



**CANDENTE  
COPPER CORP**

**Candente Copper Corp.  
Management's Discussion and Analysis  
For the six months ended June 30, 2021**

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<b>Page</b>
BUSINESS OVERVIEW	2
PROJECT SUMMARIES	2
CONSOLIDATED OPERATING HIGHLIGHTS	7
CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS	8
LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES	11
SHARE CAPITAL	11
COMMITMENTS	11
OFF BALANCE SHEET ARRANGEMENTS	12
PROPOSED TRANSACTIONS	12
RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS	12
CRITICAL ACCOUNTING ESTIMATES AND JUDGMENTS	13
FINANCIAL RISK, FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS AND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT	14
INTERNAL CONTROLS OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING	16
RISK FACTORS	17

**Candente Copper Corp.  
Management's Discussion and Analysis  
For the six months ended June 30, 2021**

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The following Management's Discussion and Analysis ("MD&A") focuses on significant factors that affected Candente Copper Corp. ("Candente Copper") and its subsidiaries (collectively, the "Company") during the relevant reporting period and to the date of this report. This MD&A contains a review and analysis of financial results for the six months ended June 30, 2021, and identifies business risks that the Company faces and comments on financial resources required for development of the business.

This MD&A supplements but does not form part of the interim condensed consolidated financial statements of the Company and notes thereto for the six months ended June 30, 2021, and consequently should be read in conjunction with the afore-mentioned consolidated financial statements which are presented in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards ("IFRS"). Information in this MD&A is current as of August 11, 2021.

All amounts, unless specifically identified as otherwise, both in the Company's condensed consolidated financial statements and this MD&A are expressed in US dollars.

### **FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS**

This MD&A contains certain "forward-looking information" which may include, but is not limited to, statements with respect to future events or future performance, management's expectations regarding the Company's growth, results of operations, estimated future revenues, requirements for additional capital, production costs and revenue, future demand for and prices of copper and precious metals, business prospects and opportunities. In addition, statements relating to mineral estimates or mineralized material of recoverable copper and precious metals are forward-looking information, as they involve implied assessment, based on certain estimates and assumptions, that the copper and precious metals can be profitably produced in the future. Such forward-looking information reflects management's current beliefs and is based on information currently available to management. Often, but not always, forward-looking statements can be identified by the use of words such as "plans", "expects", "is expected", "budget", "scheduled", "estimates", "forecasts", "predicts", "intends", "targets", "aims", "anticipates" or "believes" or variations (including negative or grammatical variations) of such words and phrases or may be identified by statements to the effect that certain actions "may", "could", "should", "would", "might" or "will" be taken, occur or be achieved. A number of known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors may cause the actual results or performance to materially differ from any future results or performance expressed or implied by the forward-looking information. Such factors include, among others, general business, economic, competitive, political and social uncertainties; development and/or exploration activities and the accuracy of probability simulations prepared to predict prospective mineral resources; changes in project parameters as plans continue to be refined; political instability or insurrection or war; labor force availability and turnover; delays in obtaining governmental approvals and permits or in the completion of development or construction activities or in the commencement of operations; as well as those factors discussed in the section entitled "Risks Factors" in this MD&A. These factors should be carefully considered, and readers of this MD&A should not place undue reliance on forward-looking information.

Although the forward-looking information contained in this MD&A is based upon what management believes to be reasonable assumptions, there can be no assurance that such forward-looking information will prove to be accurate, as actual results and future events could differ materially from those anticipated in such information. Accordingly, readers should not place undue reliance on forward-looking information. Such forward-looking information is made as of the date of this MD&A and, other than as required by applicable securities laws, Candente Copper assumes no obligation to update or revise such forward-looking information to reflect new events or circumstances.

## **USE OF NON-GAAP MEASURES**

In this document, we refer to terms that do not have any standardized meaning prescribed by International Financial Reporting Standards ("IFRS"). Our usage of these terms may vary from the usage adapted by other companies, and they cannot be reconciled to comparable terms in the condensed consolidated interim financial statements for the six months ended June 30, 2021.

In this document and in the Company's consolidated financial statements, unless otherwise noted, all financial data is prepared in accordance with IFRS.

## **BUSINESS OVERVIEW**

Candente Copper is a Vancouver, Canada based mineral exploration company engaged in the acquisition, exploration and development of mineral rights interests. The Company is currently focused on the exploration and development of its Cañariaco porphyry copper project (the "Cañariaco Project"), which comprises the Cañariaco Norte and Cañariaco Sur deposits, as well as the Quebrada Verde prospect (collectively, the "Cañariaco Copper Project") located in Northern Peru. The Company also holds other early stage base metal properties located in Peru.

Cañariaco Norte has a well defined resource and several engineering studies have been completed on it. At Cañariaco Sur, a deposit has been identified but further drilling is required to delineate the size and grade of the deposit. The Quebrada Verde prospect has geochemical and geophysical anomalies as well as mineralization and alteration in favourable rock types typical of a porphyry copper-gold system which are currently untested by drilling.

During the period ended June 30, 2021, 9,623,036 common shares were issued: pursuant to the exercise of 5,592,110 warrants for proceeds of CDN\$639,317; 1,050,000 stock options for proceeds of CDN\$52,500 and 2,930,926 common shares issued upon the settlement of Restricted Share Units ("RSUs") at no additional consideration and with a fair value of CDN\$205,165, and 50,000 common shares in relation to the acquisition of Canyon Creek copper project in Northwestern British Columbia with fair value of CDN\$6,500

## **PROJECT SUMMARIES**

*The forward-looking information contained in this section is subject to the risk factors and assumptions contained in the section "Forward-Looking Statements" included with this MD&A. These factors are described under the heading "Risk Factors" and are Non-GAAP measures.*

### **Cañariaco Copper Project**

The Cañariaco Copper Project is an advanced stage porphyry copper exploration and development project located in Northern Peru. The Company is reviewing opportunities for further optimization of economics with a specific focus of identifying the potential for a higher grade and lower throughput which would reduce the required project capital for Cañariaco Norte. Additionally, the Company intends to further explore opportunities to identify additional mineral deposits within the Cañariaco Copper Project. At Cañariaco Norte engineering studies to date indicate a robust large- scale project using a copper price of \$2.50 per pound.

The Company has a 100% interest in the mineral rights of the Cañariaco Copper Project subject to a 0.5% NSR.

### **Mineral Resource Estimate for the Cañariaco Norte Project**

**Candente Copper Corp.**  
**Management's Discussion and Analysis**  
**For the six months ended June 30, 2021**

Mineral resource estimate for the Cañariaco Norte Project, as provided below, was prepared by AMEC Americas Ltd. ("AMEC"). A NI 43-101 technical report with effective date of November 8, 2010, and titled "Cañariaco Project, Lambayeque Department, Peru", was filed on December 15, 2010, with Canadian securities regulators in support of the resource statement.

