource, in addition to being one of Finland's largest gold resources by grade and contained ounces. At the scale proposed in the PEA, Rajapalot would be the EU's 3rd largest cobalt producing mine if it were in production based on 2021 metrics.

Finland refines half the world's cobalt at the world's second largest cobalt refinery (China has the largest), located 400 kilometres south of Rajapalot. The Rajapalot resource has the potential to support Finland and Europe's stated desires to source ethical and sustainable cobalt.

Mawson has benefited from numerous grants, predominately in support of leveraging its cobalt potential. BATCircle is a Business Finland funded program designed to create a competitive and sustainable European battery industry through collaboration and joint research between companies and research organizations. Mawson's wholly owned Finnish subsidiary Mawson Oy was granted €500k (~C\$750k) in co-funding as part of BATCircle 1.0, with that program completed in April 2021. In May 2021 Mawson Oy was granted a further €795k (~C\$1.1m) in funding under

the BATCircle 2.0 program to further study cobalt extraction, marketing and residues management. Further grants and cooperations have been in place regarding exploration, environmental, circular economy and social work programs.

Mawson is a member of the European Raw Material Alliance ("ERMA"). The ERMA aims to make Europe economically more resilient by diversifying its supply chains, creating jobs, attracting investments to the raw materials value chain, fostering innovation, training young talent and contributing to the best enabling framework for raw materials and the Circular Economy worldwide.

Proposal of the European Union's Critical Raw Material Act (CRMA) was published on 16 March 2023 and it aims to increase production of critical battery minerals including cobalt inside the EU.

The proposed regulation divided critical raw materials into two key categories:

- Strategic raw materials used in green transition, digitalisation, and defense industry technologies. For these raw materials, there is a significant gap between global supply and demand, and increasing production is relatively difficult. Strategic raw materials include e.g. cobalt, copper, lithium (battery grade), manganese (battery grade), natural graphite (battery grade), nickel (battery grade), platinum group metals, and rare earth elements for magnets (Nd, Pr, Tb, Dy, Gd, Sm, and Ce).
- Critical raw materials are those that are of economic importance to Europe with a high risk of a supply disruption. Critical raw materials include the strategic raw materials plus e.g. hafnium, heavy and light rare earth elements, niobium, phosphate rock, scandium and tantalum.

The proposed regulation contains 2030 targets, which aim to ensure security of critical raw materials supply in Europe. Goals include:

- The EU should extract at least 10% of the strategic raw materials for its own consumption.
- The EU should process at least 40% of its strategic raw materials through the supply chain.
- The EU's recycling capacity should be able to produce at least 15% of annual consumption of each strategic raw material.
- The EU should not be dependent on any single country (outside the EU) for imports greater than 65% for any strategic raw material at any relevant stage of processing.

### Mineral Resources

The PEA restates Mawson's Inferred Mineral Resource Estimate ("MRE"). In line with the PEA development strategy, the MRE is based on an 'underground only' scenario, totalling 9.8 million tonnes @ 2.8 g/t gold ("Au") and 441 ppm Co, equating to 958 koz gold equivalent ("AuEq").

Table 2: Total Inferred Mineral Resources estimate as of August 26, 2021, at the listed cut-offs for constrained open pit and underground resources at Rajapalot.

Zone	Cut-off z(AuEq¹)	Tonnes (kt)	Au (g/t)	Co (ppm)	AuEq <sup>2</sup> (g/t)	Au (koz)	Co (tonnes)	AuEq² (koz)
Palokas	1.1	5,612	2.8	475	3.1	501	2,664	562
Raja	1.1	2,702	3.1	385	3.3	271	1,040	288
East Joki	1.1	299	4.5	363	4.6	43	109	44
Hut	1.1	831	1.3	428	1.6	36	355	44
Rumajärvi	1.1	336	1.4	424	1.7	15	142	19
<b>Total Inferred</b>	Resources	9,780	2.8	441	3.0	867	4,311	958

- The independent geologist and Qualified Person as defined in NI 43-101 for the mineral resource estimates is Mr. Ove Klavér (EurGeol).
- The mineral estimate is reported for a potential underground only scenario. Inferred resources were reported at a cut-off grade of 1.1 g/t (AuEq¹ Au g/t + Co ppm /1005) with a depth of 20 meters below the base of solid rock regarded as the near-surface limit of potential mining.
- Resource gold equivalent grades (AuEq<sup>2</sup>) and ounces stated here are based on the updated PEA metal prices of USD1,700/oz
  Au and USD60,000/t Co and PEA recovery assumptions of 95% Au and 87.6% Co. (AuEq2 = Au g/t x 95% + Co ppm x
  87.6% / 911).

- Wireframe models were generated using gold and cobalt shells separately. Forty-eight separate gold and cobalt wireframes
  were constructed in Leapfrog Geo and grade distributions independently estimated using Ordinary Kriging in Leapfrog Edge.
  A gold top cut of 50 g/t Au was used for the gold domains. A cobalt top cut was not applied.
- A parent block size of 12 m x 12 m x 4 m (>20% of the drillhole spacing) was determined as suitable. Sub-blocking down to 4 m x 4 m x 0.5 m was used for geologic control on volumes, thinner and moderately dipping wireframes
- Rounding of grades and tonnes may introduce apparent errors in averages and contained metals.
- Drilling results to 20 June 2021.
- Mineral Resources are not Mineral Reserves and do not have demonstrated economic viability.

### **Exploration Potential**

The PEA underpins the project discovery, and also provides a basis for the substantial resource growth potential on the property.

The Inferred Mineral themselves remain open, in particular at South Palokas where an intersection of 30.8 m @ 5.1 g/t AuEq (3.9 g/t Au, 1,403 ppm Co) from 553 m. This hole singly constrains the edge of the resource wire frame at this depth and given demonstrated down plunge continuity there is excellent potential for extension at depth at Palokas, as well as all other Rajapalot deposits.

In January-April 2022 Mawson completed a 26-hole, 5,317 m program targeting near surface mineralization non-contiguous but proximal to defined resources (23 of 26 holes drilled within 2 km of the Inferred Mineral Resource). Prospects likely to result in new near surface resource areas were not found, although understanding of the controls on the regional geology and geophysical responses of mineralization were significantly improved.

Rajapalot forms a smaller part of Mawson's larger 17,500 ha Rompas-Rajapalot Finnish project area owned 100% by Mawson. Exploration prospectivity remains high across the length and width of the property, as evidenced by the discoveries at Rompas (including 6 m at 617 g/t Au from 7 m (refer news release May 31, 2012), and 0.4 m at 395 g/t Au from 41 m (refer news release February 28, 2013) with ongoing targeting work that have highlighted highly anomalous gold grades in boulders, base of till, and geophysical anomalies deemed prospective based on similarities with the inferred resource.

In June 2022 Mawson completed a drone based magnetic survey to expand the exploration search area to compass an approximate 5,000 ha area between Rajapalot inferred MRE, and the ~10 km long sub-cropping Rompas system. On September 6, 2022, the Company announced that over 30 gold targets in a 4 km by 4 km area were identified following a detailed interpretation of the data. Targets, identified in secondary structures, dated the same age as the property wide mineralizing event, and importantly, a key gold mineralizing age in Lapland (1.8 billion years). The targets were also coincident with a 3 km x 2 km C-horizon till anomaly. Target testing by partial leach and/or base of till (BOT) geochemical sampling based on priority and permit status is under way.

