



# MacDonald Mines Exploration Ltd.

## Management Discussion and Analysis (“MD&A”)

**Financial Statement Report Date – September 30, 2016**

**Date of this Report – November 4, 2016**

### **GENERAL**

The following discussion of performance, financial condition and future prospects should be read in conjunction with the audited financial statements of MacDonald Mines Exploration Ltd. (“the Company”) for the year ended December 31, 2015, and December 31, 2014 and the notes thereto. The financial statements of the Company have been prepared by management and are in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (“IFRS”). All dollar amounts within this report are expressed in Canadian dollars. **In addition to reviewing this report, readers are encouraged to read the Company’s public information filings on Sedar at [www.sedar.com](http://www.sedar.com).**

The Company’s shares trade on the TSX Venture Exchange under the symbol “BMK”. The Company is a reporting issuer in the Canadian provinces of Ontario, Alberta, British Columbia, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Newfoundland, Quebec and Saskatchewan.

### **CAUTIONARY STATEMENT ON FORWARD LOOKING STATEMENTS**

Readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on forward looking statements contained within this document, which speak only to the date of this MD&A or as of the date otherwise specifically indicated herein. Due to risks and uncertainties, including the risks and uncertainties noted within this MD&A, actual events may differ materially from stated expectations.

This MD&A contains forward looking statements, including statements relating to going concern and capital raising and capital requirements, that are subject to a number of known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that may cause actual results to differ materially from those anticipated. Factors that could cause such differences include: changes in world commodity markets, changes in equity markets, changes in costs and supply of materials relevant to the exploration and mining industry, change in governments, changes to government mining another regulations as well as numerous other risk factors. Although the Company believes expectations reflected in its forward looking statements are reasonable, results may vary, and the Company cannot guarantee future results, levels of activity, performance or achievements.

### **NATURE OF ACTIVITIES**

The Company is involved in the identification, acquisition and exploration of mineral properties with particular focus on the “Ring of Fire” in James Bay, Ontario. This area is not only known to be important geologically but has recently received attention by both the federal and provincial governments.

## **Summary of Properties in the “Ring of Fire” near McFaulds Lake, James Bay, Ontario**

What follows is a brief commentary on some of the properties that the Company holds in the McFaulds Lake and area, “Ring of Fire”, James Bay, Ontario.

### **About the James Bay (“Butler”) Property**

The Company’s Butler property is an emerging VMS-focused study area, with at least four zinc-copper volcanogenic massive sulphide (VMS) ‘centres’ of mineralization (Butler 1 through 4). These centres spaced about 2-4 kilometres apart, represent a typical distribution for deposits in analogous VMS camps such as, Sturgeon Lake, Snow Lake and Kidd Creek. Butler consists of three distinct VMS-type zones spaced along the key stratigraphic horizon. Each has a remarkably similar stratigraphic assemblage, and drilling at all of them has intersected distinctive alteration assemblages and copper-rich stringer mineralization. At Butler 1-2 and 4, drilling ended in altered rocks, indicating potential for additional discovery in adjacent strata. Zinc mineralization trends to be less conductive than copper-rich stringer zones, and from our new drilling at Butler 3, it is evident that the copper and zinc zones may be separated by several tens of meters. In re-evaluating the EM data from these other target areas, the Company expects that new targets will be defined at Butlers 1-2 and 4.

### **Butler VMS Zones**

The size and presence of these intrusions is a primary predictor of VMS potential. Dr. James Franklin, Technical Advisor of the Company, summarizes the VMS discoveries made to date on the Butler property as follows:

- There is good potential for a world-class VMS deposit, possibly on the extension of the core of the zinc-copper-silver rich zone as mapped to date.
- Initial discoveries were of stringer zones formed in the footwall to a much larger system with good potential for additional copper, zinc and silver resources.
- Alteration still continues further to the east at Butler 3, and localized increased copper contents, as well as the presence of other key alteration indicators, along with significant geophysical targets, indicate the potential for discovery a few tens to hundreds of meters to the east. Alteration and down-hole geophysical results pointed to targets that have proved to be banded, zinc-rich VMS mineralization. New gravity and EM data indicate excellent additional undrilled potential.