**Table 1 - Mineral Resources at Various Copper Cut-off Grades:**

<b>Measured and Indicated Resource Summary</b>									
<b>Cu cut-off</b>	<b>tonnes (M)</b>	<b>Cu Eq*</b>	<b>Cu Eq**</b>	<b>Cu</b>	<b>Au (g/t)</b>	<b>Ag (g/t)</b>	<b>Contained Metal</b>		
							<b>Copper (B lbs)</b>	<b>Gold (M Ozs)</b>	<b>Silver (M Ozs)</b>
<b>0.30%</b>	<b>752.4</b>	<b>0.52%</b>	<b>0.49%</b>	<b>0.45%</b>	<b>0.07</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>7.533</b>	<b>1.669</b>	<b>45.237</b>
0.20%	1003.0	0.46%	0.44%	0.40%	0.06	1.7	8.941	2.065	56.102
0.14%	1106.2	0.44%	0.41%	0.38%	0.06	1.7	9.332	2.052	61.665
<b>Inferred Resource Summary</b>									
<b>0.30%</b>	<b>157.7</b>	<b>0.47%</b>	<b>0.44%</b>	<b>0.41%</b>	<b>0.06</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>1.434</b>	<b>0.304</b>	<b>8.932</b>
0.20%	293.3	0.38%	0.36%	0.33%	0.05	1.5	2.165	0.472	14.216
0.14%	419.4	0.32%	0.31%	0.28%	0.04	1.3	2.634	0.539	17.969

\*Copper equivalent grade including gold and silver values and based on 100% metal recoveries. Copper grade equivalent calculation:  $Cu Eq\% = (Cu\% + ((Au\ grade \times Au\ price) + (Ag\ grade \times Ag\ price)) / (22.0462 \times Cu\ price \times 31.0135\ g/t))$ .

\*\*Copper equivalent grade including gold and silver, metal recoveries (gold 55%; silver 50%) and smelter returns (copper 96.5%; gold 93%; silver 90%) applied. Copper grade equivalent calculation:  $Cu Eq\% = (Cu\% + ((Au\ grade \times Au\ price \times Au\ recovery \times Au\ smelter\ return\%) + (Ag\ grade \times Ag\ price \times Ag\ recovery \times Ag\ smelter\ return\%)) / (22.0462 \times Cu\ price \times 31.0135\ g/t \times Cu\ recovery \times Cu\ smelter\ return\%))$ .

This mineral resource estimate is based on 230 drill holes. Metal prices used by AMEC for the resource estimate were: copper \$2.50/lb, gold \$1,035/oz and silver \$17.25/oz.

In January 2011, AMEC completed a pre-feasibility study progress report (Preliminary Economic Assessment ("PEA") for the Cañariaco Norte Project entitled "Cañariaco Norte Project, Prefeasibility Study Progress Report" (the "January 2011 Pre-Feasibility Study Progress Report"). In March 2011, AMEC completed a NI 43-101 technical report entitled "Cañariaco Project, Lambayeque Department, Peru, NI 43-101 Technical Report on Pre-Feasibility Study Progress Report", details of which are disclosed in the Company's Annual Information Form for the year ended December 31, 2011.

The Company revised the November 2011 financial model to reflect the sensitivity of the project economics to an updated range of metal prices and updated Peruvian corporate tax rate (29.5% as of January 1, 2017). The following sensitivity table shows that using copper prices ranging from \$2.25 to \$2.90 per pound, gold prices ranging from \$1,235.00 to \$1,500.00 per ounce, and a fixed silver price of \$18.00 per ounce, the after-tax NPV, IRR and payback periods are now estimated to range from: \$672 million to \$1,505 million; 14.3% to 21.1%; and 5.5 to 3.9 years respectively.

**Table 2 - Sensitivities (8% discount, after tax)**

<b>Gold Price \$/oz</b>	<b>NPV / IRR</b>	<b>Copper Price \$/lb</b>			
		<b>\$2.25</b>	<b>\$2.50</b>	<b>\$2.75</b>	<b>\$2.90</b>
<b>\$1,235.00</b>	<b>NPV \$M</b>	613	914	1,212	1,382
<b>\$1,235.00</b>	<b>IRR %</b>	13.7	16.3	18.7	20.0

**Candente Copper Corp.**  
**Management's Discussion and Analysis**  
**For the six months ended June 30, 2021**

\$1,500.00	<b>NPV \$M</b>	719	1,025	1,332	1,505
\$1,500.00	<b>IRR %</b>	14.7	17.3	19.8	21.1

AMEC FW - 4<sup>th</sup> Qtr. 2010 Pre-production Capex - \$1.5 billion

AMEC FW – 2<sup>nd</sup> Qtr. 2016 Long term pricing Cu \$2.90 / Au \$1,235 / Ag \$18

From April 2011 to June 2013, the Company engaged AMEC and Knight Piesold for certain aspects of a definitive feasibility study. During that time, metallurgical drilling was completed; 50% of geotechnical drilling was conducted; site layout, process plant, infrastructure and ancillary facilities design was well advanced; preliminary mine design was completed; and the environmental and social impact study was approximately 80% completed. The Feasibility Study was put on hold in 2014 due to a lack of interest in the equity markets which affected the Companies abilities to raise funding. On January 21, 2020, Nascent Exploration Pty Ltd., a wholly owned subsidiary of Fortescue Metals Group Ltd. (collectively "Fortescue") made a strategic investment of Cdn \$1,050,000 by purchasing 21,000,000 common shares at a price of \$0.05 in a non-brokered Private Placement. This investment gave them 9.72% interest in the Company and the right to appoint one person as a director of Candente Copper as well as certain pre-emptive rights. These rights include anti-dilution rights as well as a Right of First Refusal on any debt financing or royalty or stream agreements on any of Candente Copper's assets (but does not include an earn-in joint venture proposals). Details of such are given below.

On May 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2020 Fortescue increased their investment to hold 19.9% of the Company by subscribing for an additional 27,500,000 shares for gross proceeds of Cdn\$1,375,000. Fortescue's cumulative investment is Cdn\$2,425,000 for 48,500,000 shares. Due to the exercise of warrants and stock options during 2021 Fortescue's current holdings reach 18.9% of the Company.

Fortescue is one of the largest global iron ore producers, recognized for its culture, innovation and industry-leading development of world class infrastructure and mining assets in Western Australia. Fortescue's recent Australian exploration activity has focused on early stage target generation for copper-gold in addition to its extensive iron ore deposits in Western Australia, while it simultaneously builds on its world-class exploration expertise, operational reputation and capability through exploration in highly prospective areas such as South America, including Peru, to deliver shareholder value.

Fortescue is now considered a strategic investor to the Company, in addition to the investments and the special rights granted, Fortescue has at its cost allocated two engineers to work on a part time joint technical committee with Candente Copper nominees, with a goal to identify the optimum strategy for the development of the Cañariaco project.

**Details on Rights Granted to Fortescue**

In connection with the Private Placement, and provided that Fortescue beneficially owns or has the right to acquire not less than 5.0% of the issued and outstanding Common Shares of Candente Copper (on a diluted basis), Fortescue was granted the following:

1. (a) the right (but not the obligation) to appoint one person as a director of Candente Copper;
2. (b) the right (but not the obligation) to participate, on a pro rata basis, in any future equity financing of equity securities undertaken by Candente Copper to the extent required to allow Fortescue to maintain the same equity ownership interest (on a diluted basis) in Candente Copper that it

**Candente Copper Corp.**  
**Management's Discussion and Analysis**  
**For the six months ended June 30, 2021**

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possessed immediately prior to closing of the equity financing such that Fortescue does not suffer any equity dilution; and

3. (c) if within two (2) years from the Closing Date of the Private Placement, Candente Copper receives a bona fide offer (a "Non-Equity Financing Offer") from a third party to provide Candente Copper with any non-equity financing proposal including, but not limited to, debt financing or a royalty or stream for the purpose of funding the future exploration or development of any of Candente Copper's assets (but for greater certainty does not include an earn-in joint venture proposal) and Candente Copper wishes to accept such Non-Equity Financing Offer, then Fortescue shall have the option to provide such Non-Equity Financing.

**Exploration activities for the six months ended June 30, 2021**

Yaku Consultores was engaged to conduct baseline studies at the Cañariaco Project. Their work will be part of environmental impact studies and habitat protection for all exploration phases of permitting including drilling and also for the community and regional stakeholders.

