

# **CYPRESS DEVELOPMENT CORP**

(the “Company”)

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS CHARTER**

### **PURPOSE**

The Board of Directors is elected by the Company’s shareholders to supervise the affairs of the Company and ensure management of the business in the best interests of the Company. The Board of Directors shall:

- Review and approve the strategic plan and business objectives of the Company that are submitted by senior management and monitor the implementation by senior management of the strategic plan. During at least one meeting each year, the Board of Directors will review the Company’s long-term strategic plans and the principal issues that the Company expects to face in the future.
- Review and ensure that the principal strategic, operational, reporting and compliance risks for the Company are identified and understood. It will oversee processes and accountabilities for identifying, assessing, monitoring and managing risks.
- At least annually, obtain from senior management a report specifying the management and mitigation of the principal risks of the Corporation.
- Review policies and compliance therewith that require significant actual or potential liabilities, contingent or otherwise, to be reported to the Board of Directors in a timely fashion.
- Ensure, with the assistance of the Corporate Governance and Nominating Committee, the effective functioning of the Board of Directors and its committees, in compliance with corporate governance requirements of applicable legislation, and ensure that the Corporate Governance and Nominating Committee review such compliance periodically.
- Ensure that internal controls and management information systems for the Company are in place and are reviewed and evaluated periodically on the initiative of the Audit Committee.
- Assess the performance of the Company’s senior management and periodically monitor the compensation levels of such senior management based on determinations and recommendations made by the Compensation Committee.
- Ensure that the Company has in place a policy for effective communication with shareholders, other stakeholders and the public generally.
- Review and, where appropriate, approve the recommendations made by the various committees of the Board of Directors, including, without limitation, to: select nominees for election to the Board of Directors; appoint directors to fill vacancies on the Board of

Directors; appoint members of the various committees of the Board of Directors; and, establish the form and amount of director compensation.

### **COMPOSITION**

The Board of Directors collectively should possess a broad range of skills, expertise, industry and other knowledge, and business and other experience useful to the effective oversight of the Company's business. The Board of Directors should be comprised of that number of individuals which will permit the Board of Directors' effective functioning. The appointment and removal of directors shall occur in accordance with the Company's by-laws. A majority of the Board of Directors should meet the independence requirements of applicable legislation, regulatory requirements and policies of the Canadian Securities Administrators. The Board of Directors has adopted a set of categorical standards for determining whether directors satisfy those requirements for independence. A copy of those standards is attached as **Appendix A**. The Board of Directors, upon the recommendation of the Corporate Governance and Nominating Committee, shall designate the Chair by majority vote of the Board of Directors.

### **MEETINGS**

The Board of Directors shall meet at least four times each year and more frequently as circumstances require. All members of the Board of Directors should strive to be at all meetings. The Board of Directors may meet separately, periodically, without senior management, and may request any member of the Company's senior management or the Company's outside counsel or independent auditor to attend meetings of the Board of Directors or with advisors thereto.

### **COMMITTEES**

The Board of Directors may delegate authority to individual directors and committees where the Board of Directors determines it is appropriate to do so. The Board of Directors expects to accomplish a substantial amount of its work through committees and shall form at least the following three committees: the Audit Committee, the Compensation, Corporate Governance and Nominating Committee and the Safety, Health, Community and Environmental Committee. The Board of Directors may, from time to time, establish or maintain additional standing or special committees as it determines to be necessary or appropriate. Each committee should have a written charter and should report regularly to the Board of Directors, summarizing the committee's actions and any significant issues considered by the committee.

### **INDEPENDENT ADVICE**

In discharging its mandate, the Board of Directors shall have the authority to retain (and authorize the payment by the Company of) and receive advice from special legal, accounting or other advisors as the Board of Directors determines to be necessary to permit it to carry out its duties.

## **ANNUAL EVALUATION**

Annually, or more frequently at the request of the Chief Executive Officer as a result of legislative or regulatory changes, the Board of Directors through the Corporate Governance and Nominating Committee shall, in a manner it determines to be appropriate:

- Conduct a review and evaluation of the performance of the Board of Directors and its members and committees, including the compliance of the Board of Directors with this Charter. This evaluation will focus on the contribution of the Board of Directors to the Company and specifically focus on areas in which the directors and senior management believe that the contribution of the Board of Directors could be improved.
- Review and assess the adequacy of this Charter and the position description for the Chair and make any improvements the Board of Directors determines to be appropriate, except for minor technical amendments to this Charter, authority for which is delegated to the Chief Executive Officer, who will report any such amendments to the Board of Directors at its next regular meeting.

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**Appendix A**

**CATEGORICAL STANDARDS FOR DETERMINING  
INDEPENDENCE OF DIRECTORS**

For a director to be considered independent under the policies of the Canadian Securities Administrators, he or she must have *no direct or indirect material relationship with the Company*, being a relationship that could, in the view of the Board of Directors, reasonably interfere with the exercise of a Director’s independent judgment.

The Board of Directors, upon the recommendation of the Corporate Governance and Nominating Committee, has considered the types of relationships that could reasonably be expected to be relevant to the independence of a director of the Company. The Board of Directors has determined that:

1. A director’s interests and relationships arising solely from his or her (or any immediate family members’<sup>1</sup>) shareholdings in the Company are not, in and of themselves, a bar to independence.
2. Unless a specific determination to the contrary is made by the Corporate Governance and Nominating Committee as a result of there being another direct or indirect material relationship with the Company, a director will be independent unless currently, or at any time within the past three years, he or she or any immediate family member:
  - Employment: Is (or has been) an officer or employee (or, in the case of an immediate family member, an executive officer) or (in the case of the director only) an affiliate<sup>2</sup> of the Company or any of its subsidiaries or affiliates (collectively, the “**Company Group**”) or is actively involved in the day-to-day management of the Company.
  - Direct Compensation: Receives (or has received) direct compensation during any twelve-month period from the Company Group (other than director fees and committee fees and pension or other forms of deferred compensation for prior service, provided it is not contingent on continued service)<sup>3</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> A (i) spouse, parent, child, sibling, mother-in-law, father-in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, or (ii) any person (other than domestic employees) who shares that director’s home.

<sup>2</sup> A company is a subsidiary of another company if it is controlled, directly or indirectly, by that other company (through one or more intermediaries or otherwise). An “Affiliate” of a person is a person that, directly or indirectly through one or more intermediaries, controls, or is controlled by, or is under common control with the first person.

<sup>3</sup> Employment as an interim chair or an interim Chief Executive Officer need not preclude a director from being considered independent following the end of that employment. Receipt of compensation by an immediate family member need not preclude a director from being independent if that family member is a non-executive employee.

- Auditor Relationship. Is (or has been) a partner or employee of a firm that is the Company's internal or independent auditor (provided that in the case of an immediate family member, he or she participates in its audit, assurance or tax compliance (but not tax planning practice)) and if during that time, he or she or an immediate family member was a partner or employee of that firm but no longer is such, he or she or the immediate family member personally worked on the Company's audit;
- Material Commercial Relationship. Has (or has had), or is an executive officer, employee or significant shareholder of a person that has (or has had), a significant commercial relationship with the Company Group.
- Cross-Compensation Committee Link. Is employed as an executive officer of another entity whose compensation committee (or similar body) during that period of employment included a current executive officer of the Company.
- Material Association. Has (or has had) a close association with an executive officer of the Company.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, no director will be considered independent if applicable securities legislation, rules or regulations expressly prohibit such person from being considered independent.