### **Nickel-PGE Potential**

The intersection of magmatic nickel sulphide (24 m of 0.27% Ni, and 7.5 m of 0.153 ppm Pd and 0.044 ppm Pt) in hole MN07-39 led the direction of 2007 and 2008 exploration programs. This exploration led to limited success and was put aside in favour of VMS mineralization. Dr. Larry Hulbert, Ph.D., P.Geo. appointment to the Company’s Technical Advisory Committee in February 2011 has allowed the revisiting of magmatic nickel sulphide potential. Through his examination of drill core, Dr. Hulbert unequivocally identified komatiites; extremely high temperature, extrusive volcanic rocks with significant magmatic nickel potential. (e.g. Thompson Ni Belt, Manitoba; Raglan, Quebec; Kambalda, Australia).

### **Sale of property**

On August 5, 2016, the Company entered into an agreement with Noront Resources Ltd. ("Noront") to sell 75% interest of the Butler VMS Zones for a cash consideration of \$750,000 represented by the issuance of 2,318,393 common shares of Noront at a deemed price of \$0.3235 per share. The Company has a 25% carried interest in the property until such time as an Inferred Mineral Resource has been filed on the property for Noront in accordance with NI43-101, at which time ("the Notification Date") a Joint Venture shall automatically be deemed to be formed between Noront and the Company and shall promptly enter into a formal joint venture agreement

The Company shall have twenty (20) business days following the Notification Date (the "Conversion Right Exercise Period") in which to make a one-time election to transfer its 25% carried interest in the Property to Noront in exchange for a 1% NSR on the property.

If the Company fails to exercise the Conversion Right within the Conversion Right Exercise Period, Noront shall have the option (the "Buy-Back Option"), exercisable for twenty (20) days following the expiry of the Conversion Right Exercise Period, to elect to purchase the Company's 25% carried interest in the Property for a purchase price of \$3,000,000 ( the "Buy-Back Purchase Price"), payable in cash or Noront shares at the option of Noront.

## OVERALL PERFORMANCE

The net income for the nine months ended September 30, 2016 was \$726,186 compared to a net loss of \$1,047,272 for the same period of the prior year. The income from the current period is from the sale of property aggregating \$750,000 and other income of \$78,603. Other income is derived from a third party who was granted access to the Company's books.

For the comparative period, the loss was mainly attributed to a provision of \$942,000 with respect to PartXII.6 tax and penalties on flow through shares.

Net comprehensive loss for the nine months ended September 30, 2016 was \$145,165 compared to a loss of \$4,857 for the same period of the prior year. As at September 30, 2016, the Company had an accumulated deficit of \$56,180,451 compared to \$56,906,637 as at December 31, 2015.

## MINERAL EXPLORATION ACTIVITIES

No exploration activity were conducted during the nine months ended September 30, 2016 and for the year ended December 31, 2015 due to market conditions and the lack of available financing.

## SELECTED HISTORICAL FINANCIAL DATA

The following tables set out financial performance highlights for the last eight quarters and have been adjusted to give effect to the change in accounting policy:

	Third Quarter September 30, 2016	Second Quarter June 30, 2016	First Quarter March 31, 2016	Fourth Quarter December 31, 2015
			\$	\$
Net income (loss) from operations	733,631	(35,549)	28,104	(110,665)
Income taxes	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Future income taxes recovered	Nil	Nil	Nil	(35,447)
Net income (loss)	733,631	(35,549)	28,104	(75,218)
Net loss per share, basic	(0.00)	(0.00)	(0.00)	(0.00)
Comprehensive gain / (loss)	(152,751)	5,944	1,642	(2,785)
Cash flow (used in) / provided by operations	(20,913)	(18,942)	3,881	(2,247)
Cash & cash equivalents, end of period	10,106	15,958	34,900	31,019
Assets	634,578	46,375	59,741	54,038
Future tax liabilities	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