The Company obtained the respective authorizations from SERFOR and PRODUCE (Peruvian authorities for National Forest and Wildlife Services and the Ministry of Production) to conduct new monitoring of Water Quality, Air Quality, Noise Levels and Biology, Wild Flora and Fauna and Hydrobiology. Yaku has begun collecting new data within the project area which will add significantly to the studies that Candente Copper has been conducting such since 2004.

Field activities also included field visits related to permit applications as well as additional reclamation of drill sites and camp roads.

In late February 2021 Ausenco Engineering was engaged to conduct an internal Desk Top study to identify and define a smaller, higher grade, start up option with lower initial capital expenditure ("CapEx") for Cañariaco Norte. The results of the study were very positive and were announced on June 15, 2021.

On July 15, 2021 it was announced that based on the results of the Internal Desk Top Study by Ausenco Engineering Inc., proposals were being requested from two international engineering firms to conduct an updated Preliminary Economic Assessment Study ("PEA") to evaluate the most attractive potential development strategy for the Cañariaco Norte Project.

Considerations for the PEA are various initial concentrator throughputs including 40,000; 50,000; and 60,000 tonnes per day ("tpd") followed by a staged expansion of production rate using mine cash flow.

Geometallurgical modelling of the deposit and updated smelting costs have indicated that the Outotec Roaster proposed during previous studies will not be required, both for a smaller and a larger project, and therefore it will not be contemplated in the PEA.

Tailings storage methodologies which could improve ESG practices will also be assessed in more detail as part of the PEA. The application of the best available technology ("BAT") for tailings that considers both wet and dry stack tailings storage methodologies which could improve ESG practices and appears viable.

For more details about the Desk Top Study, please see News Releases No. 129, 132 and 134 (dated April 19<sup>th</sup>, June 15<sup>th</sup> and July 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021) and: <https://www.candentecopper.com/news-releases/news-releases/2021>.

**Don Gregorio**

**Candente Copper Corp.**  
**Management's Discussion and Analysis**  
**For the six months ended June 30, 2021**

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The Don Gregorio property is located in northern Peru 140 km NNE of Chiclayo in the department of Cajamarca and approximately 40 km north of the Cañariaco Norte Project porphyry Cu-Au deposit (M & I resource at 0.3% Cu cut-off: 752Mt at 0.45% Cu, 0.07 g/t Au and 1.9 g/t Ag). A 100-hectare concession at the south end of the property was sold in February 2015, and the property now consists of one mineral concession totaling 900 hectares.

On June 29th, 2017, the Company announced it had signed a definitive agreement ("DA") to option the Don Gregorio copper-gold ("Cu-Au") porphyry project, located in Jaen Province, Peru, to Forte Copper Corp. (formerly known as Plan B Minerals Corp.) ("Forte").

In accordance with the DA, Forte has the right to earn a 60% interest in the Don Gregorio property from the Company by:

1. Making staged payments of \$500,000 to Candente Copper; and
2. Drilling 10,000 metres ("m") within 3 years of receiving drilling permits.

To date, the Company has received payments of \$100,000 and reimbursements for vigencia fees of \$8,100 for 2018 and 2019 respectively and \$25,336 for 2020, with respect to this transaction. One-half of the \$100,000 in payments have been used to fund Candente Copper team's work in community engagement and agreements. The Company is also to receive \$100,000 on or before 30 days of receipt of drill permits for the first phase drill program, a further \$100,000 within 30 days of completing the first phase drill program (5,000m) and the final \$200,000 within 60 days of completing the second phase drill program (an additional 5,000m).

An Assignment Agreement which is required to be registered in Peru to allow Forte to apply for drilling permits was signed by the Companies on November 5, 2020. This agreement limits the assignment to a 5 year period such that if the 10,000 metres of drilling is not completed by November 2025, it will be terminated. In addition, Forte must drill 5,000 metres within two years of receiving the drilling permit.

Forte has not advised the Company of any field activities during this period.

## **Exploration activities for six months ended June 30, 2021**

### **Arikepay**

The Arikepay property is located in southern Peru, in the Department of Arequipa, 58 km south of the city of Arequipa and 45 km south of Freeport-McMoRan's Cerro Verde copper-molybdenum mine. The property consists of six mineral claims totaling 4,000 hectares. Prior to Candente Copper's acquisition of Arikepay, Phelps Dodge had completed 4 closely spaced drill holes, however the Company has never been able to acquire results from that program. In 2012, the Company completed about 800 km of helicopter-borne high-resolution magnetics and drilled 3,630m of reverse circulation (RC) drilling in 14 widely spaced holes and identified a porphyry copper-gold deposit.

On November 28, 2013, Cobriza Metals Peru, now a wholly owned subsidiary of the Company, entered into an option agreement with Compañía Minera Zahena S.A.C. ("Zahena") allowing them to earn up to a 100% interest in the Arikepay project (the "Option Agreement") for various work commitments, cash payments and an NSR. By March 2016, the Company had received \$250,000 in cash payments. On March 17, 2017, the Company announced that Zahena had elected to discontinue their option as drilling results did not meet their objectives. As a result, no further payments will be received from Zahena.

During the year ended December 31, 2018, the Company decided not to renew two of the five claims for Arikepay and now holds three contiguous claims totaling 1,800 hectares.



**Candente Copper Corp.**  
**Management's Discussion and Analysis**  
**For the six months ended June 30, 2021**

**Exploration activities for six months ended June 30, 2021**

Field activities on the Arikepay project during this period have been limited to third party reviews of the drill sites and drill core.

**Acquisition of Canyon Creek copper project:**

On May 26, 2021 the Company announced it has entered into an option agreement to acquire up to 100% interest in the Canyon Creek copper project in northwestern British Columbia ("B.C."), Canada

*Terms of the Agreement*

The Company has entered into a legally binding Letter of Intent ("LOI") with property owner Chris Baldys. The LOI provides for the following:

Acquire 100% Interest (subject to Royalty\*) by:

1. Issuing a total of 1M shares over 5 years (by November 30, 2025)
2. Funding exploration activities to keep the claims in good standing until December 2027 (approximately Cdn\$45,000 per year)

Of the above the following is a Firm Commitment:

- Issue 50,000 shares within 14 days of signing and receiving TSX approval; (issued) (note 9)
- Issue an additional 50,000 shares by November 30, 2021
- Funding exploration activities totalling a minimum of \$42,000 by December 31, 2021

\*Royalty:

The Vendor will be granted a royalty equal to 1.5% of net smelter returns. The Company has the right to buyback the first 0.5% for \$500,000 and the second 0.5% for an additional \$1.5M.

**CONSOLIDATED OPERATING HIGHLIGHTS FOR THE THREE MONTHS ENDED JUNE 30, 2021 AND 2020 OPERATING**

<b>Operating Highlights</b>	<b>June 30, 2021</b>	<b>June 30, 2020</b>	<b>Change</b>
Mineral rights and surface rights	\$ 150,287	\$ 154,761	\$ (4,474)
Community relations - RRCC	57,477	38,694	18,783
Social initiatives - RSE	772	-	772
Drilling	2,657	-	2,657
Environmental health and safety	58,451	26,794	31,657
General exploration and development	(21,902)	-	(21,902)
Engineering studies	67,823	-	67,823
Field support include project management	19,971	41,876	(21,905)
Cost recoveries	(22,260)	(25,336)	3,076
<b>Total mineral properties</b>	<b>\$ 313,276</b>	<b>\$ 236,789</b>	<b>\$ 76,487</b>

- Mineral rights costs (Vigencia payments) for the quarter ended June 30, 2021, are \$150,287 compared to \$154,761 for the comparable period in 2020. The decrease in costs is related to exchange rates in this period compared with prior period.