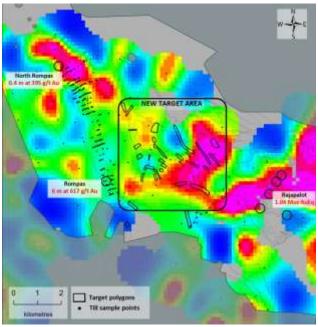


Figure 2: Central zone gold targets overlaying a C-horizon till anomaly (gold-tungsten)

Mawson conducted a Bottom of Till sampling program in March 2023. The program commenced on March 9, 2023, and concluded on March 20, 2023, with a total of 186 samples collected. The sampling took place within the Hirvimaa permit area, initially focusing on the target area northeastern region from the Palokas prospect. Subsequently, the second target area was tested in southwestern side of Männistö permit. In both locations, sampling aimed to investigate priorly detected geochemical anomalies, favorable geological structures with geophysical anomalies. Samples are under reporting, and results are expected in early summer.

### Environmental, Social, Governance

Mawson acknowledges that Environmental, Social and Governance ("ESG") forms a comprehensive framework for the Company to successfully navigate and balance the benefits of our projects to the planet, people and profit. Mawson has had an active ESG program operating for many years. Commitments include:

- Compliance with The Finnish Network for Sustainable Mining "Standard for Sustainable Exploration", with assessment implemented annually and is externally verified every third year.
- Membership of FIBS, the largest corporate responsibility network in Finland and the Nordic countries
  which aims to develop productive solutions to local and global problems in cooperation with other
  companies and organisation.
- Mawson is a partner in the European Raw Materials Alliance (ERMA) which <u>announced</u> on September 3, 2020, as part of an <u>Action Plan</u> on Critical Raw Materials, and the publication of the 2020 List of Critical Raw Materials. ERMA's vision is to secure access to critical and strategic raw materials, advanced materials, and processing know-how for EU Industrial Ecosystems.

In July 2021, Mawson's ESG credentials were independently audited under the "Digbee ESG" framework. The 'report card' scored Mawson on all facets of its business conduct across the full spectrum of ESG considerations, as well as provides guidance of how Mawson will continue to improve its performance moving forward. Overall, Mawson scored "BB", noting the Company has "strong ESG leadership and demonstrates a clear desire to operate in a sustainable manner both now and in the long term". The report concluded every aspect of the business has the potential to reach "AAA" through risk mitigation, as demonstrated in the confidence bands applied by the assessors. Mawson's Digbee certification has lapsed, but the recommendations are being used as a basis for improvement efforts. Mawson ESG credentials are assessed annually and publicly reported according to the Finnish Sustainable Mining Networks sustainability standards.

During late 2020, Mawson initiated its Environmental Impact Assessment ("EIA"). During the year Mawson continued with extensive nature, environmental and water body surveys and assessments, which have now been ongoing in the area for over 10 years. Additional studies will continue during the official processes, and the EIA Program Stage is expected to be completed by the end of 2023. The EIA 'Reporting Stage' where the impacts of the project alternatives will be widely assessed will follow the program stage.

In combination with the EIA, the two municipal areas where the Rajapalot gold-cobalt project is located, the City of Rovaniemi and Municipality of Ylitornio, at the request of Mawson, have formally initiated the sub-area Local Master land use planning processes in February 2022. Land use planning in Finland is defined by the Land Use and Building Act. The regional land use plans set out the principles of land use and the community structure. The phased provincial land use plan is a long-term plan and a guideline for the municipalities when drawing up and amending local master plans and local detailed plans. The Regional Council of Lapland ("Lapin Liitto") has also initiated regional land use Participation and Evaluation Plan for Rajapalot. This formalizes the extent and nature of public participation and describes how the impacts of land use plans will be evaluated. Public consultation feedback has been received during and is being incorporated. Participation and evaluation plans related to stakeholder engagement in land use planning processes are being updated as the processes progress. The latest updates were presented to and approved by the municipalities in February 2023.

The start of these formal statutory processes will facilitate the planning of the mining project and further strengthen cooperation and relationships between the various stakeholder groups, authorities and the company. Land use planning processes helps reduce any licensing uncertainties. A similar process in Finland has been undertaken or is going on for other pre-development stage mining projects including the Suhanko ("Arctic Platinum") project of CD Capital Natural Resources Fund III L.P., the Sokli project of The Finnish Minerals Group, the Ikkari project of Rupert Resources and the Sakatti project of Anglo American.

#### Natura 2000

Mawson carries out its exploration activities across more than 47,000 Ha of exploration tenements in Finland. Six percent of its permit or permit application areas are within EU-defined 'Natura 2000' biodiversity conservation areas (Kairamaat 2/3 exploration permit, Uusi Rumavuoma and Rompas permit application areas). Natura 2000 is not a system of strict nature reserves where all human activities are excluded and forms 18% of the EU landmass. The aim of the Natura 2000 network is to assure the long-term survival of Europe's most valuable and threatened species and habitats. Development in Natura is defined by clear rules and the emphasis is on ensuring that future management is sustainable, ecologically, socially, and economically. On November 12, 2021 the Regional Council of Lapland ("Lapin Liitto") approved the Lapland Agreement, which sets out the regional development program for 2022–2025 which specifically addresses support for the exploitation of ore deposits in Natura 2000 areas.

Many mining projects have been permitted and are in production in Natura 2000 areas within Europe, including Ada Tepe (gold mine, Bulgaria), Prosper Haniel (coal mine, Germany) and Mechelse Heide Zuid (sand mine, Belgium). Anglo American is currently permitting the Sakatti Ni-Cu-PGE project for mining in Finland.

Given Rajapalot's partial location in and adjacent to Natura 2000 areas, Mawson especially focuses on minimizing the negative impacts of our activities and drive positive outcomes in terms of land management and biodiversity. These fundamental planning and regulatory decisions demonstrate Mawson is working constructively with the regional and national authorities as well as the local stakeholder groups to develop Rajapalot in a responsible and sustainable way.

#### Permits

Permit Type	Name	Mining Registry Number	Area (hectares)
Exploration Permit	Raja	ML2014:0061	883
<b>Exploration Permit</b>	Männistö	ML2016:0046	2,141
Exploration Permit	Kairamaat 2/3 <sup>1</sup>	ML2013:0041	1,462
Exploration Permit	Hirvimaa	ML2014:0033	1,007
<b>Exploration Permit</b>	Rompas <sup>2</sup>	ML2014:0060	265
Exploration Permit	Kultamaat <sup>2</sup>	ML2015:0005	1,718
Exploration Permit	Uusi Rumavuoma <sup>3</sup>	ML2015:0042	1,293
Sub-Total	7		8,769
Reservation Notification	Ristipalo	VA2023:0014	29,234
<b>Exploration Permit Application</b>	Karsimaat	Ml2014:0075	1,618
Exploration Permit	Korkiakoivikko <sup>4</sup>	ML2012:0168	232
<b>Exploration Permit Application</b>	Kaitajärvi E-M-W	Ml2014:0100	809
Exploration Permit Application	Mäntylaenokka N -S	ML2015:0054	398
<b>Exploration Permit Application</b>	Kuusivaara	ML2014:0077	4,565
Exploration Permit Application	Petäjävaara	ML2014:0074	1,645
<b>Exploration Permit Application</b>	Takanenvuoma		660
Total	14		47,930

<sup>1:</sup> See below detail on permit status

The Rompas-Rajapalot property consists of 7 granted exploration permits for 8,769 hectares, a reservation notification and 7 exploration permit applications for a combined total of 47,930 hectares. The Rajapalot resource reported here occurs within two granted tenements (Kairamaat 2/3 and Hirvimaa).