	Third Quarter September 30, 2015	Second Quarter June 30, 2015	First Quarter March 31, 2015	Fourth Quarter December 31, 2014
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Net loss from operations	(943,967)	(69,327)	(14,978)	(110,364)
Income taxes (expense) recovery	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Future income taxes recovered	Nil	Nil	Nil	35,447
Net loss	(943,567)	(69,327)	(14,978)	(75,218)
Net loss per share, basic	(0.00)	(0.00)	(0.00)	(0.00)
Comprehensive (loss) / gain	(2,764)	3,445	(5,538)	31,171
Cash flow used in operations	10,840	(50,490)	(17,531)	(79,962)
Cash & cash equivalents, end of period	33,266	139,957	122,916	140,447
Assets	105,354	221,361	207,370	242,378
Future tax liabilities	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

## SUMMARY OF MINERAL PROPERTY EXPENDITURES BY TYPE AND BY PROPERTY

The following balances, expressed in thousands, are on a property-by-property basis as at September 30, 2016.

<u>James Bay Property</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Opening Balance	\$ 32,160
Additions	-
<b>Ending Balance</b>	<b><u>\$ 32,160</u></b>

<u>LaRonge, Saskatchewan</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Opening Balance	\$ 1,564
Additions	-
<b>Ending Balance</b>	<b><u>\$ 1,564</u></b>

### Results of Operations for the nine months ended September 30, 2016 and 2015

	<b>2016</b>	<b>2015</b>
Exploration expenditures	-	357
Salaries, professional and consulting fees	12,488	10,901
Depreciation	3,207	14,600
Shareholder communications	5,792	23,293
General & Administrative	20,930	56,393
Part XII.6 tax and penalties	-	942,000
Provision for severance	60,000	-
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>102,417</b>	<b>1,047,544</b>
<b>Net loss from operations</b>	<b>(102,417)</b>	<b>(1,047,544)</b>
Sale of property	750,000	-
Other income	78,603	-
<b>Net income (loss) for the period</b>	<b>726,186</b>	<b>(1,047,544)</b>

### **Expenses**

There were no exploration activity conducted during the nine months ended September 30, 2016 and for the year ended December 31, 2015 due to market conditions and lack of available funds. As a result, exploration expenditures, salaries and professional fees, general and administrative expenses were significantly lower when compared to the comparable prior period. Included in the expenses is a provision for severance aggregating \$60,000 relating to the termination of services with the former CEO of the Company.

### **LIQUIDITY AND FINANCIAL POSITION**

For a further understanding of the movements in cash during the period, readers are encouraged to review the statements of cash flow within financial statements filed by the Company.

<u>As at September 30</u>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2015</b>
Cash provided (used) in operating activities	\$ (20,913)	\$ (57,181)

The Company had working capital deficiency on September 30, 2016 totaling \$938,346 compared to a working capital deficiency of \$1,522,574 at December 31, 2015. Cash and cash equivalents totaled \$10,106 on September 30, 2016 and \$31,019 on December 31, 2015. The Company continues to have discussions with potential joint venture partners to assist in financing its exploration operations.

The Company has not completed any private placements for the nine months ended September 30, 2016 and for the year ended December 31, 2015.

As at September 30, 2016, the Company had no material off-balance sheet arrangements such as guaranteed contracts, contingent interest in assets transferred to an entity, derivative instruments obligations or any obligations that could trigger financing, liquidity, market or credit risk to the Company.

#### **RELATED PARTY BALANCES**

There were no related party transactions for the nine months ended September 30, 2016.:

Included in accounts payable and accrued liabilities is \$47,000 (2015: \$47,000) related to rent payable and a provision for \$60,000 relating to severance payments on termination of employment of the former CEO and former CFO.

A loan owing to Energizer Resources Inc. (TSX: EGZ), a company related by common management, aggregating \$50,000 in a form of a short term loan. The loan is interest bearing at a rate of 5%, unsecured and due on demand. No amounts have been paid back as at September 30, 2016.