**Candente Copper Corp.**  
**Management's Discussion and Analysis**  
**For the six months ended June 30, 2021**

- Community initiative costs relate to the Company's sustainable development projects and programs. The total cost incurred for these programs for the quarter ended June 30, 2021, totaled \$57,477 compared to \$38,694 for the quarter ended June 30, 2020.
- Environment, health, and safety costs relate to costs incurred in connection to acquiring and maintaining all environmental permits to maintain the properties in good standing as well as all health and safety activities. The total costs incurred for the six months ended June 30, 2021, are \$58,451 compared to \$26,794 for the six months ended June 30, 2020.
- Field support costs include costs related to the maintenance of the operational overhead structure in Peru. These costs include: salaries and wages of personnel in Lima, the Chiclayo and the Cañariaco Copper Project camp facility, communication, transportation, drill core and equipment storehouse facility, food, lodging, fuel costs and project management. For the quarter ended June 30, 2021, these costs totaled \$19,971 compared with \$41,876 for the three months ended June 30, 2020.
- Cost recoveries were \$22,260 for the quarter ended June 30, 2021, compared to \$25,336 for the comparable period in 2020. Cost recoveries are costs reimbursed by Plan B in connection with their option agreement.

**CONSOLIDATED OPERATING HIGHLIGHTS FOR THE SIX MONTHS ENDED JUNE 30, 2021, AND 2020**

<b>Operating Highlights</b>	<b>June 30, 2021</b>	<b>June 30, 2020</b>	<b>Change</b>
Mineral rights and surface rights	\$ 150,287	\$ 154,761	\$ (4,474)
Community relations - RRCC	62,477	54,356	8,121
Social initiatives - RSE	772	-	772
Drilling	14,657	-	14,657
Environment, health and safety	73,737	36,418	37,319
General exploration and development	32,981	1,411	31,570
Engineering studies	71,003	-	71,003
Field support include project management	25,606	80,743	(55,137)
Cost recoveries	(22,260)	(25,336)	3,076
<b>Total mineral properties</b>	<b>\$ 409,260</b>	<b>\$ 302,353</b>	<b>\$ 106,907</b>

- Mineral rights costs (Vigencia payments) for the quarter ended June 30, 2021, are \$150,287; compared to \$154,761 for the comparable period in 2020. The decrease in costs is related to no penalties in this period compared with prior period.
- The Ausenco "desktop" engineering studies to assess the economic potential of a smaller project at Canariaco Norte began in February. The total cost incurred for the six months ended June 30, 2021, totaled \$71,003 compared to \$Nil for the quarter ended June 30, 2020.
- General exploration costs were \$32,981, for the six months ended June 30, 2021 compared to \$1,411 for the quarter ended June 30, 2020. These costs include all geological, geochemical, geophysical studies and field work and are credited towards keeping the Company's permits in good standing.

**Candente Copper Corp.**  
**Management's Discussion and Analysis**  
**For the six months ended June 30, 2021**

- Environment, health, and safety costs relate to costs incurred in connection to acquiring and maintaining all environmental permits to maintain the properties in good standing as well as all health and safety activities. The total costs incurred for the six months ended June 30, 2021, are \$73,737 compared to \$36,418 for the six months ended June 30, 2020.
- Project management and field support costs include project management and all other costs related to the maintenance of the operational overhead structure in Peru. These costs include salaries and wages of personnel in Lima, the Chiclayo and the Cañariaco Copper Project camp facility, communication, transportation, drill core and equipment storehouse facility, the Chiclayo drill core storage facility and communication, transportation, other drill core and equipment storehouse facilities, food, lodging and fuel costs. For the six months ended June 30, 2021, these costs totaled \$25,606 compared with \$80,743 for the six months ended June 30, 2020.
- Cost recoveries were \$22,260 for the six months ended June 30, 2021, compared to \$25,336 for the comparable period in 2020. Cost recoveries are costs reimbursed by Plan B in connection with their option agreement

**CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS**

*Consolidated Financial Performance for the three months ended June 30, 2021*

*For a summary of selected information for each of the last eight quarters please refer to Appendix A.*

<b>Consolidated Statements of Loss</b>			
<b>Three months ended June 30,</b>			
	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>Change</b>
Net loss	\$ 299,991	\$ 313,224	\$ (13,233)
Interest expense	\$ 1,499	\$ -	\$ 1,499
Interest income	\$ -	\$ (3,910)	\$ 3,910
Loss (gain) on foreign exchange	\$ 1,479	\$ -	\$ 1,479
Gain on foreign exchange	\$ (17,508)	\$ (26,066)	\$ 8,558
Amortization (Note 6)	\$ 8,420	\$ 4,782	\$ 3,638
Accounting, audit and tax advisory fees	\$ 11,107	\$ 7,521	\$ 3,586
Bank charges and interest	\$ 649	\$ 325	\$ 324
Legal	\$ 33,607	\$ 2,917	\$ 30,690
Management fees, office salaries and benefits	\$ 102,456	\$ 33,696	\$ 68,760
Travel and accommodation	\$ 13,770	\$ (7)	\$ 13,777
Office, rent and miscellaneous	\$ 553	\$ 10,778	\$ (10,225)
Regulatory and filing fees	\$ 21,827	\$ 21,049	\$ 778
Shareholder communications	\$ 19,468	\$ 1,756	\$ 17,712
Share-based payments	\$ 102,664	\$ 260,383	\$ (157,719)

Net loss for the three months ended June 30, 2021, was \$299,991 compared to a net loss of \$313,224 for the quarter ended June 30, 2020. Significant variances between the two periods are described below:

**Candente Copper Corp.**  
**Management's Discussion and Analysis**  
**For the six months ended June 30, 2021**

- Management fees, office salaries and benefits were \$102,456 for the quarter ended June 30, 2021, compared to \$33,696 for the period ended June 30, 2020. The increase relates to director fees recorded during the current period for \$41,920 (2020 - \$Nil). The Company will pay director fees owed by issuing deferred share units (“DSUs”).
- During the six month ended June 30, 2021, the Company recorded a gain on extinguishment of debt of \$222,655 (2020 - \$Nil) and total cash payments of \$175,000 related to the December 31, 2018, agreement with AMEC Foster Wheeler Peru S.A. (“AMEC”) for the settlement of the trade liability included in accounts payable of the Company’s subsidiary, Cañariaco.
- During the quarter ended June 30, 2021, the Company recorded a gain on foreign exchange of \$17,507 compared to a gain on foreign exchange of \$26,066 during the quarter ended June 30, 2020. The foreign exchange variance is related to the change in the value of the US dollar versus the Peruvian sol during the quarters ended June 30, 2021 and 2020, and the effect on the Company’s assets and liabilities denominated in Peruvian soles.
- Share-based payments for the quarter ended June 30, 2021, were \$102,664 compared to \$260,383 for the same period in the prior year. The decrease is related to the issue of 2,250,000 stock options and the grant of 206,463 DSUs and 225,294 RSUs during the quarter ended June 30, 2021; compared with prior period granting of 400,000 stock options and 4,002,355 RSUs.

