

Information Circular

MATTERS REQUIRING SHAREHOLDER APPROVAL

This proxy information circular (the “Information Circular”) is furnished in connection with the solicitation of proxies by and on behalf of the management (the “Management”) of The Westaim Corporation (the “Corporation”) for use at the annual meeting of shareholders of the Corporation (the “Meeting”) to be held at the Jane Mallet Theatre, St. Lawrence Centre, 27 Front Street East, Toronto, Ontario, on Wednesday, May 3, 2006 at 10:00 a.m. Eastern daylight time, for the purposes set out in the Notice of Meeting (the “Notice”) accompanying this Information Circular and any adjournment(s) thereof.

Election of Directors

The Articles of the Corporation require a minimum of three and a maximum of fifteen directors. The number of directors to be elected at an annual meeting of shareholders shall be the number of directors then in office unless the directors or shareholders by simple majority otherwise determine from time to time. The board of directors of the Corporation (the “Board”) has resolved to set the number of directors to be elected at the Meeting at eight.

Management of the Corporation proposes to nominate at the Meeting and the persons named in the accompanying form of proxy intend to vote at the Meeting, unless otherwise directed, for the election of the persons whose names are set forth in the table below to serve until the next meeting of shareholders of the Corporation (the “Shareholders”) at which the election of directors is considered, or until their successors are elected or appointed. Management of the Corporation does not contemplate that any of the nominees will be unable to serve as a director.

The following table and the notes thereto state the names of all persons proposed to be nominated for election as directors at the Meeting, all other positions and offices with the Corporation now held by them, their principal occupation or employment, the period during which they have been directors of the Corporation, and their shareholdings, including the number of voting securities of the Corporation beneficially owned, directly or indirectly, or over which control or direction is exercised by each of them. The information contained herein as to securities beneficially owned, directly or indirectly, or over which control or direction is exercised is based upon information furnished to the Corporation by the respective nominees.

Nominee for Election as Director	Age	Director Since	<u>Common Shares Owned, Controlled or Directed⁽¹⁾</u>	<u>Deferred Share Units⁽²⁾</u>
Neil Carragher Toronto, Ontario, Canada	67	1996	53,907	59,790
Member of:	Independent			
- Corporate Governance Committee	Mr. Carragher is the Chairman of The Corporate Partnership Ltd. (a management consulting group).			
- Human Resources and Compensation Committee (Chair)				

Nominee for Election as Director	Age	Director Since	Common Shares Owned, Controlled or Directed⁽¹⁾	Deferred Share Units⁽²⁾
Ian W. Delaney Toronto, Ontario, Canada Chairman of the Board Member of: - Corporate Governance Committee (Chair)	62	1996	3,670,169	n/a
	Independent		Mr. Delaney is the Chairman of Sherritt International Corporation (a nickel/cobalt mining and refining, oil and gas exploration and production, electricity generation and coal mining company).	
Roger G.H. Downer County Clare, Ireland Member of: - Corporate Governance Committee - Human Resources and Compensation Committee	63	2004	20,000	27,710
	Independent		Dr. Downer is the President and Vice-Chancellor of the University of Limerick, Ireland.	
Barry M. Heck⁽³⁾ Calgary, Alberta, Canada	44	2003	86,939	n/a
	Non-Independent		Mr. Barry M. Heck is the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Corporation. From January 1997 until his appointment as President and Chief Executive Officer on January 15, 2003, Mr. Heck was a Senior Vice President of the Corporation.	
Frank W. King Calgary, Alberta, Canada Member of: - Audit Committee (Chair) - Corporate Governance Committee	69	1996	332,064	60,370
	Independent		Mr. King is the President of Metropolitan Investment Corporation (a capital investment and management services company).	
Daniel P. Owen Toronto, Ontario, Canada Member of: - Audit Committee - Corporate Governance Committee - Environmental, Health and Safety Committee (Chair)	70	1996	1,600,000	52,538
	Independent		Mr. Owen is the Chairman of Molin Holdings Limited (an investment management company).	

Nominee for Election as Director	Age	Director Since	<u>Common Shares Owned, Controlled or Directed⁽¹⁾</u>	<u>Deferred Share Units⁽²⁾</u>
Guy J. Turcotte Calgary, Alberta, Canada Member of: - Corporate Governance Committee - Environmental, Health and Safety Committee - Human Resources and Compensation Committee	54	1998	1,463,882	73,094
	Independent			
	Mr. Turcotte is the Chairman of Western Oil Sands Inc. (an oil sands production company). Prior to becoming Chairman of Western Oil Sands Inc. in April 2005, Mr. Turcotte was Chief Executive Officer of Western Oil Sands Inc. from July 1999 to April 2005 and President from January 2002 to April 2005. He has held the position of Chairman of Fort Chicago Energy Partners L.P. since December 1997 and was Chief Executive Officer of that company from December 1997 to December 2002.			
Bruce V. Walter Toronto, Ontario, Canada Member of: - Audit Committee - Corporate Governance Committee	48	1997	32,800	103,974
	Independent			
	Mr. Walter is the President and Chief Executive Officer of Dynatec Corporation (a mining, drilling and metallurgical technologies company). Prior to becoming President and Chief Executive Officer of Dynatec Corporation in January 2005, Mr. Walter was Vice-Chairman of Dynatec Corporation from March 2002 to December 2004. He was Chief Executive Officer of Four Mile Investments Inc. from August 1993 and Managing Director, BMO Nesbitt Burns Inc. from February 1999 to November 2001.			