#### **DISCLOSURE OF OUTSTANDING SHARE INFORMATION**

The following table sets forth information concerning the outstanding securities of the Company as at November, 2016:

<b>Security Class</b>	<b>Number</b>
Common Shares	302,743,080
Warrants	Nil
Options	9,115,000

#### **SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

For further information about the accounting policies used by the Company, please refer to the Company's financial statements and notes thereto for the year ended December 31, 2015.

##### **Basis of Presentation**

The financial statements have been prepared on a historical cost basis except for financial instruments classified as available-for-sale, which have been measured at fair value. The financial statements have been prepared using the accrual basis of accounting, except for cash flow information.

##### **Significant accounting judgments and estimates**

The preparation of the financial statements require management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the financial statement date and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the period. On an ongoing basis, management evaluates its judgments and estimates by using its experience and other factors it believes to be reasonable. Actual results could differ from those estimates. The financial statements include estimates which are uncertain, the impacts of which are pervasive and may require accounting adjustments based on future occurrences. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognized in the period in which the estimate is revised and also in future periods if it affects both current and future periods. Significant estimates and judgments include, but are not limited to, the provision for tax and penalties related to flow-through expenditures previously renounced. The provision requires management to make judgements and estimates of the likelihood and amount of penalties to be paid.

##### **Mineral properties and exploration expenditures**

The Company expenses all costs relating to the acquisition of, exploration for and development of mineral claims and credits all revenues received against the exploration expenditures. Such costs include, but are not limited to geological, geophysical studies, exploratory drilling and sampling. Once a project has been established as commercially viable and technically feasible, related development expenditures are capitalized; this includes costs incurred in preparing the site for mining operations. Capitalization ceases when the mine is capable of commercial production, with the exception of development costs that give rise to a future benefit.

### **Flow-through shares**

The Company has financed a portion of its exploration activities through the issuance of flow-through shares. Flow-through shares are a Canadian Income Tax incentive. Under the terms of the flow-through share agreements, the tax attributes of the related exploration expenditures are renounced by the Company to subscribers who purchase flow-through shares. Proceeds from the issuance of flow-through shares are allocated between the offering of shares and the sale of tax benefits. An allocation is made based on the difference between the quoted price of the existing shares and the amount that the investor paid for the shares. A liability is recognized for this difference. The liability is reduced and a reduction of the premium liability is recorded as other income as eligible expenditures are incurred and when it becomes the Company's intention to file the appropriate renunciation forms with Canadian tax authorities.

### **Share-based payment transactions**

The Company has a stock option plan. All share-based awards granted, including those granted to directors not acting in their capacity as directors, are accounted for using the fair value based method. The fair value of stock options granted is recognized as an expense within the statements of comprehensive loss and a corresponding increase to reserves within the equity section of the statements of financial position. Any consideration paid by eligible participants on the exercise of stock options is credited to capital stock. The reserves amount associated with stock options is transferred to capital stock upon exercise.

## **FINANCIAL RISK FACTORS**

The Company's financial risk exposures and the impact on the Company's financial instruments are as follows:

(a) *Credit risk:* The Company's credit risk is primarily attributable to cash and cash equivalents and accounts receivable. The Company has no significant concentration of credit risk arising from financial instruments.

(b) *Liquidity risk:* The Company's approach to managing liquidity risk is to ensure that it will have sufficient liquidity to meet liabilities when due. As at September 30, 2016, the Company has a working capital deficiency of \$938,346 (December 31, 2015: \$1,522,574). The Company had a cash balance of \$10,106 (December 31, 2015: \$31,019) and is not sufficient to settle current liabilities of \$1,567,578 (December 31, 2015: \$1,568,059). All of the Company's financial liabilities have contractual maturities of less than 30 days and are subject to normal trade terms, except short-term debt. The Company's financial statements have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles applicable to a going concern, which assume the Company will continue its operations for the foreseeable future and will be able to realize its assets and discharge its liabilities in the normal course of operations. The Company's continued existence is dependent upon its ability to obtain necessary financing to meet ongoing expenses, to complete the development of its mineral properties and upon future profitable operations.