**Consolidated Financial Performance for the six months ended June 30, 2021**

<b>Consolidated Statements of Loss</b>			
<b>Six months ended June 30,</b>			
	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>Change</b>
Net loss	\$ 329,597	\$ 486,302	\$ (156,705)
Interest expense	\$ 3,012	\$ -	\$ 3,012
Interest income	\$ -	\$ (8,214)	\$ 8,214
(Gain) loss on term loan payable	\$ 1,479	\$ -	\$ 1,479
Loss (gain) on foreign exchange	\$ 61,333	\$ (10,610)	\$ 71,943
Gain on Extinguishment of debt	\$ (222,655)	\$ -	\$ (222,655)
Amortization (Note 6)	\$ 16,919	\$ 9,554	\$ 7,365
Accounting, audit and tax advisory fees	\$ 39,413	\$ 21,280	\$ 18,133
Bank charges and interest	\$ 1,698	\$ 900	\$ 798
Legal	\$ 46,237	\$ 16,070	\$ 30,167
Management fees, office salaries and benefits	\$ 169,710	\$ 63,450	\$ 106,260
Office, rent and miscellaneous	\$ 27,265	\$ 25,092	\$ 2,173
Travel and accommodation	\$ 774	\$ 506	\$ 268
Regulatory and filing fees	\$ 46,781	\$ 26,937	\$ 19,844
Shareholder communications	\$ 22,148	\$ 5,744	\$ 16,404
Share-based payments (Note 9)	\$ 115,483	\$ 335,593	\$ (220,110)

**Candente Copper Corp.**  
**Management's Discussion and Analysis**  
**For the six months ended June 30, 2021**

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Net loss for the six months ended June 30, 2021, was \$329,597 compared to a net loss of \$486,302 for the six months ended June 30, 2020. Significant variances between the two periods are described below:

- Management fees, office salaries and benefits were \$169,710 for the six months ended June 30, 2021, compared to \$63,450 for the period ended June 30, 2020. The increase relates to director fees recorded during the current period for \$84,311 (2020 - \$Nil). The Company will pay director fees owed by issuing DSUs.
- During the six month ended June 30, 2021, the Company recorded a gain on extinguishment of debt of \$222,655 (2020 - \$222,655) and total cash payments of \$175,000 related to the December 31, 2018, agreement with AMEC Foster Wheeler Peru S.A. ("AMEC") for the settlement of the trade liability included in accounts payable of the Company's subsidiary, Cañariaco.
- During the six months ended June 30, 2021, the Company recorded a loss on foreign exchange of \$61,333 compared to a gain on foreign exchange of \$10,610 during the six months ended June 30, 2020. The foreign exchange variance is related to the change in the value of the US dollar versus the Peruvian sol during the six months ended June 30, 2021, and 2020, and the effect on the Company's assets and liabilities denominated in Peruvian soles.

## **LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES**

At June 30, 2021, the Company's capital resources include cash of \$119,549 and receivables of \$29,183. The Company continues to minimize expenditures. Current work includes: internal "desktop" engineering studies to assess the economic potential of a smaller project at Canariaco Norte; environmental studies to support a permit application to resume drilling at Cañariaco Norte, Sur and Verde; and initiatives that benefit the community and maintain the Company's presence in the Cañariaco Copper Project area.

The condensed consolidated interim financial statements have been prepared on the basis of accounting principles applicable to a going concern, which assume that the Company will continue operations for the foreseeable future and will be able to realize its assets and discharge its liabilities in the normal course of operations as they come due. As at June 30, 2021, the Company had incurred \$36,303,768 cumulative losses since inception.

During the period ended June 30, 2021, 9,623,036 common shares were issued: pursuant to the exercise of 5,592,110 warrants for proceeds of CDN\$639,317; 1,050,000 stock options for proceeds of CDN\$52,500 and 2,930,926 common shares issued upon the settlement of RSUs at no additional consideration and with a fair value of CDN\$205,165, and 50,000 common shares in relation to the acquisition of Canyon Creek copper project in Northwestern British Columbia with fair value of CDN\$6,500

## **SHARE CAPITAL**

As at the date of this report, the Company had 256,734,804 common shares outstanding.

As at the date of this report, the Company had 14,650,000 outstanding share options and 4,911,722 outstanding warrants.

## **COMMITMENTS**

In July 8, 2012, the Company signed a land use agreement with the community of San Juan de Cañaris, by which the community authorized the Company to use the land for exploration purposes for three years.

**Candente Copper Corp.**  
**Management's Discussion and Analysis**  
**For the six months ended June 30, 2021**

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The Company had committed 1,500,000 soles (\$550,000) to fund sustainable development programs subject to specific project approval by a committee formed by the parties. The Company did incur in excess of 1,500,000 soles on community initiatives since July 2012 (more than 6,000,000 soles since 2010) however the committee was not formed in time to approve all of these expenditures. Discussions are underway to reactivate the Committee and come to an agreement as to the amount that would be provided to the Community to satisfy these obligations once a new agreement has been signed. The Company also committed to issue 1,000,000 shares of the Company to the community upon the earlier of the commencement of the construction phase of the Cañariaco Copper Project or the transfer of at least 51% of the Cañariaco Copper Project to a third-party.

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

The Company has not entered into any off-balance sheet arrangements.

#### **PROPOSED TRANSACTIONS**

The Company continues to review potential transactions, but as of the date of this MD&A, none have been approved by the Board of Directors.

#### **RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**

The Company's related parties consist of companies owned by executive officers and directors and Companies with common officers and directors. The following is a list of the related parties that the Company entered into trading transactions with:

- Ridley Rocks Inc. – Management and exploration fees.
- SW Project Management – Former president, project management and engineering fees.
- Xali Gold Corp. – Shared expenses with a company related by common directors and management.
- Lotz CPA Inc. – Financial services, fees thereto.

Key management compensation:

	<b>Six months ended June 30,</b>	
	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>
Director fees	\$ 83,840	\$ -
Salaries and fees	77,234	42,173
Share-based payments	95,017	327,900
	\$ 256,091	\$ 370,073

Key management consists of the Company's directors, executive officers, and senior management. Compensation includes amounts paid to these individuals and companies they control.

During the quarter ended June 30, 2021, the Company accrued \$41,920 in directors' fees (Period ended June 30, 2020 - \$Nil). The Company will pay director fees owed by issuing DSUs.

Included in salaries and fees is \$34,692 (Period ended June 30, 2020 - \$17,611) which was capitalized to unproven mineral right interests.

On April 30, 2021, the Company granted 206,463 DSU's for the period ending June 30, 2021 (2020 – 991,315) to non-executive directors of the Company with a fair value of \$41,549 (2020 - \$87,965) which is

**Candente Copper Corp.**  
**Management's Discussion and Analysis**  
**For the six months ended June 30, 2021**

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recorded as directors' fees within general and administrative expenses on the statement of comprehensive loss. The Company also granted 225,294 RSU's to an officer of the Company for unpaid services provided in 2020.

On May 6, 2021, 1,000,000 common shares were issued pursuant to the exercise of options for cash proceeds of CDN\$50,000 as per Incentive Stock Option Agreement dated January 27, 2020.

On May 7, 2021, 2,250,000 Stock Options at an exercise price of \$0.15 were granted to Directors, an officer, a consultant, and an employee.

On July 30, 2021, the Company granted 414,683 DSU's to cover Directors fees for the period April 1, 2021, to June 30, 2021 (2020 – 991,315) to non-executive directors of the Company with a fair value of \$42,155 (2020 - \$87,965) which is recorded as directors' fees within general and administrative expenses on the statement of comprehensive loss.

On July 29, 2021, 3,515,553 warrants have expired unexercised.

## **CRITICAL ACCOUNTING ESTIMATES AND JUDGEMENTS**

The Company's significant accounting policies are summarized in Note 3 of its annual consolidated financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2020. The preparation of consolidated financial statements in accordance with IFRS requires management to select accounting policies and make estimates and judgments that may have a significant impact on the consolidated financial statements. The Company regularly reviews its estimates, however; actual amounts could differ from the estimates used and accordingly, materially affect the results of operations.