1. The information as to the common shares in the capital of the Corporation (“Common Shares”) owned, controlled or directed has been furnished by each of the nominees as of March 8, 2006.
2. The information as to deferred share units (“DSUs”) is provided as at March 8, 2006. For more detailed information relating to the deferred share units held by the directors, see “Statement of Executive Compensation – Remuneration of Directors”.
3. Barry M. Heck owned 201,928 restricted share units (“RSUs”) as at March 8, 2006. In addition to these RSUs, on February 15, 2006, he was granted the right to earn up to 57,739 RSUs during 2006, subject to the achievement of certain objectives. The actual number of RSUs earned for 2006 will be established in early 2007 based on the achievement of these objectives.

IF ANY OF THE ABOVE NOMINEES IS FOR ANY REASON UNAVAILABLE TO SERVE AS A DIRECTOR, PROXIES IN FAVOUR OF MANAGEMENT WILL BE VOTED FOR ANOTHER NOMINEE IN THEIR DISCRETION UNLESS THE SHAREHOLDER HAS SPECIFIED IN THE PROXY THAT HIS OR HER SHARES ARE TO BE WITHHELD FROM VOTING IN THE ELECTION OF DIRECTORS.

Committee Memberships and Record of Attendance at Meetings

The following table summarizes the meetings of the Board and its committees held for the twelve month period ending December 31, 2005 and the attendance of individual directors of the Corporation at such meetings.

<u>Type of Meeting Held</u>		<u>Number of Meetings</u>	
Board		8	
Audit Committee		5	
Human Resources and Compensation Committee		5	
Environmental, Health & Safety Committee		1	
Corporate Governance Committee		3	

<u>Director</u>	<u>Committee Memberships¹</u>	<u>Committee Meetings Attended</u>	<u>Board Meetings Attended</u>
N. Carragher	Corporate Governance Human Resources and Compensation (Chair)	3 of 3 5 of 5	8 of 8
I.W. Delaney	Corporate Governance (Chair)	3 of 3	8 of 8
R.G.H. Downer	Corporate Governance Human Resources and Compensation	3 of 3 5 of 5	8 of 8
B.M. Heck			8 of 8
F.W. King	Audit (Chair) Corporate Governance	5 of 5 3 of 3	8 of 8
E.M. Lakusta	Audit Corporate Governance Environmental, Health & Safety	2 of 2 2 of 3 1 of 1	6 of 8
D.P. Owen	Audit Corporate Governance Environmental, Health & Safety (Chair)	3 of 3 3 of 3 1 of 1	8 of 8
G.J. Turcotte	Corporate Governance Environmental, Health & Safety Human Resources and Compensation	2 of 3 1 of 1 4 of 5	8 of 8
B.V. Walter	Audit Corporate Governance	5 of 5 3 of 3	8 of 8
Total Attendance Rate		95%	97%

1. Except for its Corporate Governance Committee, which consists of all of the independent directors of the Corporation, the Board periodically rotates its committee memberships. As a result, on May 4, 2005, the composition of the committees of the Board changed. The committees of the Board (other than the Corporate Governance Committee) were as follows from January 1 to May 4, 2005: Audit - F.W. King, E.M. Lakusta and B.V. Walter; Compensation - N. Carragher, D.P. Owen and G.J. Turcotte; Environmental, Health & Safety - E.M. Lakusta, D.P. Owen and G.J. Turcotte. The committees of the Board were as follows from May 4, 2005 to December 31, 2005: Audit - F.W. King, D.P. Owen and B.V. Walter; Human Resources and Compensation - N. Carragher, R.G.H. Downer and G.J. Turcotte; Environmental, Health & Safety - E.M. Lakusta, D.P. Owen and G.J. Turcotte.

Appointment of Auditors and Authorization of Board to Fix Auditors' Remuneration

Unless otherwise directed, the persons named in the enclosed form of proxy intend to vote for the re-appointment of Deloitte & Touche LLP, Chartered Accountants, as auditors of the Corporation to hold office until the next annual meeting of Shareholders, and to authorize the Board to fix the auditors' remuneration. Deloitte & Touche LLP were first appointed auditors of the Corporation on May 7, 1996.