Under the Finnish Mining Act, after an initial 4 year period exploration permits are subject to statutory 3 year renewals, and in Finland all administrative decisions made by government authorities are appealable. The Kairamaat 2-3 exploration permit (part of the Rajapalot project area) was renewed on January 18, 2019 ("Renewal 1") by the Finnish Mining Authority, TUKES. Renewal 1 was subject to an appeal by an NGO, who appealed, among other things, to

<sup>2.</sup> Under appeal

<sup>3.</sup> Granted, appeal window open until April 26, 2023

<sup>4.</sup> Extension process under way

increase the conditions regarding a buffer zone around an eagles nest (man-made, and dormant for 18 years). All other appealing grounds were rejected by the administrative count in June 2021 except for the TUKES defined eagle buffer, which was changed by the administrative court. Mawson subsequently appealed this decision to the Supreme Administrative Court of Finland. On August 16, 2022 the Supreme Administrative Court approved Mawson's appeal, finding that TUKES issued the permit in accordance with the Mining Act and other applicable legislation. The Supreme Administrative Court is the highest possible ruling body on the matter and binds authorities and lower level administrative courts to its ruling.

On November 9, 2021, TUKES granted a subsequent permit renewal for Kairamaat 2-3 ("Renewal 2"). This decision was also appealed by an NGO, one of the main grounds being, at the time, the outstanding Renewal 1 supreme court matter. In advance of the Renewal 1 supreme court decision, the Regional Administrative Court made an interim decision to lift an enforcement order that allows Mawson to operate under previous license conditions. Now that the Supreme Court has made the decision to reject the NGO's request to appeal the Renewal 1 case, and confirmed TUKES permit ruling to be correct, Mawson has been informed by the court that a new decision is under preparation. Mawson has also provided its reply to the Renewal 2 appeal, and a final decision is expected in April 2023. To date, NGOs have never been successful appealing Mawson permit decisions.

There are no underlying royalties (except a statutory Finnish mining royalty of 0.15 % of the value of the exploited mineral/metal payable to the landowner), back-in rights or other underlying agreements or encumbrances over the property.

### Sweden

The Skelleftea North Gold Project is located in Northern Sweden and approximately four hours drive from Mawson's flagship Rajapalot project, making it complementary to Mawson's Nordic focus and experience base. Mawson has the right to earn in 85% of the project.

The Skelleftea Project consists of 2,500 ha of contiguous 100%-owned claims located in the well-endowed Skellefte Mining District of Northern Sweden, located 40 km north-northwest of the city of Skelleftea. 7 Moz of gold has been produced from with 22km of Skelleftea North.

The Skelleftea Project area contains outcropping gold mineralization across the 3 km x 6 km land package. At the most advanced prospect, Dalbacka, Gold-mineralization is found to be contained within arsenopyrite-bearing, sheeted-quartz-vein system that is confined to within the limits of the steep, south-westerly dipping mafic-dyke system. Mawson completed an initial 6 hole, 700m scout drilling program (final four holes released post reporting period)

- Drilling has defined gold mineralization, which can develop at extremely high grades (up to 132g/t Au), along 300 m of explored strike-length which remains open in all directions. The remaining four diamond drillholes of the six hole program (DB2203-6) targeted the western strike-extension.
  - All holes reported here intercepted the mafic-dyke host unit with highly-elevated arsenic values (> 400 ppm As) drillholes.
- Program highlights include visible gold observed in three of six holes drilled at the Dalbacka Prospect, with best results including:
  - o 1.8 m at 28.4 g/t Au from 82.8m in DB2202, including 0.35 m at 132 g/t Au
  - o 4.4 m at 4.8 g/t Au from 40m in DB2201, including 0.38 m at 24.3 g/t

The next steps to define targets for the Stage 2 drill program include 3D-modelling of the system to define high-grade controls on gold mineralization, high resolution ground magnetics and surface geochemical sampling.

Skelleftea Option Agreement Terms

In January 2022 Mawson entered into an option and joint venture agreement to earn-in up to 85% of the 2,500 ha Skelleftea North Gold Project ("Skelleftea Project") from Elemental Exploration Scandinavia AB ("Elemental"). Key terms of the Skelleftea Option Agreement are as follows:

(i) An option to earn an initial 75% interest, exercisable by Mawson subject to incurring aggregate expenditures of \$3,000,000 over four years, provided that a minimum \$220,000 is spent in year one (inclusive of \$20,000 already paid) and \$280,000 in year two.

(ii) An option to earn an additional 10% interest (for 85% total) exercisable by Mawson upon completion of a NI 43-101 compliant pre-feasibility or feasibility study.

#### Australia / Southern Cross Gold Ltd.

On November 23, 2021, the Company announced its intention to spin out (the "Spinout") its Australian assets, which consisted of: (a) the Sunday Creek tenements in Victoria, Australia and Mount Isa projects in Queensland, Australia; (b) the Redcastle and Whroo joint ventures in Victoria, Australia; and (c) its 10% shareholdings of Nagambie, including its right of first refusal over a 3,300 square kilometre tenement package held by Nagambie in Victoria, Australia, into Southern Cross, which at the time of the announcement was a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company, via the IPO for admission to the official list of the ASX. At the time, the Company also intended to distribute Southern Cross' ordinary shares to its shareholders by way of a plan of arrangement (the "Arrangement") under the *Business Corporations Act* (British Columbia). On February 16, 2022, the Company announced that after further analysis of Mawson's business plan and ongoing dialogue with key shareholders of the Company, the Company's Board determined that it was in the best interest of the Company to hold the Company's shareholding in Southern Cross, therefore, the Company has no current plans to undertake the Arrangement. Under ASX listing rules, the Company's shareholding in Southern Cross is considered classified as 'restricted shares', and thus were escrowed for 24 months (the "Escrow Period"), on completion of the IPO. The Escrow Period does not affect Mawson's voting rights over its shareholding in Southern Cross.

Southern Cross has raised a total of AU\$ 27.8 million over three separate capital raises, which has diluted Mawson's interest in Southern Cross to 51.0%. The most recent raise was announced on November 22, 2022, in which Southern Cross raised AU\$ 16.0 million at AU\$ 0.58 per share. Should Southern Cross undertake further share issuances, the Company's ownership in Southern Cross may be further diluted.

Southern Cross and its subsidiary companies hold certain rights and interests forming the projects of the Company as follows:

- 100% of the Sunday Creek Project, including 300 acres of freehold land above the main exploration area
- Option Agreements with Nagambie Resources Limited (ASX:NAG) ("Nagambie") to:
  - o Up to 70% of the Whroo Project
  - o 70% of the Redcastle Project
- 100% of the Mt. Isa Project.
- 53,361,046 shares in Nagambie, with an accompanying subscription agreement which grants a right of first refusal in respect of 3,300 kilometres of tenements held by Nagambie subject to the Company maintaining the initial Nagambie shareholding in percentage terms.