(c) *Market risk:* Market risk is made up of interest rate risk, price risk and equity price risk.

*Interest rate risk:* The Company has cash balances and a \$50,000 interest-bearing debt. The Company's current policy is to invest excess cash and cash equivalents in short-term money market investments issued by highly rated entities. The Company monitors the investments it makes and is satisfied with the credit ratings.

*Price Risk:* The Company is indirectly exposed to this risk through the price of base metals. The Company monitors commodity prices to determine the appropriate course of action to be taken with respect to its mineral properties.

*Equity Price Risk:* This is defined as the potential adverse impact on the Company's earnings due to movements in individual equity movements in the level of the stock market. The Company closely monitors individual equity movements and the stock market to determine the appropriate course of action.

(d) *Sensitivity Analysis:* Based on management's knowledge and experience of the financial markets, the Company believes that it is "reasonably possible" for the Company's marketable securities to move plus or minus 50%. If this were to happen, comprehensive income (loss) would be affected by approximately \$307,728.

## **INTERNAL CONTROLS OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING**

The Company has established procedures and internal control systems to ensure the timely and accurate preparation of financial, management and other reports. The Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer certify financial reports. Disclosure controls are in place to ensure all reporting meets statutory reporting requirements. The Company's management is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal controls. These controls have been designed to provide reasonable, but not absolute, assurance with respect to the Company's financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with IFRS. Internal controls, however well conceived, will provide only reasonable and not absolute assurance that the objectives of the internal controls over financial reporting will be met. It should not be expected that the disclosure and internal controls and procedures would prevent all errors or fraud.

Due to the small size of the Company's finance department, there are a limited number of personnel handling accounting and financial matters and as a result, there is a lack of segregation of duties. Management believes that it has designed sufficient compensating internal controls to mitigate these limitations, including dual signatories on all cheques. Additional internal controls include audit committee and senior management review and oversight.

The Company's certifying officers, the Chief Executive Officer and the Chief Financial Officer, have reviewed the effectiveness of the design and operation of the Company's disclosure controls and procedures as a whole. Based on their review, including a review of the compensating controls relating to the lack of segregation of duties noted above, they have concluded that the Company's internal controls and procedures, as defined in National Instrument 52-109, Certification of Disclosure in Issuer's Annual and Filings of the Canadian Securities Regulators, were effective overall.

## **FLOW-THROUGH PROVISION**

During the year ended December 31, 2015, the Company underwent an audit conducted by the Canada Revenue Agency ("CRA") for the calendar years 2010 to 2013. As a result of the audit, CRA has proposed an adjustment to the amount of qualifying expenditure that were renounced to the Subscribers aggregating approximately \$2,500,000. In addition CRA has assessed additional Part XII.6 tax of approximately \$250,000 to the Company in connection with the shortfall.

Included in accounts payable and accrued liabilities as at September 30, 2016 is a provision of \$1,400,000 representing the maximum amount of tax and penalties related to the 2013 shortfall in flow through eligible exploration expenditures. The Company does not intend to appeal the penalty and taxes imposed by CRA. The Company is evaluating the repayment terms.

## **DISCLOSURE CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES**

Disclosure controls and procedures are designed to provide reasonable, but not absolute, assurance that all material information is obtained, analyzed and reported to senior management on a timely basis in order for management to make reasonable decisions regarding public disclosure.

The Company's certifying officers, the Chief Executive Officer and the Chief Financial Officer, have reviewed the effectiveness of the design and operation of the Company's disclosure controls and procedures. Based on their review, they 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 Filings of the Canadian Securities Regulators, were effective and provide reasonable assurance that information required to be disclosed in interim, annual and special filings are submitted under Canadian securities laws and are recorded, processed, summarized and reported in a timely fashion.