GENERAL STATUTORY INFORMATION

Solicitation of Proxies

Solicitation of proxies for the Meeting will be primarily by mail, the cost of which will be borne by the Corporation. Proxies may also be solicited personally by employees of the Corporation at nominal cost. In some instances, the Corporation has distributed copies of the Notice, the Information Circular, form of proxy and the annual report (collectively, the "Documents") to clearing agencies, securities dealers, banks and trust companies, or their nominees (collectively "Intermediaries", and each an "Intermediary") for onward distribution to Shareholders whose Common Shares are held by or in the custody of those Intermediaries ("Non-registered Shareholders"). The Intermediaries are required to forward the Documents to Non-registered Shareholders.

Solicitation of proxies from Non-registered Shareholders will be carried out by Intermediaries, or by the Corporation if the names and addresses of Non-registered Shareholders are provided by the Intermediaries. The cost of the solicitation will be borne by the Corporation.

Non-registered Shareholders who have received the Documents from their Intermediary should follow the directions of their Intermediary with respect to the procedure to be followed. Generally, Non-registered Shareholders will either:

- (a) be provided with a form of proxy executed by the Intermediary but otherwise uncompleted. The Non-registered Shareholder may complete the proxy and return it directly to the Corporation's transfer agent; or
- (b) be provided with a request for voting instructions. The Intermediary is required to send the Corporation an executed form of proxy completed in accordance with any voting instructions received by the Intermediary.

If you are a Non-registered Shareholder, and the Corporation or its agent has sent these materials directly to you, your name and address and information about your holdings of securities have been obtained in accordance with applicable securities regulatory requirements from your Intermediary.

By choosing to send the Documents to you directly, the Corporation (and not your Intermediary) has assumed responsibility for (i) delivering the Documents to you, and (ii) executing your proper voting instructions. Please return your voting instructions as specified in the request for voting instructions.

Appointment of Proxy

The persons named in the enclosed form of proxy are directors and/or officers of the Corporation. **A SHAREHOLDER DESIRING TO APPOINT SOME OTHER PERSON TO REPRESENT HIM OR HER AT THE MEETING MAY DO SO** either by inserting the name of such person in the space provided in the form of proxy or by completing another proper form of proxy and, in either case, delivering the completed proxy to the attention of the Vice President, General Counsel and Corporate Secretary of the Corporation c/o Computershare Trust Company of Canada, 9th Floor, 100 University Avenue, Toronto, Ontario, M5J 2Y1, no later than 10:00 a.m. Eastern daylight time on May 1, 2006, provided, however, that the chairman of the Meeting may, in his sole discretion, accept proxies delivered to him up to the time when any vote is taken at the Meeting or any adjournment thereof.

Revocation of Proxy

A Shareholder who has given a proxy pursuant to this solicitation may revoke it at any time up to and including the last business day preceding the day of the Meeting or any adjournments thereof at which the proxy is to be used, by an instrument in writing executed by the Shareholder or by his or her attorney authorized in writing, to the attention of the Vice President, General Counsel and Corporate Secretary of the Corporation and either delivered to the offices of the Corporation at 10102-114 Street, Fort Saskatchewan, Alberta, T8L 3W4 or faxed to (780) 992-5301, or by delivering written notice of such revocation to the chairman of the Meeting prior to the commencement of the Meeting on the day of the Meeting or any adjournment thereof, or in any other manner permitted by law.

Voting of Proxies and Discretion Thereof

Common Shares represented by properly executed proxies in favour of persons designated in the printed portion of the enclosed form of proxy WILL, UNLESS OTHERWISE INDICATED, BE VOTED FOR THE ELECTION OF DIRECTORS, FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS, AND FOR THE AUTHORIZATION OF THE BOARD TO FIX AUDITORS' REMUNERATION AS STATED UNDER THOSE HEADINGS IN THE INFORMATION CIRCULAR. The enclosed form of proxy confers discretionary authority on the persons named therein with respect to amendments or variations to matters identified in the Notice or other matters which may properly come before the Meeting. At the time of printing this Information Circular, Management of the Corporation knows of no such amendments, variations or other matters to come before the Meeting. However, if other matters do properly come before the Meeting, it is the intention of the persons named in the enclosed form of proxy to vote such proxy according to their best judgement.

Voting Shares and Principal Holders Thereof

As of March 8, 2006 the Corporation had 92,900,649 issued and outstanding Common Shares. Each Shareholder is entitled to one vote on all matters to come before the Meeting for each Common Share shown as registered in his or her name on the list of Shareholders which is available for inspection during usual business hours at Computershare Trust Company of Canada, 600, 530-8th Avenue S.W., Calgary, Alberta, T2P 3S8 and at the Meeting. The list of Shareholders is as of March 15, 2006, the record date fixed for determining Shareholders entitled to notice of the Meeting. If a person has acquired ownership of Common Shares since that date, he or she may establish such ownership and demand, not later than 10 days before the Meeting, that his or her name be included in the list of Shareholders.