Southern Cross is focussed on the Victorian goldfields, a globally significant field with more than 80 Moz extracted since 1851. The majority of gold recovered from the Victorian goldfields has been produced from the older mesozonal gold-quartz vein systems, targeted by the old-timers in the Bendigo and Stawell zones. More recently, Fosterville, an epizonal gold system has rewritten the Victorian geological opportunity. We now understand that epizonal systems can develop extremely high-grade, free gold deposits such as at Sunday Creek.

### Sunday Creek Project - 100%

The Sunday Creek Project is a shallow orogenic (or epizonal) Fosterville-style deposit located approximately 60 kilometres north of Melbourne and contained within 16,990 hectares of both granted exploration licences and one granted retention licence. Southern Cross owns 100% of Sunday Creek licenses. On May 26, 2022, Southern Cross (via Clonbinane Goldfield Pty Ltd) completed the acquisition of 132 hectares of freehold land at the Sunday Creek Project. Southern Cross views that owning the freehold land better secures future surface access.

The main historic workings at the Sunday Creek Project have been drill tested with encouraging results and remain open at depth and along strike. Historic gold mining between 1880-1920 occurred over a greater than 11-kilometre trend where total production is reported as 41,000 oz gold at a grade of 33 g/t gold. Drilling during 1990-2000s focused on shallow, previously mined surface workings, covering an area of 100 metres in width, 800 metres length but only to 80 metres depth. As such, the entire field remains open along strike and to depth.

Mineralization at the Sunday Creek Project is hosted in late-Silurian to early-Devonian-aged shales and siltstones containing a series of dykes of felsic-intermediate composition. Gold is concentrated mainly in and around the EW to NE-SW trending felsic dykes, within predominately NW oriented brittle multiple sheeted veins and cataclastic

zones. Individual high-grade quartz-stibnite veins at Apollo and Golden Dyke, and cataclastic zones at Gladys were the focus of historical mining at Sunday Creek. These zones have been proven to continue to depth by Southern Cross. Broader vein-hosted and cataclastic mineralization grading less than 15 g/t gold appears untouched by the historic miners.

Diamond drilling at Sunday Creek continued during and subsequent to the reporting period. The highlight result was SDDSC050, the Company's deepest hole to date (923.7 m) and the widest intersection of gold-antimony mineralisation (520.8 m @ 1.7 g/t AuEq with no lower cut). As the deepest hole on the Sunday Creek project by 278 m, SDDSC050 demonstrated the changing nature of mineralisation with thick quartz carbonate veins up to 1 m wide with gold and arsenic, but no antimony mineralization. This is a typical change in epizonal deposits in Victoria which transition from gold-antimony to gold only zones at depth.

Further drill results from Sunday Creek during the reporting period continued to expand the known mineralization at the main drill area to 1,350 m along strike and 800 m to depth. Holes SDDSC052 and SDDSC063, in turn, pushed the known mineralization further to the east of the Apollo zone by over 200 m with intersections including 11.6 m @ 7.5 g/t AuEq (6.4 g/t Au, 0.7 %Sb) from 209.4 m and 2.7 m @ 4.4 g/t AuEq (3.4 g/t Au, 0.7 %Sb) from 24.0 m respectively. Drill hole SDDSC055 was designed as a cross hole drilled from the NE to SW across the upper levels of SDDSC050 and 90 m below MDDSC021 (21.7 m @ 6.2 g/t AuEq (4.7g/t Au, 1.0% Sb) from 274.7 m). It intersected 18.6 m @ 4.1 g/t AuEq (1.2 g/t Au, 1.8 %Sb) from 388.5 m 60 m above, 40 m east and in the plane of Rising Sun shoot, previously drilled in SDDSC050 and demonstrated significant scale, grade and continuity of mineralization around SDDSC050. Subsequent to the end of the reporting period, Southern Cross released drill hole SDDSC061 as a large 270 m step out vertically below the Rising Sun Shoot which intersected 0.3 m @ 249.5 g/t Au within a broader interval and, as with SDDSC050, encouragingly demonstrated the system transitioning at depth, with visible gold, in a similar manner to what is observed at other epizonal deposits that are in production in Victoria.

Also subsequent to the end of the reporting period, Southern Cross announced the mobilization of a fourth rig to the Sunday Creek property to drill test the Tonstal prospect located 7.5 km from the main drill area at Sunday Creek. LiDAR analysis has shown the same mineralization style with a broad NE dyke trend containing NW high grade veins sets over a 1.5 km strike (similar in scale and form to the main drill area). The Company is looking for the regional drill program at Sunday Creek to successfully demonstrate the same style of mineralization with gold which will be a step shift for the project. Meanwhile, three rigs remain drilling at the main prospect area. Southern Cross expects to report initial assay results from its planned 2,500 m regional drill campaign in the next reporting period.

Highlight holes at Sunday Creek, many of which show visible gold, include:

- 12.0 m @ 7.4 g/t AuEq (7.4 g/t Au, 0.0 %Sb) from 688.0 m in SDDSC061
- 18.6 m @ 4.1 g/t AuEq (1.2 g/t Au, 1.8 %Sb) from 388.5 m in SDDSC055
- 11.6 m @ 7.5 g/t AuEq (6.4 g/t Au, 0.7 %Sb) from 209.4 m in SDDSC052
- 305.8 m @ 2.4 g/t AuEq (1.6 g/t Au, 0.5% Sb) from 319.2 m in SDDSC050
- 48.9 m @ 3.0 g/t AuEq (2.0 g/t Au, 0.64% Sb) from 182 m in SDDSC049
- 21.5 m @ 15.0 g/t AuEq (12.2 g/t Au and 1.7% Sb) from 183.6 m in SDDSC046
- 3.8 m @ 28.9 g/t AuEq (28.9 g/t Au, 0.01% Sb) from 183.0 m in SDDSC045
- 16.8 m @ 3.4 g/t AuEq (3.2 g/t Au and 0.2% Sb) from 116.0 m in SDDSC040
- 42.0 m @ 4.8 g/t AuEq (3.5 g/t Au and 0.8% Sb) from 166.0 m in hole SDDSC039
- 15.3 m @ 4.2 g/t AuEq (2.8 g/t Au and 0.9% Sb) from 141.0 m in hole SDDSC038

Earlier drill hole highlights at Sunday Creek include:

- 42.0 m @ 4.8 g/t AuEq from 166.0 m (3.5 g/t Au and 0.8% Sb) in SDDSC039
- 15.3 m @ 4.2 g/t AuEq from 141.0 m (2.8 g/t Au and 0.9% Sb) in SDDSC038
- 119.2 m @ 3.2 g/t Au and 0.4% Sb (3.9 g/t AuEq) from 106.8 m in hole SDDSC033
- 36.0 m @ 2.9 g/t AuEq from 197.7 m (2.3 g/t Au and 0.4% Sb) in SDDSC031
- 11.7 m @ 18.0 g/t AuEq from 362.0 m (12.3 g/t Au and 3.0% Sb) in MDDS025
- 25.4 m @ 5.3 g/t AuEq from 273.9 m (4.0 g/t Au,0.8% Sb) in MDDSC021
- 15.3 m @ 5.5 g/t AuEq from 231.4 m (2.2 g/t Au and 2.1% Sb) in MDDSC015A
- 10.4 m @ 7.0 g/t AuEq from 203.0 m (5.4 g/t Au and 1.1% Sb) in MDDSC0012
- 19.0 m @ 6.9 g/t AuEq from 66.0 m (6.5 g/t Au and 0.3% Sb) in VCRC022
- 94.0 m @ 1.5 g/t AuEq from 62.0 m (1.3 g/t Au and 0.1% Sb) in VCRC007

The true thickness of the mineralised intervals is interpreted to be approximately 60-70% of the sampled thickness. Drill results quoted have a lower cut of 0.3 g/t Au cut over a 3.0 m width, with higher grades reported with a 5 g/t Au cut over 1.0 m applied unless otherwise indicated.