### (a) Critical accounting estimates

#### i. Estimated useful lives

Management estimates the useful life of equipment based on the period during which the assets are expected to be available for use. The amounts and timing of recorded expenses for amortization for any period are affected by these estimated useful lives. The estimates are reviewed at least annually and are updated if expectations change as a result of physical wear and tear, technical or commercial obsolescence and legal or other limits to use. It is possible that changes in these factors could cause significant changes in the estimated useful lives of the Company's equipment in the future.

#### ii. Valuation of share-based payments and warrants

When options and warrants are issued, the Company calculates estimated fair value using a Black-Scholes valuation model, which may not reflect the actual fair value on exercise. The Company uses historical Company stock prices and estimated dividend yield rates to arrive at the inputs that are used in the valuation model to calculate the fair value of the option or warrant

#### iii. Income taxes

Determination of the Company's income and other tax liabilities requires interpretation of complex laws and regulations often involving multiple jurisdictions. Deferred tax assets, including those arising from unutilized tax losses, require management to assess the likelihood that the Company will generate taxable income in future periods in order to utilize recognized deferred tax assets. Estimates of future taxable income are based on forecasted cash flows from operations and the application of existing tax laws in each applicable

**Candente Copper Corp.**  
**Management's Discussion and Analysis**  
**For the six months ended June 30, 2021**

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jurisdiction. To the extent that future cash flows and taxable income differ significantly from estimates, the ability of the Company to realize a deferred tax asset could be materially impacted.

(b) Critical accounting judgments

i. Unproven mineral right interest

Unproven mineral right interest includes the cost of acquiring licenses, exploration, analyses, project administration, drilling, community relations, sustainable development programs, environmental, health and safety. The technical feasibility and commercial viability of extracting a mineral resource is considered to be determinable when proven reserves are determined to exist, the rights of tenure are current, and it is considered probable that the costs will be recouped through successful development and exploitation of the known deposit. Management is required to exercise significant judgment in determining the timing of the determination of the technical and economic feasibility of the unproven mineral right interest. The Company considers both external and internal sources of information in assessing whether there are any indicators that unproven mineral right interest are impaired. Based upon the Company having no intention of abandoning the Cañariaco Copper Project, the Company's assessment of its market capitalization and the Company's assessment of the fair value based on in-situ mineral content and other fair value less costs to sell measures, management has determined that there is no impairment charge as at June 30, 2021.

ii. Rehabilitation and environmental provisions

The Company has accounted for material rehabilitation and environmental provisions that existed as of the period end based on facts and circumstances that existed at June 30, 2021. The Company reviews facts and circumstances surrounding its exploration program, existing laws and compliance, contracts and other policies on an ongoing basis. A material restoration obligation involves a number of estimates relating to timing, type of costs and associated contract negotiations, and review of potential methods and technical advancements. At this time rehabilitation and environmental obligations pertain to the reclamation of exploration drill sites, access paths, and other areas at the Cañariaco Copper Project site that may have been impacted by the drilling activities.

**FINANCIAL RISK, FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS AND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT**

The Company is exposed to certain financial risks in the normal course of its operations:

**Liquidity risk**

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Company will not be able to meet its obligations associated with its financial liabilities. The liquidity position of the Company is managed to ensure sufficient liquid funds are available to meet financial commitments in a timely and cost-efficient manner. The Company's management continually reviews the liquidity position including cash flow forecasts to determine the forecasted liquidity position and maintain appropriate liquidity levels. The Company plans to make payments of trade payables, which are either past due or due within the next 12 months and commitments from its current working capital and future sources of equity financing. Liquidity risk is considered to be high.

**Currency risk**

Currency risk is the risk that arises on financial instruments that are denominated in a foreign currency, i.e., in a currency other than the functional currency in which they are measured. The Company operates



**Candente Copper Corp.**  
**Management's Discussion and Analysis**  
**For the six months ended June 30, 2021**

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internationally and is exposed to risks from foreign currency rates. The functional currencies of the Company's subsidiaries are the United States and Canadian dollars and certain of the subsidiaries' transactions are denominated in Nuevo Soles. The Company does not enter into any foreign exchange contracts to mitigate this risk. The Company and its subsidiaries do not have significant transactions or hold significant cash denominated currencies other than their functional currencies. Therefore, the risk is considered moderate.

**Credit risk**

Credit risk is the risk that the counterparty to a financial instrument will cause a financial loss for the Company by failing to discharge its obligations. Cash is deposited in highly rated institutions and the credit risk associated with these deposits is low.

As at June 30, 2021, the Company's maximum exposure to credit risk is the carrying value of its cash and receivables.

**Financial Instruments**

The Company classifies its financial instruments in the following categories: at fair value through profit or loss, loans and receivables, available-for-sale and other financial liabilities. The classification depends on the purpose for which the financial instruments were acquired. Management determines the classification of its financial instruments at initial recognition.

Financial assets are classified at fair value through profit or loss when they are held for trading for the purpose of short-term profit taking.

Loans and receivables are non-derivative financial assets with fixed or determinable payments that are not quoted in an active market and are subsequently measured at amortized cost.

Available-for-sale financial assets are non-derivative financial assets that are designated as available-for-sale or are not suitable to be classified as financial assets at fair value through profit or loss, loans and receivables or held-to-maturity investments and are subsequently measured at fair value. Unrealized gains and losses on the fair value of such assets are recognized in other comprehensive income whereas impairment losses and foreign exchange gains and losses on such assets are recorded in the statement of loss.

The Company has classified its cash and trade and other receivables as loans and receivables. Trade payables and accrued liabilities are classified as other financial liabilities.

Regular purchases and sales of financial assets are recognized on the trade-date – the date on which the Company commits to purchase the asset.

Financial assets are derecognized when the rights to receive cash flows from the investments have expired or have been transferred and the Company has transferred substantially all risks and rewards of ownership.

At each reporting date, the Company assesses whether there is objective evidence that a financial instrument has been impaired. In the case of available-for-sale financial instruments, a significant and prolonged decline in the value of an instrument is considered to determine whether impairment has arisen.

**Capital management**

The Company's capital structure is comprised of equity. The Company's objectives when managing its capital structure is to maintain financial flexibility to preserve the Company's access to capital markets and its ability to meet its financial obligations.

**Candente Copper Corp.**  
**Management's Discussion and Analysis**  
**For the six months ended June 30, 2021**

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The Company's corporate office is responsible for capital management. This involves the use of corporate forecasting models, which facilitate analysis of the Company's financial position including cash flow forecasts to determine future capital management requirements. In preparing its budgets and corporate forecasting models, the Company considers operating commitments imposed by its subsidiaries and the stability of the global capital markets. Capital management is undertaken to safeguard a secure, cost-effective supply of funds to ensure the Company's operating and capital expenditure requirements are met.

There were no changes in the Company's approach to capital management during the period and the Company is not subject to any restrictions on its capital.

**Fair value hierarchy**

The consolidated statements of financial position carrying amounts for cash, trade and other receivables and trade payables, approximate fair value due to their short-term nature. The receivable for sale of a subsidiary is measured at fair value using the effective interest method.

The following provides a description of financial instruments that are measured subsequent to initial recognition at fair value, grouped into Levels 1 to 3 based on the degree to which the fair value is observable:

Level 1 fair value measurements are those derived from quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities;

Level 2 fair value measurements are those derived from inputs other than quoted prices included within Level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly (i.e., as prices) or indirectly (i.e., derived from prices); and

Level 3 fair value measurements are those derived from valuation techniques that include inputs for the asset or liability that are not based on observable market data (unobservable inputs).

Cash and investments fall under Level 1.

There were no transfers between levels during the period.