To the knowledge of the directors and officers of the Corporation no person owns beneficially, or exercises control or direction over, Common Shares carrying more than 10% of the voting rights attached to all Common Shares entitled to be voted at the Meeting.

There are no cumulative or similar voting rights attached to the Common Shares.

SECURITY BASED COMPENSATION ARRANGEMENTS

Equity Compensation Plan Information to December 31, 2005

Equity compensation plans approved by securityholders	Number of securities to be issued upon exercise of outstanding options, warrants and rights	Weighted-average exercise price of outstanding options, warrants and rights	Number of securities remaining available for future issuance under equity compensation plans
Option Plan ¹	5,049,600	\$6.67	3,000,973 ²
RSU Plan	178,465	N/A	3,000,973 ²
Purchase Plan	124,249 ³	\$3.82 ⁴	186,636

1. Includes securities to be issued under both the Option Plan and the D&O Program (both as defined below).

2. The number of securities remaining available for future issuance under the Option Plan (including the D&O Program) and the RSU Plan (as defined below) constitutes a single reserve of 3,000,973 Common Shares shared by the two plans.

3. This number is subject to increase based on the weighted average trading price of the Common Shares at the last business day of the purchase period applicable to the particular rights granted under the Purchase Plan (as defined below), or to decrease if participants in the Purchase Plan cancel elections to purchase Common Shares under the Purchase Plan. See below under Employee Share Purchase Plan, and see note 4 immediately below.

4. The weighted average purchase price for the Purchase Plan is subject to reduction if the Market Value (as defined below) on the date of purchase is less than the Market Value on the offering date. A more detailed explanation of the terms of the Purchase Plan is provided below under Employee Share Purchase Plan.

1996 Directors and Officers Stock Option Plan

The eligible participants under the 1996 Directors and Officers Stock Option Plan (the "Option Plan") include certain directors and employees of the Corporation and its subsidiaries.

There are a total of 10,750,000 Common Shares reserved for issuance pursuant to options to purchase Common Shares (the "Options") and Stock Appreciation Rights ("SARs") issuable under the Option Plan, or in settlement of RSUs, which represent approximately 11.57% of the currently outstanding Common Shares.

As of March 8, 2006, there were 5,324,600 Options granted and outstanding under the Option Plan which represents approximately 5.7% of the currently outstanding Common Shares.

Under the terms of the Option Plan, the maximum percentage of Common Shares under the Option Plan which are available to insiders of the Corporation within a one year period shall not exceed approximately 11.57%, being the 10,750,000 Common Shares designated for issuance under the Option Plan as noted above.

The maximum number of Common Shares any one person or company (including insiders of the Corporation) is entitled to receive under the Option Plan must not exceed 5% of the issued and outstanding Common Shares of the Corporation.

The exercise price of Options granted under the Option Plan is determined as the closing price of the Common Shares on the Toronto Stock Exchange (the "TSX") for the trading day immediately preceding the date on which the granting of the Options is approved by the Board (the "Market Price").

The formula for calculating market appreciation of SARs is the difference between (i) the Market Price of the Common Shares covered by such Option or portion thereof when transferred and surrendered, and (ii) the aggregate exercise price of the Common Shares subject to such Option or portion thereof. The Corporation may grant SARs in connection and in conjunction with the grant of any Option to purchase Common Shares under the Option Plan.

The period during which an Option may be exercised shall not extend beyond 10 years from the date of the grant of the Option. The Human Resources and Compensation committee of the Board (the "Compensation Committee") may, however, provide that Options granted under the Option Plan be exercisable in whole or in part only after specified periods designated by the Compensation Committee.

In the case of a participant who is an employee (whether or not the participant is also a director):

(a) if the employment of a participant is terminated for just cause before the expiry date of all of such participant's Options, then the Options granted to such participant shall thereupon cease and terminate and be of no further force or effect whatsoever; and

(b) if the employment of a participant is terminated for reasons other than just cause or the death or disability of the participant or, in the case of an employee of a subsidiary, if the subsidiary ceases to be a subsidiary of the Corporation before the expiry date of all of such participant's Options, then the Options shall remain in force and shall be exercisable as provided by their terms, for a period of 90 days after the date of termination or cessation, or such other period as may be specified in such circumstances by the terms of the particular Option or by the Board. At the end of such period, all of the participant's unexercised Options shall terminate and be of no further force or effect whatsoever.