Mineralization remains open at depth and along strike at Sunday Creek. It has an 11 km mineralized trend that extends beyond the main drill area and is defined by historic workings and soil sampling which is being drill tested for the very first time with the fourth drill rig which mobilised to site after the close of the reporting period.

Southern Cross' projects share geochemical similarities and a common historical processing route to that of Mandalay Resources' Costerfield Mine. As such Southern Cross considers that it is appropriate to adopt the same gold equivalent variables as Mandalay in its Mandalay Technical Report, 2022 dated March 26, 2022 of  $AuEq = Au (g/t) + 1.58 \times Sb (\%)$ . This used Brunswick Processing Plant 2021 recoveries of 93% Au and 95% Sb and a gold price of US\$ 1,700/oz, and an antimony price of US \$8,500/t.

## Whroo Project

### **Exploration Summary**

In December 2021, Mawson Victoria completed two diamond holes under the Balaclava open pit. Highlight intersections include 0.6 m @ 49.6 g/t and antimony grades, including 0.2 m @ 16.5% Sb. No drilling was completed at Whroo during the reporting period.

A detailed LiDAR survey has identified 34,500 individual workings over 63 km<sup>2</sup> (~550 per km<sup>2</sup>), and classified the data as alluvial vs hard rock in character. A gradient array IP geophysical survey was conducted 8.5 km west of the Balaclava open pit at Doctors Gully over a 4 km<sup>2</sup> area. The LiDAR data interpretation extended the mapped workings a further 4 kilometres to the east. Three reconnaissance diamond drill holes for 330.5 metres were also completed at Doctors Gully at the start of 2021, with the better results including 1.0 metre @ 2.9 g/t gold from 45.3 metres in MDDDG001, 3.8 metres @ 0.7 g/t gold from 71.7 metres in MDDDG001 and 1.6 metres @ 1.9 g/t gold from 24.7 metres in MDDDG003.

Historical holes intersected 60 metres @ 0.35 g/t gold from 133 metres beneath the Balaclava open pit including 1.5 m @ 6.1 g/t Au from 108.0 m, 1.5 metres @ 1.8 g/t Au from 149.5 m and 1.5 m @ 5.3 g/t Au from 179.5 m.

Key intersections in the Whroo project reported using a 0.3 g/t AuEq cutoff over two metres and including 5.0 g/t AuEq cutoffs over one metre. The true thickness of the mineralized intervals is not known at this stage.

#### Property Summary

The Whroo Project comprises six granted exploration licences and one granted retention licence held by Nagambie, and one exploration licence application by Mawson Victoria. Southern Cross, via its wholly owned subsidiary Mawson Victoria, can earn up to a 70% interest in the Whroo Project.

The 14-kilometre long Whroo Project is one of the largest historic epizonal goldfields in Victoria located 130 kilometres north of Melbourne within 221 kilometres<sup>2</sup> of exploration tenements. The Whroo Project consists of the Balaclava Hill area which contains thirteen named reefs from an open pit and 137 metre deep shaft, while shallow workings extend over the entire trend.

Alluvial gold mining commenced at Whroo during the initial gold boom of the 1850s and a settlement was quickly established. Significant alluvial workings are present throughout the field. Hard rock mining commenced in 1855. Production at Whroo is estimated to have been 40,000 oz of gold at grades varying from 5 g/t gold to >700 g/t gold. Prior to recent drilling by Mawson Victoria, it remained untested to depth.

# Redcastle Project - 70%

### **Exploration Summary**

The exploration strategy at Redcastle over the last 18 months during the earn-in period has focused on searching for high-grade epizonal gold at depth beneath historic mines. The approach was to compile all historical mining and

exploration data into a 3D model and apply large scale geophysical and remote sensing methods to identify mineral systems below 50 metres depth, followed by oriented diamond drilling to test targets.

Mawson Victoria has drilled 16 drillholes for 2,786.9 metres across total of eight prospects at Redcastle (for an average hole depth of 174.2 metres), with highlights below. No drilling was completed during the reporting period, however many targets require follow-up drilling. Thin to moderate grades and widths of gold were discovered in all drill holes, except those that hit historic mine workings.

- 1.8 m @ 3.0 g/tAu and 0.0% Sb from 75.7 m in MDDRE010 (including 0.5 m at 9.1 g/t Au from 75.7 m)
- 9.0 m @ 0.4 g/t Au and 0.0% Sb from 50.0 m in MDDRE006
- 1.9 m @ 1.0 g/t Au and 0.2 % Sb from 51.5 m in MDDRE009a

Mawson Victoria has drilled 16 drillholes for 2,786.9 metres across total of eight prospects at Redcastle (for an average hole depth of 174.2 metres). Details of the drill results are set out in Southern Cross' ASX IPO prospectus. The true thickness of mineralized intervals is not known at this stage.

### **Property Summary**

The Redcastle Project is located in central Victoria 120 kilometres north of Melbourne, 45 kilometres east of Bendigo and about 20 kilometres northeast of Heathcote. It is a shallow orogenic (or epizonal) Fosterville-style historic high-grade field held within a tenure area of 56.7 kilometres<sup>2</sup>. Southern Cross, via its wholly owned subsidiary Mawson Victoria, can earn up to a 70% interest in the Recastle Project.

Redcastle was discovered in 1859 and named the Balmoral Diggings, later renamed 'Redcastle'. Underground mining continued until 1902. Total primary gold extracted from the Redcastle diggings was ~35,000 oz at 33 g/t. Its extremely high gold grades with visible gold in quartz (+/- stibnite association) were mined over a 4.5 x 7 kilometre area containing over 24 historic mining areas but it remains poorly explored to depth.

It is located 2 kilometres along strike from Mandalay Resources' Costerfield mine exploration licences and 24 kilometres east of Agnico Eagle's Fosterville mine – two of the world's highest grade gold mines. Part of the northern margin of the claim adjoins a Newmont Corporation exploration licence application ELA 6893.

### Mt Isa Project - 100%

Southern Cross, via its wholly owned subsidiary Mawson Queensland, holds seven exploration prospecting licences for 861 kilometre<sup>2</sup> of granted exploration licences in the Cloncurry district of Mt Isa, over a combined 60 kilometres of strike, and is surrounded by South32 Ltd and Sandfire Resources Ltd. Southern Cross is exploring for large iron-oxide-copper-gold (IOCG) and Broken Hill type (BHT) or Cannington-style Pb-Zn-Ag deposits in the Eastern Succession of the Mount Isa Block. The area is entirely under cover (estimated thickness 250 metres to 400 metres) and virtually unexplored.

In 2019, Mawson Queensland flew 100 metre spaced airborne magnetics and completed a 1 kilometre x 1 kilometre ground-based gravity over its entire Mount Isa SE tenements. This program was partly funded in part by a \$100,000 grant from the Queensland Government's Collaborative Exploration Initiative (CEI). This work defined gravity and/or magnetic targets which included the multi-point definition of the priority F11 target.

