

# **CANDENTE COPPER CORP.**

## **AUDIT COMMITTEE CHARTER**

### **I. MANDATE**

The Audit Committee is elected by the Board of Directors to assist the Board in fulfilling its oversight responsibilities. The Audit Committee's primary duties and responsibilities are to:

- A. Oversee the process of selecting and appointing an auditor.
- B. Oversee the conduct of the audit.
- C. Identify and monitor the management of the principal risks that could impact the financial reporting of the Company.
- D. Monitor the integrity of the Company's financial reporting process and system of internal controls regarding financial reporting and accounting compliance.
- E. Ensure the independence of the Company's auditor in accordance with applicable standards and monitor his performance.
- F. Provide an avenue of communication among the Company's auditors, management and the Board of Directors.

The Audit Committee has the authority to conduct any investigation appropriate to fulfilling its responsibilities and it has direct access to the Company's auditors and anyone in the Company that it deems necessary. The Audit Committee has the ability to retain, at the Company's expense, special legal, accounting or other consultants or experts it deems necessary in the performance of its duties.

### **II. COMPOSITION AND QUORUM**

- A. The Audit Committee shall consist of a minimum of three independent directors and shall be elected at the first meeting of the Board after any Annual General Meeting.
- B. The Chair of the Audit Committee shall be elected by the Audit Committee from among their number and shall be financially literate.
- C. The members of the Audit Committee other than the Chair shall also be financially literate, subject to the exception that the Board of Directors may appoint to the Audit Committee any independent director who is not financially literate on the condition that such director become financially literate within a reasonable amount of time following his or her appointment to the Audit Committee and provided that the Board of Directors at the time of such appointment determine in writing (as evidenced by the Board's consent resolution or minutes of the Board meeting appointing such director to the Audit Committee) that the reliance on such exception from the requirement that all members of the Audit Committee be financially literate will not materially adversely affect the ability of the Audit Committee to satisfy the requirements of applicable corporate and securities laws pertaining to audit committees, including Multilateral Instrument 52-110.
- D. A quorum for the transaction of business at all meetings of the Audit Committee shall be a majority of members.

### **III. DUTIES OF THE CHAIR OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE**

- A. Lead the Audit Committee in the performance of its duties and carrying out its responsibilities within the Terms of Reference established by the Board.

- B. Report to the Board of Directors on the outcome of the deliberations of the Audit Committee and periodically report to the Board of Directors on the activities of the Audit Committee.
- C. Meet regularly and as required with the Chief Financial Officer of the Company and other members of management to review material issues and to ensure that the Audit Committee and the Board are provided in a timely manner with all information necessary to permit the Board to fulfill its statutory and other obligations.

#### **IV. TERMS OF REFERENCE**

- A. The Audit Committee must recommend to the Board of Directors:
  - (a) the auditor to be nominated for the purpose of preparing or issuing an auditor's report or performing other audit, review or attest services for the Company; and
  - (b) the compensation of the auditor.
- B. The Audit Committee must determine the scope and terms of reference of the audit engagement and the process by which and the terms under which the auditor formally reports to the Company.
- C. The Audit Committee is directly responsible for overseeing the work of the Company's auditor engaged for the purpose of preparing or issuing an auditor's report or performing other audit, review or attest services for the Company, including the resolution of disagreements between management and the Company's auditor regarding financial reporting.
- D. The Audit Committee must pre-approve all non-audit services to be provided to the Company or any subsidiary of the Company by the Company's auditor.
- E. The Audit Committee must determine that the audit fees charged by the auditor with respect to the audit are, in the opinion of the Audit Committee, appropriate in relation to the work required to support an audit opinion, without regard to fees that are paid, payable or might be paid to the auditor for other services.
- F. The Audit Committee must review the Company's financial statements, MD&A and annual and interim earnings press releases before the Company publicly discloses this information.
- G. The Audit Committee shall prepare annually a report to the shareholders describing the steps it has taken to ensure that the auditor is independent of the Company, including:
  - (a) the policies and procedures followed so that any contracts for non-audit services with the auditor do not compromise the auditor's independence; and
  - (b) the nature of any non-audit service contracts with the auditor and the amount of the related fees.
- H. The Audit Committee must be satisfied that adequate procedures are in place for the review of the Company's public disclosure of financial information extracted or derived from the Company's financial statements, other than the public disclosure referred to in paragraph F above, and must periodically assess the adequacy of those procedures.
- I. The Audit Committee will review all post-audit or management letters containing the recommendations of the Company's auditor and management's response/follow-ups in respect of any identified weakness.

- J. The Audit Committee will have the right, for the purpose of performing its duties, to inspect all of the books and records of the Company and its affiliates and to discuss such accounts and records and any matters relating to the financial position or condition of the Company with the officers and auditors of the Company and its affiliates.
- K. The Audit Committee must establish procedures for:
  - (a) The receipt, retention and treatment of complaints received by the Company regarding accounting, internal accounting controls, or auditing matters; and
  - (b) Confidential, anonymous submissions by employees of the Company of concerns regarding questionable accounting or auditing matters.
- L. The Audit Committee must establish and monitor compliance with the Company's policies regarding:
  - (a) The auditor's provision of services beyond the scope of the Company's audit; and
  - (b) The Company's hiring of partners, employees and former partners and employees of the present and former external auditor of the Company to fill senior officer positions of the Company.
- M. The Audit Committee will have such other duties, power and authorities, consistent with applicable corporate and securities laws, as the Board may, by resolution, delegate to the Audit Committee from time to time.

## **V. REGULATIONS**

The following regulations shall apply to the proceedings of the Audit Committee:

- A. The Audit Committee shall meet on such dates as the Chair of the Audit Committee determines. Notice of any meeting shall be given by letter, telecopy, email or other means of recorded electronic communication or by telephone not less than 24 hours before the time fixed for the meeting. Members may waive in writing notice of any meeting before or after the holding thereof.
- B. The business of the Audit Committee shall be transacted either at meetings thereof or by conference telephone or other communications facilities that permit all persons participating in the meeting to hear each other, or by resolution in writing. All questions at a meeting shall be decided in accordance with the vote of a majority of those present and the Chair of the meeting shall not have a second or casting vote.
- C. A resolution in writing signed by all members of the Audit Committee entitled to vote on that resolution at a meeting of the Audit Committee shall be as valid as if it has been passed at a duly called and constituted meeting. Such resolutions in writing may be in one or more counterparts, all of which, when taken together, shall be deemed to constitute one resolution.
- D. The auditor of the Company shall, at the expense of the Company, be entitled to attend and be heard at any meeting of the Audit Committee.

- E. The Audit Committee shall meet with the auditor regularly at a frequency that is reasonable in the circumstances and when otherwise reasonably necessary, without management present, to determine whether there are any disagreements between the auditor and management relating to the Company's financial disclosure and, if so, whether those issues have been resolved to the auditor's satisfaction.
- F. The auditor and senior management of the Company shall have the opportunity to meet separately with the Audit Committee.
- G. The minutes of the proceedings of the Audit Committee and any resolutions in writing shall be kept in a book provided for that purpose which shall always be open for inspection by any director of the Company.
- H. The Audit Committee shall have the authority to engage independent counsel and other advisors as it determines necessary to carry out its duties and to set and pay the compensation for any such advisors.
- I. Subject to the foregoing, the calling, holding and procedure at meetings of the Audit Committee shall be determined from time to time by the Audit Committee.

December 31, 2009