In the case of a participant who is a director but not an employee, if the participant ceases to be a director of the Corporation or, in the case of a director of a subsidiary, if the subsidiary ceases to be a subsidiary of the Corporation before the expiry date of all such participant's Options, then the Options shall remain in force and shall be exercisable as provided by their terms, for a period of 90 days after the date of such cessation, or such other period as may be specified in such circumstances by the terms of the Option or by the Board. At the end of such period all of the participant's unexercised Options shall terminate and be of no further force or effect whatsoever.

In the event of the death or disability of a participant, any Option previously granted to the participant and not otherwise exercisable at the time of death or disability shall immediately become fully exercisable. The personal legal representative (or, in the case of disability, the participant if he or she is competent to do so) may, within 180 days of the date of death or disability or such other period as may be specified in such circumstances by the terms of the particular Option or by the Board, or the expiry of the term of the Option of such participant (whichever is earlier), exercise all Options of such participant. At the end of such 180 day period or as specified in the terms applicable to the Option, whichever is earlier, the Option shall forthwith terminate and be of no further force or effect whatsoever.

Options granted to participants are not transferable and are exercisable only by the participant.

The Option Plan, as approved by the shareholders of the Corporation, provides that, subject to applicable regulatory approval, the Board may at any time discontinue or amend the plan, provided however that except as expressly permitted by the plan, no amendment shall alter or impair any Option previously granted to a participant. The rules of the TSX impose general restrictions on the nature of amendments to such plans which may be effected without shareholder approval. The Corporation will seek guidance from the TSX in respect of any proposed amendment as to whether regulatory or shareholder approval of such amendment is required.

No financial assistance is provided by the Corporation to participants to facilitate the purchase of Common Shares under the Option Plan.

Directors and Officers Share Purchase Program

In 1999, the Corporation established the Directors and Officers Share Purchase Program (the "D&O Program"). Under the D&O Program, directors and designated officers are granted an Option to purchase one Common Share of the Corporation for each Common Share purchased, to a cumulative maximum of 50,000 Options. Options equal to the net purchases of Common Shares by the optionee during a calendar year vest at the end of that calendar year. Any Options which do not vest at year end are cancelled.

The D&O Program was established to encourage directors and officers to purchase and hold Common Shares of the Corporation. Options granted under the D&O Program are issued in accordance with the provisions of the Option Plan, are granted at an exercise price not less than the closing price of the Common Shares on the TSX for the trading day immediately preceding the date of grant and are exercisable for a period of 10 years from the date of the grant. All Named Executive Officers as defined in the Summary Compensation Table of the Information Circular have been designated participants under the D&O Program.

No financial assistance is provided by the Corporation to participants to facilitate the purchase of Common Shares under the D&O Program.

Employee Share Purchase Plan

The eligible participants under the Employee Share Purchase Plan (the "Purchase Plan") include all full-time permanent employees of the Corporation and its subsidiaries who are employed more than twenty hours a week and who are paid either a periodic salary or hourly wages, including without limitation any such person who is also an officer or director of the Corporation or any of its subsidiaries.

There are a total of 750,000 Common Shares issued and issuable under the Purchase Plan which represents approximately 0.8% of the currently outstanding Common Shares. As of March 8, 2006, there were 439,115 Common Shares issued under the Purchase Plan which represent approximately 0.47% of the currently outstanding Common Shares. There are additional Common Shares reserved for issuance under the Purchase Plan, but not yet issued, and if these shares, or any of them, are issued then there will be additional dilution. See the table Equity Compensation Plan Information to December 31, 2005, above, under Purchase Plan, as well as the notes to that table.

The maximum number of Common Shares any one eligible participant (including any insider of the Corporation) may elect to purchase under the Purchase Plan is determined by dividing the weighted average trading price of the Common Shares on the TSX for the five trading days immediately preceding the day in question ("Market Value on the offering date into an amount equivalent to five per cent of such participant's base annual salary.

The purchase price of the Common Shares purchased pursuant to the Purchase Plan is the lesser of the Market Value on the offering date and the Market Value on the last business day of the purchase period. As a result, the purchase price could be below the market price of the Common Shares on the date of purchase.

A participant may cancel an election to purchase shares as to any or all of the shares specified therein at any time prior to the close of business on the last business day of the purchase period by written notice of cancellation delivered to and received by the Corporation. Upon receipt of such notice of cancellation, the Corporation shall instruct the administrative agent under the Purchase Plan to return to the participant the appropriate portion of the accumulated instalment payments to the participant's credit together with interest, if any, accrued thereon. If a participant cancels an election to purchase shares under any offering as to any or all of the shares specified therein then the participant shall not be entitled to rejoin or otherwise participate in such plan with respect to such cancelled shares.