In July 2020, Mawson Queensland received AUD \$200,000 funding for the F11 drill program under the Queensland Government's Collaborative Exploration Initiative. Mawson Queensland subsequently completed its first, and only, drill hole (MQDDH001) to 849.7 metres with basement rocks intersected at 318 metres. The lower part of the drill hole below 750 metres contains most of the sulphides of interest, in particular pyrrhotite-rich zones with veinlets and disseminated chalcopyrite hosted by potassic-altered metasediments and mafic rocks. It is within these zones that the anomalous copper (up to 8,660 ppm Cu 0.3 m) occurs.

During the quarter ended February 28, 2023 an impairment charge of \$903,463 was recorded against the carrying value of the Mount Isa Project. The results of the Company's last work program at the Mount Isa Project, the higher risk of deep exploration targets at Mt. Isa and the Company's focus on and success of work ongoing at Sunday Creek in Victoria are all factors which contributed to the impairment decision. The Company maintains the majority of its claims in the Mt. Isa area and will review budget allocations against exploration results from its portfolio as it progresses.

### **Future Developments**

#### **Finland**

Future work in Finland will focus on:

- Prospecting and drilling, with an aim to define further ounces across both the near-resource step out potential and the district-scale opportunities at Rajapalot.
- De-risk current and future ounces.
  - o Ongoing metallurgical test-work and flowsheet optimization for cobalt and gold
  - Options definition and assessment to optimize project configuration from a technical and permitting perspective
  - Ongoing baseline, EIA and land-use planning processes and studies
  - o Continuation of strong stakeholder cooperation in all levels (local, regional, governmental)
- Aim to define Rajapalot as one of the strategic EU projects according to EU's CRMA (Critical Raw Materials Act)

#### Sweden

- Mawson intends to continue, at a minimum, to meet its earn in commitments on the property.
- Work will be focused almost exclusively on continued exploration to grow the mineralized footprint, subject to ongoing exploration results.

### Southern Cross, Australia

- Southern Cross operates as an independently managed business that is a subsidiary of Mawson by virtue of its 51% holding.
- Southern Cross' exploration efforts will focus primarily on the Sunday Creek property.

Mawson will continue to leverage its experience base to evaluate additional mineral properties as a means of value accretion and risk diversification to complement its core project priorities. This model has been demonstrated successfully through the Australian gold properties, Skellefteå North in Sweden, and historically with the 2014 distribution of Darwin Resources (now Tinka Resources).

### **Qualified Person**

Michael Hudson, Executive Chairman of Mawson, and a Fellow of the Australasian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy is a qualified person as defined by National Instrument 43-101 - Standards of Disclosure or Mineral Projects has reviewed and verified the scientific and technical information provided under Exploration Projects of this MD&A and is responsible for the technical information not directly related to the MRE or PEA in this MD&A.

The PEA was prepared for the Company by independent consulting firm SRK Consulting (Finland) Oy with contributions from several Qualified Persons (as the term is defined in NI 43-101) with specific subject matter expertise including local consultancy Sweco Oy for process plant and infrastructure design and cost estimating, AFRY for mineral resource estimation, Paterson & Cooke Nordic AB for backfill, and Vahanen Environment for environmental and social assessment.

#### **Financial Data**

The following selected financial information is derived from the unaudited condensed consolidated interim financial statements of the Company.

	Fiscal 2023			Fiscal 2022				Fiscal 2021
	Feb 28 2023 \$	Nov 30 2022 \$	Aug 31 2022 \$	May 31 2022 \$	Feb 28 2022 \$	Nov 30 2021 \$	Aug 31 2021 \$	May 31 2021 \$
Operations:								
Revenues	Nil							
Expenses	(2,112,608)	(1,232,165)	(875,704)	(1,245,126)	(549,494)	(824,082)	(647,535)	(538,338)
Other items	(2,181,866)	150,000	816,112	(296,060)	(598,631)	(729,498)	745,039	217,457
Net (loss) income	(4,294,474)	(1,082,165)	(59,592)	(1,541,186)	(1,148,125)	(1,553,580)	97,504	(320,881)
Other comprehensive (loss) income	215,590	588,698	(526,837)	27,353	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Comprehensive (loss) income	(4,078,884)	(493,467)	(586,429)	(1,513,833)	(1,148,125)	(1,553,580)	97,504	(320,881)
Basic and diluted (loss) income per share	(0.01)	(0.00)	(0.00)	(0.01)	(0.00)	(0.01)	0.00	(0.00)
Dividends per share	Nil							
Comprehensive (loss) income attributed to:								
Shareholders of the Company	(3,586,076)	(486,019)	(210,298)	(1,265,765)	(1,145,643)	(1,553,580)	97,504	(320,881)
Non-controlling interest	(492,808)	(7,448)	(376,131)	(248,068)	(2,482)	Nil	Nil	Nil
Balance Sheet:								-
Working capital	17,158,267	19,536,222	9,280,533	11,387,450	6,231,761	2,866,972	5,018,115	6,694,302
Total assets	77,184,291	80,042,362	65,735,945	66,539,631	61,808,688	53,683,436	54,748,628	54,962,290
Total long-term liabilities	(170,246)	Nil						

### **Results of Operations**

As at the date of this MD&A the Company has not earned any production revenue, nor found proved reserves on any of its unproven mineral interests; therefore, the expenses are not subject to seasonal fluctuations or general trends. The Company's expenses and cash requirements will fluctuate from period to period depending on the level of activity and, therefore, lack some degree of comparability. The Company's quarterly results may be affected by many factors such as timing of exploration activity, share-based payment costs, marketing activities and other factors that affect Company's exploration and financing activities. Furthermore, the Company's net loss/income may also be affected by the current fair value of its investments held. In addition, although Southern Cross has raised additional funding in November 2022, reducing the Company's ownership interest in Southern Cross from 60% to 51%, the Company still has control and continues to fully consolidate Southern Cross.

Three Months Ended February 28, 2023 Compared to Three Months Ended November 30, 2022

During the three months ended February 28, 2023 ("Q3") the Company reported a net loss of \$4,294,474 compared to a net loss of \$1,082,165 for the three months ended November 30, 2022 ("Q2"), an increase in loss of \$3,212,309. The increase in loss was due to the following:

- (i) \$880,443 increase in expenses, from \$1,232,165 in Q2 to \$2,112,608 in Q3. The increase was primarily due to a \$1,259,712 increase in share-based compensation from \$155,394 in Q2 to \$1,415,106 in Q3 and offset by a decrease of \$151,603 in legal expenses and general reduction on other expense categories;
- (ii) during Q3 the Company recorded an impairment charge of \$903,463 on the Mount Isa Project located in Australia; and
- (iii) during Q3 the Company recorded a \$1,049,007 unrealized holding loss in its investment in the Nagambie shares compared to a \$381,387 gain recognized in Q2, a difference of \$1,430,394.