**INTERNAL CONTROLS OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING ("ICFR")**

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 Company's internal control over financial reporting includes policies and procedures that pertain to the maintenance of records that accurately and fairly reflect the additions to and dispositions of the assets of the Company; provide reasonable assurance that transactions are recorded as necessary to permit preparation of financial statements in accordance with IFRS and the Company's receipts and expenditures are made only in accordance with authorization of management and the Company's directors; and provide reasonable assurance regarding prevention or timely detection of unauthorized acquisition, use or disposition of the Company's assets that could have a material effect on the interim or annual financial statements.

Any system of internal controls over financial reporting, no matter how well designed, has inherent limitations. Therefore, even those systems determined to be effective can provide only reasonable assurance with respect to financial statement preparation and presentation.

An evaluation of the design effectiveness of the Company's internal controls over financial reporting was conducted as of June 30, 2021, by the Company's management. Based on this evaluation, the Company's

**Candente Copper Corp.**  
**Management's Discussion and Analysis**  
**For the six months ended June 30, 2021**

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CEO and CFO have concluded that the design, disclosure controls, procedures, and the effectiveness of the Company's internal controls over financial reporting was and is effective. The Board of Directors is ultimately responsible for ensuring that the internal control of financial reporting is effective and has been overseeing the Company's management in this regard.

There were no changes in the Company's internal control over financial reporting during the period ended June 30, 2021, that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to affect, the Company's internal control over financial reporting.

## **RISK FACTORS**

The Company is subject to a number of significant risks due to the nature and the current stage of its business and the effect of worldwide economic conditions. Exploration of unproven mineral right interest involves a high degree of technical, financial, and social risk. While discovery of a mineral deposit may result in substantial rewards, few exploration properties are ultimately developed into producing mines. Major expenditures may be required to establish resources and reserves by drilling, constructing mining and process facilities, developing metallurgical processes and extracting base and precious-metals. It is impossible to ensure that the current exploration programs of the Company will result in profitable commercial mining operations.

Risk factors that should be taken into account in assessing the Company's activities and any investment in the Company include, but are not limited to, those listed below. Any one or more of these risk factors could have a material impact on the financial condition of the Company. This information, by its nature, is not all-inclusive and risk factors that have not been listed could have a material impact on the future financial condition of the Company.

### **Economic conditions may prevent the Company from obtaining the capital required to continue operations**

The Company's ability to continue operations is contingent on its ability to obtain additional financing. Equity market conditions, funding environments and the price of the Company's common shares may make it dilutive and difficult to raise funds by the sale of the Company's shares. An investment in the shares of a junior resource company is considered to be a high-risk investment. In the past, the Company has been successful in raising capital for its exploration and development activities; however, there is no assurance that financing will be available to the Company in future periods.

### **History of Losses**

The Company incurred a net loss for the period ended June 30, 2021, of \$329,597 and is expected to generate losses while it continues to be an exploration and development-stage company. The Company anticipates significant expenditures for its mineral exploration programs. The Cañariaco Norte Project has a 43-101 compliant mineral resource and has received a NI 43-101 Technical Report entitled "Cañariaco Project, Lambayeque Department, Peru, NI 43-101 Technical Report on Pre-feasibility Study Progress Report". This work is considered a PEA given that it required additional geotechnical holes to be drilled to complete the Pre-feasibility study. In April 2011, a Feasibility Study was launched with AMEC as the lead engineering consultant. This study was put on hold in 2014 due to a lack of interest in the equity markets which affected the Company's ability to raise funding. Having said this, most exploration projects do not result in the discovery of commercially productive mineral reserves and are ultimately expensed in full. The Company could in fact be required to report net losses into the foreseeable future.

**Candente Copper Corp.  
Management's Discussion and Analysis  
For the six months ended June 30, 2021**

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The long-term profitability of the Company's operations will be in part directly related to the success of its exploration programs, which are affected by numerous factors including the cost of such programs, the amount of mineral resources or reserves discovered and fluctuations in the price of any minerals produced.

**Dilution**

The Company does not generate any revenues from production and may not have sufficient financial resources to undertake by itself all of its planned exploration, feasibility, and development programs. The Company has limited financial resources and has financed its operations primarily through the sale of securities such as common shares. The Company assesses various options for financing however the Company may need to continue its reliance on the sale of such securities for future financing, resulting in potential dilution to the Company's existing shareholders. The amount of additional funds required will depend largely on the success of the Company's exploration programs and extent of future development activities.

Further exploration programs will depend on the Company's ability to obtain additional financing which may not be available under favorable terms, if at all. If adequate financing is not available, the Company may not be able to commence or continue with its exploration and development programs or to meet minimum expenditure requirements to prevent the full or partial loss of its mineral properties.

**No Known Mineral Reserves**

The Company's mineral properties are in the exploration stage and although one property, the Cañariaco Norte Project, has established 43-101 compliant mineral resources, it is without known mineral reserves. Although the Company may discover mineral reserves through its exploration programs, commercial production may not be warranted due to insufficient quantities or unfavourable economic conditions.

In the event a mineral reserve is discovered, substantial expenditures are required to develop the mineral reserve for production including facilities for mining, processing, infrastructure, and transportation. The marketability of any minerals discovered may be affected by numerous factors which are beyond the Company's control and which cannot be accurately predicted, such as global economic conditions, mineral markets and mineral pricing, global smelting and refining availability, and such other factors as government regulations, including regulations relating to royalties, allowable production, importing and exporting of minerals, and environmental protection. Depending on the price of minerals produced, the Company may determine that it is not warranted to commence or continue commercial production.

**Title to Mineral Properties**

The Company believes it has diligently investigated title to all of its mineral properties and, to the best of its knowledge, title to all properties are in good standing. However, the properties may be subject to prior unregistered agreements or transfers, which may affect the validity of the Company's ownership of such properties.

Although the Company has exercised due diligence with respect to title to properties in which it has a material interest, title to such properties may be challenged or impugned in the future. The Company makes a search of mining records in accordance with mining industry practices to confirm that it has acquired satisfactory title to its properties but does not obtain title insurance with respect to such properties. The possibility exists that title to one or more of its properties, particularly title to undeveloped properties, might be defective because of errors or omissions in the chain of title, including defects in conveyances and defects in maintaining such claims. Should a defect in title be discovered by or disclosed to the

**Candente Copper Corp.**  
**Management's Discussion and Analysis**  
**For the six months ended June 30, 2021**

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Company, all reasonable steps would be taken to perfect title to the particular claims in question. The Company is not aware of any material defect in the title to its mineral properties.

A claim on any of the Company's mineral properties, especially if commercially productive mineral resources or reserves are located, could adversely affect the Company's long-term profitability as it may preclude entirely the economic development of a mineral property. Also, such a claim may affect the Company's current operations due to the potential costs, time, and efforts of defending against such claims.

### **Key Personnel**

The Company is dependent on a relatively small number of key personnel, the loss of any of whom could have an adverse effect on the operations of the Company. The Company's success is dependent to a great degree on its ability to attract and retain qualified management personnel. The loss of such key personnel, through incapacity or otherwise, may require the Company to seek and retain other qualified personnel and could compromise the pace and success of its exploration activities. The Company does not maintain key person insurance in the event of a loss of any such key personnel. Also, certain management personnel of the Company are officers and/or directors of other publicly-traded companies and may devote only part of their time to the Company.

Additionally, the Company has relied on and is expected to continue relying upon consultants and others for exploration and development expertise. In the event a commercial mineral deposit is discovered on any of the Company's properties, the Company will likely continue to require the expertise of such consultants and others for the development and operation of a producing mine.