Upon the termination of a participant's employment with the Corporation by reason of retirement, disability or death, the participant or his legal representative may elect within 60 days after the date of termination of the participant's employment, but not later than the end of the purchase period, either of the following:

(a) the aggregate of all the participant's instalment payments, excluding interest accrued thereon, may be applied to the purchase of the greatest number of shares (rounded down to the nearest whole number) as may be purchased therewith, and any balance, including accrued interest, shall be distributed to the participant or his legal representative in cash; or

(b) the total number of shares specified in the participant's election to purchase shares may be purchased by the application of all of the participant's instalment payments to date, including interest accrued thereon, together with whatever additional lump sum cash payment needs to be made to meet the total purchase price and satisfy withholding or other deduction requirements, if any, for such shares.

If no valid election is made within the specified period, the total of all instalment payments accumulated in the participant's account with the administrative agent, together with accrued interest thereon to the immediately preceding interest accrual date, shall be paid to the participant or his legal representative in full satisfaction of all his rights under the Purchase Plan.

A participant who does not return to active employment within twelve months from the commencement of a leave of absence or lay-off or prior to the end of the purchase period, whichever is the earlier, shall be deemed to be a terminated employee as of such date for purposes of the Purchase Plan offering.

Upon the termination of a participant's employment with the Corporation other than by reason of retirement, disability or death, the participant may with the consent of the Corporation elect by written notice delivered to the Corporation within sixty days after the date of termination of the participant's employment, but not later than the end of the purchase period, to have the aggregate of all the participant's instalment payments, excluding interest accrued thereon, applied to the purchase of the greatest number of shares (rounded down to the nearest whole number) as may be purchased therewith, and any balance, including accrued interest, shall be distributed to the participant in cash. If consent of the Corporation is granted and the participant so elects, the purchase price shall be the lesser of the offer price and Market Value on the date of termination of the participant's employment.

If the Corporation does not grant consent as aforesaid or if no such valid election is made within the specified period, then the total of all instalment payments accumulated in the participant's account with the administrative agent, together with accrued interest thereon to the immediately preceding interest accrual date, shall be paid to the participant or the participant's legal representative in full satisfaction of all of the participant's rights under the Purchase Plan.

No right or interest of any participant in or under the Purchase Plan shall be assignable or transferable, in whole or in part, either directly or by operation of law or otherwise in any manner except as a result of death or mental incompetency of the participant, and shall be exercisable, during a participant's lifetime, only by the participant. Subject to applicable regulatory approval, the Corporation may, in its sole discretion and for any reason, terminate the Purchase Plan at any time or may at any time or from time to time modify the Purchase Plan in its entirety or in part.

The Purchase Plan, as approved by the shareholders of the Corporation, provides that subject to approval by the TSX, the Corporation may terminate or modify the plan in part or in its entirety, and may rescind, change or cancel any offering date, as defined therein. Such amendments shall not affect the rights of a participant in respect of distribution or withdrawal of the participant's instalment payment or interest accrued thereon or the number of shares which may be purchased with accumulated instalment payments. The rules of the TSX impose general restrictions on the nature of amendments to such plans which may be effected without shareholder approval. The Corporation will seek guidance from the TSX in respect of any proposed amendment as to whether regulatory or shareholder approval of such amendment is required.

No financial assistance is provided by the Corporation to participants to facilitate the purchase of Common Shares under the Purchase Plan.

Restricted Share Unit Plan

In 2004, the Corporation established the Restricted Share Unit Plan (the "RSU Plan") to provide a more balanced approach to incentive compensation by including mid-term incentive compensation (i.e. RSUs, which are considered mid-term compensation by the Corporation, in comparison to Options, which are considered long-term compensation by the Corporation. However, RSUs are set out in the table Long Term Incentive Plan Awards Granted During the Year Ended December 31, 2005, below, since they constitute long-term compensation within the securities regulations applicable to the Corporation), in addition to solely short-term (i.e. base salary) and long-term (i.e. Options) incentive compensation. The purpose of the RSU Plan is to promote the mid-term and long-term success of the Corporation by providing the Board with additional flexibility to recruit, motivate and retain senior management through the issuance of RSUs to participants based on an assessment of a participant's current and potential ability to contribute to the success of the Corporation and to the enhancement of the Corporation's share value.

The eligible participants under the RSU Plan include any employee of the Corporation or of an affiliated entity designated by the Board ("Designated Employees").