Nine Months Ended February 28, 2023 Compared to Nine Months Ended February 28, 2022

During the nine months ended February 28, 2023 (the "2023 period") the Company reported a net loss of \$5,436,231 compared to a net loss of \$2,604,201 for the nine month ended February 28, 2022 (the "2022 period"), an increase in loss of \$2,832,030. The increase in loss was attributed to:

- (i) \$2,199,366 increase in expenses, from \$2,021,111 in the 2022 period to \$4,220,477 in the 2023 period due to significant variances in the following categories:
  - incurred director and office compensation of \$616,772 during the 2023 period compared to \$422,943 during the 2022 period. The increase is primarily due to the restructuring of the Australian assets resulting in compensation to certain key management personnel of Southern Cross. See "Related Party Disclosures";
  - incurred significant increases to accounting and administrative, salaries and benefits and professional fees during the 2023 period due to the restructuring of the Australian assets and spin-out of Southern Cross;
  - recognition of share-based compensation of \$1,671,837 in the 2023 period compared to \$246,500 in the 2022 period on the granting and vesting of share options. Recognition of share-based compensation fluctuates based on the granting and vesting of share options.
- (ii) during the 2023 period the Company recorded an impairment charge of \$903,463 on the Mount Isa SE Project located in Australia; and
- (iii) during the 2023 period the Company experienced a foreign exchange loss of \$501,938 compared to a foreign exchange gain of \$98,144 in the 2022 period, a fluctuation of \$600,082.

The above increases in losses were partially off set by the Company recording a \$86,069 unrealized gain in investments mainly in the Nagambie shares during the 2023 period compared to a \$722,057 loss in the 2022 period, a fluctuation of \$808,126.

As the Company is in the exploration stage of investigating and evaluating its unproven mineral interests, it has no source of operating revenue. Interest income is generated from cash on deposit and short-term money market instruments issued by major financial institutions. During the 2023 period the Company reported interest and other income of \$103,578 compared to \$40,823 during the 2022 period.

#### **Investments**

		As at February 28, 2023				
	Number	Cost \$	Unrealized Gain (Loss) \$	Carrying Value \$		
Common shares						
Nagambie	53,361,046	1,768,741	785,725	2,554,466		
Kingsmen	37,500	45,000	(41,625)	3,375		
		1,813,741	744,100	2,557,841		

### **Financings**

Nine Months Ended February 28, 2023

No financings were completed by the Company during the 2023 period. In November 2022 Southern Cross completed a private placement of AUD\$9,093,300, diluting the Company's ownership interest from 60% to 51%.

#### Fiscal 2022

During fiscal 2022 the Company completed a public offering totalling 36,667,000 common shares of the Company at \$0.15 per share for net proceeds of \$4,915,336 (net of agents fees of \$330,003 and expenses of \$254,711). The proceeds from the offering were deployed as contemplated with no material variances.

### **Exploration and Evaluation Assets**

		As at February 28, 2023					
	Acquisition Costs \$	Deferred Exploration Costs \$	Foreign Exchange Movement \$	Total \$			
Finland							
Rompas-Rajapalot	3,859,579	40,575,166	-	44,434,745			
Sweden	50.255	246564		215 121			
Skelleftea North Australia	70,357	246,764	-	317,121			
Austrana Sunday Creek	776,491	5,754,503	17,875	6,548,869			
Redcastle	42,272	1,538,168	(9,979)	1,570,461			
Whroo JV	104,531	577,874	(3,204)	679,201			
	4,853,230	48,692,475	4,692	53,550,397			
		As at May 31, 2022					
	Acquisition Costs \$	Deferred Exploration Costs \$	Foreign Exchange Movement \$	Total \$			
Finland							
Rompas-Rajapalot Sweden	3,684,068	39,331,424	-	43,015,492			
Skelleftea North	70,357	_	_	70,357			
Australia	, 3,55 /			, 0,55			
Sunday Creek	764,061	2,902,816	(81,183)	3,585,694			
Redcastle	38,271	1,485,413	(33,734)	1,489,950			
Whroo JV	103,266	505,442	(13,477)	595,231			
Mount Isa SE	331,773	574,772	(20,071)	886,474			
	4,991,796	44,799,867	(148,465)	49,643,198			

During the 2023 period the Company incurred a total of \$4,700,115 (2022 - \$4,237,914) on the acquisition, exploration and evaluation of its unproven resource assets of which \$1,419,253 (2022 - \$2,656,321) was incurred on its Finnish properties, \$246,764 (2022 - \$70,357) on its Swedish property and \$3,034,098 (2022 - \$1,511,236) on its Australian properties net of foreign exchange movement. During the 2023 period the Company determined to impair all capitalized expenditures on the Mount Isa SE project and, accordingly, recorded an impairment of \$903,463 for all acquisition and exploration amounts incurred. See "Exploration Projects" in this MD&A for details.

### **Financial Condition / Capital Resources**

As at February 28, 2023 the Company has working capital of \$17,158,267 of which \$16,118,784 is working capital of Southern Cross. At February 28, 2023 the cash position of \$18,048,423 includes \$16,210,463 in Southern Cross. The Southern Cross funds are dedicated to fund exploration programs on properties in Australia and not Finland or Sweden. Management considers that the Company will need to raise additional capital from the sale of common shares or other equity or debt instruments to maintain its core operations and planned exploration programs on its existing exploration and evaluation assets for the next twelve months. To date the Company has not earned any revenue and is considered to be in the exploration stage. The Company's operations are funded from equity financings which are dependent upon many external factors and may be difficult to impossible to secure or raise when required. While the Company has been successful in securing financings in the past there can be no assurance that it will be able to do so in the future.

#### **Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements**

The Company has no off-balance sheet arrangements.

#### **Proposed Transaction**

The Company has no proposed transactions.

### **Critical Accounting Estimates**

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with IFRS requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, and the reported amounts of revenues and expenditures during the reporting period. Examples of significant estimates made by management include estimating the fair values of financial instruments and assumptions used for share-based compensation. Actual results may differ from those estimates.

A detailed summary of the Company's critical accounting estimates and sources of estimation is included in Note 3 to the May 31, 2022 audited annual consolidated financial statements.

### **Changes in Accounting Policies**

There were no changes to accounting policies.

A detailed summary of all the Company's significant accounting policies and accounting standards and interpretations issued but not yet effective, is included in Note 3 to the May 31, 2022 audited annual financial statements.

#### Related Parties Disclosures

A number of key management personnel, or their related parties, hold positions in other entities that result in them having control or significant influence over the financial or operating policies of those entities. Certain of these entities transacted with the Company during the reporting period. The Company has determined that key management personnel consists of members of the Company's Board of Directors and its executive officers.

(a) During the 2023 and 2022 periods the following fees were incurred to current and former key management personnel:

	2023 \$	2022 \$
Professional fees - Mr. Hudson - Chairman, former CEO and director (1)	81,000	126,000
Other compensation - Mr. Hudson	-	20,000
Professional fees - Mr. Fairhall - former CEO and director (2)	191,236	128,583
Professional fees - Mr. DeMare - CFO and director	18,000	18,000
Other compensation - Mr. DeMare	-	10,000
Professional fees - Mr. Henstridge - director (6)	7,500	13,500
Professional fees - Mr. Maclean - director	13,500	13,500
Professional fees - Mr. Williams - director <sup>(3)</sup>	13,500	18,500
Professional fees - Ms. Ahola - director <sup>(4)</sup> (current Interim CEO)	104,481	71,470
Other compensation - Ms. Ahola	13,685	30,769
Professional fees - Mr. Jentz - director <sup>(5)</sup>	21,000	-
Professional fees - Mr. Griffin - director <sup>(7)</sup>	1,500	-
Professional fees - Ms. Bermudez - Corporate Secretary	31,500	31,360
Other compensation - Ms. Bermudez	<u>-</u>	10,000
<u>-</u>	496,902	491,682

- $(1) \ \ Mr. \ Hudson \ resigned \ as \ CEO \ of the \ Company \ on \ September \ 7, 2021.$
- (2) Mr. Fairhall was appointed CEO of the Company on September 7, 2021 and became a director on November 29, 2021. Mr. Fairhall resigned as CEO and director effective March 21, 2023.
- (3) Mr. Williams received \$13,500 (2022 \$13,500) for director fees and \$nil (2022 \$5,000) for being a member of the Advisory Committee.
- (4) Ms. Ahola received \$13,500 (2022 \$13,500) for director fees and \$90,981 (2022 \$88,739) for being a member of the Environmental Health and Safety Committee. Effective March 21, 2023 Ms Ahola was appointed Interim CEO.
- (5) Mr. Jentz was appointed as a director of the Company on September 8, 2022.
- (6) Mr. Henstridge did not stand for re-election at the Company's Annual General Meeting on November 8, 2022.
- (7) Mr. Griffin was appointed as a director of the Company on February 13, 2023.