### **Industry Operating Hazards and Risks**

Mineral exploration and development involve many risks, including location of commercially productive mineral resources or reserves, which may not occur even with a combination of experience, knowledge, and careful evaluation. The operations in which the Company has a direct or indirect interest may be subject to some or all of the hazards and risks normally incidental to resource companies, any of which could result in work stoppages. Fires, power outages, labour disruptions, flooding, explosions, cave-ins, landslides social disruptions, political instability, and the inability to obtain suitable or adequate machinery, equipment or labour are some of the industry operating risks involved in the development and operation of mines and the conduct of exploration programs. Other risks include injury or loss of life, severe damage to or destruction of property, clean-up responsibilities, regulatory investigation and penalties and suspension of operations. The occurrence of any of these operating risks and hazards may have an adverse effect on the Company's financial condition and operations and may incur legal liability.

Although the Company will, when appropriate, secure liability insurance in an amount which it considers appropriate, the nature of these risks is such that liabilities might exceed policy limits, the liability and hazards might not be insurable, or the Company might elect not to insure itself against such liabilities due to high premium costs or other reasons, in which event the Company could incur significant costs that may have a material adverse effect upon its financial condition and operations.

### **Government Regulations and Political Climate**

Mineral exploration on the Company's properties are affected to varying degrees by: (i) government regulations relating to such matters as environmental protection, health, safety and labour; (ii) mining law reform; (iii) tax laws (iv) restrictions on production, price controls, and tax increases; (v) maintenance of claims; (vi) tenure; and (vii) expropriation of property through nationalization, requisition or confiscation.

**Candente Copper Corp.**  
**Management's Discussion and Analysis**  
**For the six months ended June 30, 2021**

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Any mineral exploration activities conducted by the Company, including commencement of production, require permits from governmental authorities and such operations are and will be governed by laws and regulations governing prospecting, mining, production, exports, taxes, labour standards, occupational health, waste disposal, toxic substances, land use, environmental protection, mine safety and other matters.

Companies engaged in the development and operation of mines and related facilities generally experience increased costs, and delays in development and/or production and other schedules as a result of the need to comply with applicable laws, regulations and permits. All permits required for the conduct of exploration, development and mining operations, including the construction of mining facilities, may not be obtainable by the Company on reasonable terms, which would have an adverse effect on any mining project the Company might undertake. Additionally, failure to comply with applicable laws, regulations and permitting requirements may result in enforcement actions thereunder, including orders issued by regulatory or judicial authorities causing operations to cease or be curtailed, and may include corrective measures requiring capital expenditures, installation of additional equipment, or remedial actions. Parties engaged in mining exploration, development or operations may be required to compensate those suffering loss or damage by reason of the mining activities and may have civil or criminal fines or penalties imposed for violations of applicable laws or regulations.

To the best of the Company's knowledge, the Company is and will continue to operate in compliance with applicable legal and environmental regulations and social requirements. However, amendments to current governmental laws and regulations affecting mining companies, or the more stringent application thereof, or shifts in political conditions or attitudes could adversely affect the Company's operations including the potential to curtail or cease exploration programs or to preclude entirely the economic viability of a mineral property. The extent of future changes to governmental laws and regulations cannot be predicted or quantified, but it should be assumed that such laws and regulations will become more stringent in the future. Generally, new laws and regulations will result in increased compliance costs, including costs and time and effort for obtaining permits, and increased delays or fines resulting from loss of permits or failure to comply with the new requirements.

### **Social Climate**

Social acceptance to operate during the various stages of a mining project is an integral part of operating such that lack thereof provides a very real risk during the exploration, exploitation and closure stages of mine development. In addition, the fact that the means and tools to manage social acceptance are not an exact science adds to the level of risk.

The Company has established shared value corporate policies and programs that include:

Regular communication with various members of the Community regarding their concerns and needs as well as our activities and objectives.

Social and sustainable development projects and alliances with all levels of government as well as local and international non-governmental organizations ("NGOs") that are committed to improving the lives of families in under-developed regions.

The Company considers these initiatives as a foundation for building a positive and mutually beneficial long-term relationship with the various stakeholders in the Cañariaco Copper Project.

### **Environmental Liability**

Although the Company is not aware of any formal claims for damages related to any impact that its activities have had on the environment, it may become subject to such claims in the future. An environmental claim

**Candente Copper Corp.**  
**Management's Discussion and Analysis**  
**For the six months ended June 30, 2021**

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could adversely affect the Company's business due to the high costs of defending against such claims and its impact on senior management's time.

The Company conducts exploration activities in Peru. Such activities are subject to various laws, rules and regulations governing the protection of the environment. All phases of the Company's operations are subject to environmental regulation in the jurisdictions in which it operates. Environmental legislation is evolving in a manner which requires stricter standards and enforcement, increased fines and penalties for non-compliance, more stringent environmental assessments of proposed properties and a heightened degree of responsibility for companies and their officers, directors, and employees.

The Company is committed to compliance with all environmental regulations currently applicable, nevertheless environmental hazards may exist on the Company's mineral properties, which are not known to the Company at present, that have been caused by previous or existing owners or operators.

Environmental regulations may change in the future which could adversely affect the Company's activities including the potential to curtail or cease exploration programs or to preclude entirely the economic development of a mineral property. The extent of any future changes to environmental regulations cannot be predicted or quantified, but it should be assumed that such regulations will become more stringent in the future. Generally, new regulations will result in increased compliance costs, including costs for obtaining permits, delays or fines resulting from loss of permits or failure to comply with the new regulations.

Depending on the price obtained for any minerals produced, the Company may determine that it is impractical to commence or continue commercial production.

### **Cyber Security Risks**

As the Company continues to increase its dependence on information technologies to conduct its operations, the risks associated with cyber security also increase. The Company relies on management information systems and computer control systems. Business and supply chain disruptions, plant and utility outages and information technology system and network disruptions due to cyber-attacks could seriously harm its operations and materially adversely affect its operation results, Cyber security risks include attacks on information technology and infrastructure by hackers, damage or loss of information due to viruses, the unintended disclosure of confidential information, the issue or loss of control over computer control systems, and breaches due to employee error. The Company's exposure to cyber security risks includes exposure through third parties on whose systems it places significant reliance for the conduct of its business. The Company has implemented security procedures and measures in order to protect its systems and information from being vulnerable to cyber-attacks. The Company believes these measures and procedures are appropriate. To date, it has not experienced any material impact from cyber security events. However, it may not have the resources or technical sophistication to anticipate, prevent, or recover from rapidly evolving types of cyber-attacks. Compromises to its information and control systems could have severe financial and other business implications.

### **COVID-19**

In March 2020, the World Health Organization declared coronavirus COVID-19 a global pandemic. This contagious disease outbreak, which has continued to spread, and any related adverse public health developments, has adversely affected workforces, economies and financial markets globally, potentially leading to an economic downturn. It is not possible for the Company to predict the duration or magnitude of the adverse results of the outbreak and its effect on the Company's business or ability to raise funds.

Additional information, including the Company's most recent Annual Information Form, is available on SEDAR at <http://www.sedar.com>

**Candente Copper Corp.**  
**Management's Discussion and Analysis**  
**For the six months ended June 30, 2021**

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APPENDIX A

*Summary of quarterly financial results*

	Q2 2021	Q1 2021	Q4 2020	Q3 2020	Q2 2020	Q1 2020	Q4 2019	Q3 2019
Net income (loss)	(299,991)	(29,606)	(233,227)	(212,499)	(313,224)	(173,078)	(285,616)	(146,135)
Earnings (Loss) Per Share Attributable to Shareholders Basic and Diluted	(0.00)	(0.00)	(0.00)	0.00	(0.00)	(0.00)	(0.00)	(0.00)