At any time, the aggregate number of Common Shares issued or which may be issued from the treasury of the Corporation pursuant to grants of RSUs allocated to Designated Employees together with the aggregate number of Common Shares issued or for which Options are outstanding under the Option Plan (including the D&O Program) shall not exceed the total number of Common Shares reserved for issuance under the Option Plan. The RSU Plan therefore does not provide any potential for dilution beyond that already existing under the Option Plan. As of March 8, 2006, there were 356,930 RSUs granted under the RSU Plan for 2003, 2004 and 2005. The 2003, 2004 and 2005 RSU grants provide that at least one-half of all RSUs granted will be settled in cash, with the other one-half settled at the option of the Corporation either in cash, by Common Shares issued from the treasury of the Corporation, or by Common Shares purchased by the Corporation on the open market. Therefore, the maximum number of Common Shares that could be issued from the treasury of the Corporation for the 2003, 2004 and 2005 grants of RSUs is 178,465, which equals approximately 0.2% of the currently outstanding Common Shares. The actual number of Common Shares issued from treasury will be less if the Corporation elects to settle some of these RSUs in cash or by shares purchased by the Corporation on the open market upon their vesting (see Long Term Incentive Plan Awards Granted During the Year Ended December 31, 2005, below). Additionally, on February 15, 2006, Messrs. Barry M. Heck, G.A. Fitch and A.B. Johnston were granted the right to earn up to a maximum of 57,739, 26,438, and 24,615 RSUs, respectively, during 2006 pursuant to the RSU Plan, subject to the achievement of certain objectives (the "2006 RSU grants"). The actual number of RSUs earned for 2006 will be established in early 2007 based on the achievement of these objectives, with the grants of these RSUs to fully vest in 2009. Given that the terms of the 2006 RSU grants also provide that at least one-half of these RSUs must be settled in cash, the maximum number of Common Shares that could potentially be issued out of the treasury of the Corporation is 54,396, which represents approximately .06% of the currently outstanding Common Shares. Again, the actual dilution will be less if some RSUs are settled in cash or by shares purchased by the Corporation on the open market.

The maximum percentage of Common Shares under the RSU Plan which are available to any one person or company (including insiders of the Corporation) may not exceed approximately 11.57%, being the 10,750,000 Common Shares designated for issuance under the Option Plan as noted above.

The value of each RSU issued pursuant to the RSU Plan is the weighted average trading price for the Common Shares on the TSX for the five trading days immediately preceding the applicable date.

Unless otherwise determined by the Board or the administrator under the RSU Plan, and subject to any terms set out in the notice of grant or in any agreement(s) entered into between a participant and the Corporation or any of its affiliates:

(a) upon the death of a participant while in the employment of the Corporation or any of its affiliated entities, all RSUs granted to that participant prior to the date of death (but for which no release date has yet occurred) shall be deemed to be vested in the participant immediately on the date of death, with the release date therefor to be 10 days following the date of death, and the number of such RSUs that would otherwise be issued to such participant shall be issued in the form of RSU shares (or paid by cash if the grant so provides and the appropriate election is made) and delivered to the participant's estate as if the participant had continued in the employment of the Corporation or one of its affiliated entities until the release date.

(b) except as specifically provided for in the RSU Plan or in any agreement between the participant and the Corporation or any of its affiliates, or as otherwise agreed to or determined by the Board or the administrator under the RSU Plan, if the employment of a participant with the Corporation or any of its affiliated entities is terminated for any reason prior to the release date for any RSUs, other than by early retirement or normal retirement from such employment, then the participant shall be deemed to have forfeited all right, title and interest with respect to any RSUs not fully vested upon that participant's last day of such employment (the "Termination Date"). For this purpose, Termination Date means: (i) if the participant is terminated for just cause, the actual date of termination; and (ii) if the participant is terminated for reasons other than just cause, the date at the conclusion of any statutory, contractual or common law period of notice of termination of employment to which that participant is entitled.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, in the event that a participant's employment with the Corporation or any of its affiliates is terminated without just cause or if the participant resigns from such employment then, at the sole and unfettered discretion of the Board or the administrator under the RSU Plan, all or any portion of the RSUs granted to that participant may be deemed to have vested on the date of termination or resignation, with the release date therefore to be 10 days following that termination or resignation.

Subject to:

(a) the provisions of any change of control agreement or any other agreement between the participant and the Corporation or any of its affiliates; and

(b) the terms and conditions upon which the grant was made; and

(c) the determination of the Board or the administrator under the RSU Plan;

if a participant's employment terminates for any cause other than death, retirement, termination without just cause, authorized leave of absence or disability of the participant, or a change of control of the Corporation, then the RSUs covered by any grant to such participant with respect to which the release date has not occurred prior to such termination shall be forfeited as of the date of such termination of employment with the Corporation or any of its affiliated entities and such termination of employment for whatever reason shall not entitle a participant to any compensation for loss of any benefit under the RSU Plan.