During the 2023 period the Company incurred a total of \$496,902 (2022 - \$491,682) to key management personnel for salaries and fees which have been allocated based on the nature of the services provided: expensed \$405,921 (2022 - \$402,943) to directors and officers compensation and capitalized \$90,981 (2022

- \$85,761) to exploration and evaluation assets. As at February 28, 2023 \$42,645 (May 31, 2022 - \$93,592) remained unpaid.

During the 2023 period the Company also recorded \$1,174,300 (2022 -\$179,000) share-based compensation for share options and RSUs granted to current and former key management personnel as follows:

2023	2022
\$	\$
156,000	-
65,000	-
117,000	-
117,000	-
156,000	-
166,800	-
117,000	-
45,500	-
-	66,000
234,000	25,000
-	44,000
	44,000
1,174,300	179,000
	\$ 156,000 65,000 117,000 117,000 156,000 166,800 117,000 45,500 234,000

The Company has a management agreement with its Chairman which provides that in the event the Chairman's services are terminated without cause or upon a change of control of the Company, a termination payment of two years of compensation is payable. If the termination had occurred on February 28, 2023 the amount payable under the agreement would be \$120,000.

- (b) During the 2023 period the Company incurred a total of \$61,600 (2022 \$45,650) with Chase Management Ltd. ("Chase"), a private corporation owned by Mr. DeMare for accounting and administration services provided by Chase personnel, excluding Mr. DeMare, and \$3,015 (2022 \$3,015) for rent. As at February 28, 2023 \$6,670 (May 31, 2022 \$3,835) remained unpaid. In addition the Company recorded share-based compensation of \$32,500 on the granting of share options to Chase.
- (c) During the 2022 period the Company purchased a vehicle for \$56,179 from a private corporation controlled by Mr. Hudson.
- (d) During the 2023 period Southern Cross paid a total of \$210,851 for fees to certain of its key management personnel who are also directors or officers of the Company, and these amounts have been expensed to directors and officers compensation. As at February 28, 2023 \$45,493 (May 31, 2022 \$nil) remained unpaid. The Company also recorded \$118,597 share-based compensation for the vesting of Southern Cross share options granted in fiscal 2022 to these key management personnel.

## **Risks and Uncertainties**

The Company competes with other mining companies, some of which have greater financial resources and technical facilities, for the acquisition of mineral concessions, claims and other interests, as well as for the recruitment and retention of qualified employees.

The Company believes that it is in compliance in all material regulations applicable to its exploration activities. The Company is dealing with certain Finnish environmental authorities in regards to certain issues on the Rompas-Rajapalot property. See also "Exploration Projects - Finland - Environment and Permitting". Existing and possible future environmental legislation, regulations and actions could cause additional expense, capital expenditures, restrictions and delays in the activities of the Company, the extent of which cannot be predicted. Before production can commence on any properties, the Company must obtain regulatory and environmental approvals. There is no assurance that such approvals can be obtained on a timely basis or at all. The cost of compliance with changes in governmental regulations has the potential to reduce the profitability of operations.

The Company's material mineral properties are located in Finland and Australia and consequently the Company is subject to certain risks, including currency fluctuations which may result in the impairment or loss of mining title or

other mineral rights, and mineral exploration and mining activities may be affected in varying degrees by governmental regulations relating to the mining industry.

Additional risks and uncertainties relating to the Company and its business can be found in the "Risk Factors" section of the Company's most recent Annual Information Form available at <a href="https://www.sedar.com">www.sedar.com</a> or the Company's website at <a href="https://www.mawsongold.com">www.mawsongold.com</a>.

### **Outstanding Share Data**

The Company's authorized share capital is unlimited common shares without par value. As at April 13, 2023 there were 294,810,810 issued and outstanding common shares. In addition, there were 16,800,000 share options outstanding, at exercise prices ranging from \$0.15 to \$0.50 per share and 1,100,010 warrants outstanding at an exercise price of \$0.15 per share.

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

Disclosure controls and procedures are designed to provide reasonable assurance that material information is gathered and reported to senior management, including the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, as appropriate to permit timely decisions regarding public disclosure.

Management, including the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, has evaluated the effectiveness of the design and operation of the Company's disclosure controls and procedures. Based on this evaluation, the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer have concluded that the Company's disclosure controls and procedures, as defined in National Instrument 52-109 - Certification of Disclosure in Issuer's Annual and Interim Filings ("52-109"), are effective to ensure that the information required to be disclosed in reports that are filed or submitted under Canadian Securities legislation are recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time period specified in those rules. Management relies upon certain informal procedures and communication, and upon "hands-on" knowledge of senior management. Due to the minimal number of staff, however, the Company will continue to rely on an active Board and management with open lines of communication to maintain the effectiveness of the Company's disclosure controls and procedures.

# **Internal Control over Financial Reporting**

The management of the Company is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting. Internal control over financial reporting is a process to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of the Company's financial reporting for external purposes in accordance with IFRS. Internal control over financial reporting includes maintaining records that in reasonable detail accurately and fairly reflect the Company's transactions and dispositions of the assets of the Company; providing reasonable assurance that transactions are recorded as necessary for preparation of the Company's consolidated financial statements in accordance with IFRS; providing reasonable assurance that receipts and expenditures are made in accordance with authorizations of management and the directors of the Company; and providing reasonable assurance that unauthorized acquisition, use or disposition of Company's assets that could have a material effect on the Company's consolidated financial statements would be prevented or detected on a timely basis. Because of its inherent limitations, internal control over financial reporting is not intended to provide absolute assurance that a misstatement of the Company's consolidated financial statements would be prevented or detected.

Management conducted an evaluation of the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting based on the framework and criteria established in *Internal Control – Integrated Framework*, issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (2013). This evaluation included review of the documentation of controls, evaluation of the design effectiveness of controls, testing of the operating effectiveness of controls and a conclusion on this evaluation. Based on this evaluation, management concluded that the Company's internal control over financial reporting was effective as of February 28, 2023.

# **Changes in Internal Control over Financial Reporting**

Internal control over financial reporting is a process designed to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with IFRS. The Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer have concluded that there has been no change in the Company's internal control over financial reporting during the period beginning on December 1, 2022 and ending on February 28,

2023 that has materially financial reporting.	affected, or is reasonable	ly likely to materially	affect, the Company's	internal control over