If a participant retires from employment with the Corporation before his or her 65th birthday ("Early Retirement") then any RSUs covered by any grant to such participant with respect to which the release date has not occurred and for which RSUs have not been issued prior to such retirement shall be deemed to be vested in accordance with the following calculation: (x) for each grant, the number of RSUs granted pursuant to the applicable notice of grant shall be multiplied by a fraction, the numerator of which is the number of days between the effective date therefor and the date of Early Retirement and the denominator of which is the number of days in the grant period attributable to the grant in question; (y) the number of RSUs resulting from such calculation shall be deemed to be vested on the date of Early Retirement and the unvested balance of such RSUs shall be forfeited; (z) except as provided in this paragraph, all RSUs not vested at the date of Early Retirement shall expire on the date of Early Retirement.

If a participant retires from employment with the Corporation on or after his or her 65th birthday then all RSUs covered by any grant to such participant with respect to which the release date has not occurred and for which RSUs have not been issued prior to such retirement shall continue to vest according to the terms of the RSU Plan, the applicable notice of grant and any agreements entered into with the specific participant in respect of that grant.

If the employment of a participant with the Corporation is interrupted, suspended or terminated due to an authorized leave of absence or disability prior to the release date in respect of any RSUs covered by any grant to such participant with respect to which the release date has not occurred and for which RSUs have not been issued prior to such interruption, suspension or termination of employment then all such RSUs shall continue to vest as if that participant continued to be actively employed until the release date therefor.

The rights or interests of an eligible participant under the RSU Plan are not assignable or transferable, otherwise than by will or the laws governing the devolution of property in the event of death.

The Board may from time to time amend the RSU Plan in whole or in part. Subject to the rules of the TSX, Shareholder approval is not required for such amendments.

No financial assistance is provided by the Corporation to participants under the RSU Plan.

STATEMENT OF EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

Summary Compensation Table

The following table summarizes, for the periods indicated, the compensation of the Corporation's President and Chief Executive Officer, Chief Financial Officer and other executive officers serving at December 31, 2005 whose total salary and bonus earned in the financial year ended December 31, 2005 exceeded \$150,000. Such executive officers are referred to collectively herein as the "Named Executive Officers."

Name and Principal Position	Year Ended Dec. 31	Annual Compensation			Long Term Compensation Awards			Number of Common Shares Beneficially Owned or Controlled at Year End
		Salary	Bonus	Other Annual Compensation ¹	Securities Under Options Granted ²	Restricted Share Units ³	All Other Compensation ⁴	
B.M. Heck ⁵ President and Chief Executive Officer	2005 2004 2003	\$446,875 \$422,917 \$393,750	\$150,000 ⁶ - -	\$40,000 \$40,000 \$39,400	100,000 107,500 200,000	81,195 70,733 50,000	\$33,817 \$32,172 \$33,272	86,939 78,465 70,965
G.A. Fitch Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer	2005 2004 2003	\$278,125 \$265,000 \$262,500	\$84,000 ⁶ \$50,000 ⁶ -	\$25,000 \$25,000 \$25,000	65,000 43,000 75,000	37,526 33,079 20,000	\$17,173 \$21,017 \$16,736	106,888 101,274 98,274
A.B. Johnston Senior Vice President	2005 2004 2003	\$258,125 \$245,000 \$242,500	\$78,000 ⁶ \$70,249 ⁷ \$48,500 ⁷	\$25,000 \$25,000 \$25,000	60,000 40,000 50,000	33,715 10,682 20,000	\$21,619 \$19,082 \$21,190	94,834 94,834 94,834
B.D. Heck ⁸ Vice President, General Counsel and Corporate Secretary	2005 2004 2003	\$175,000 \$145,834 -	\$85,860 ⁷ \$56,190 ^{7,10} -	\$10,000 ⁹ \$28,334 ⁹ \$124,300 ¹¹	25,000 75,000 -	- - -	- - -	50,000 50,000 -

1. Barry M. Heck received cash allowances in lieu of perquisites for each of the years 2004 and 2005 in the amount of \$40,000, which amounts are included in Other Annual Compensation. In 2003, Barry M. Heck received a cash allowance in lieu of perquisites of \$39,375 which is included in Other Annual Compensation. For Messrs. Fitch and Johnston, amounts included in Other Annual Compensation were allowances in lieu of perquisites.

2. Grants of Options pursuant to the Option Plan, which includes the D&O Program. Particulars of the grants of Options under the D&O Program are given in the table Option Grants During the Year Ended December 31, 2005, below.

3. Amounts shown for 2003, 2004 and 2005 represent grants of RSUs pursuant to the RSU Plan made in consideration of annual performance. These grants were made on February 19, 2004 in relation to 2003 performance, on February 17, 2005 in relation to 2004 performance and grants of the right to earn RSUs in relation to 2005 performance were made on February 17, 2005, with actual grants earned for 2005 being established and confirmed on February 15, 2006.

4. Barry M. Heck received other compensation in 2003, 2004 and 2005 in the form of contributions to the Corporation's defined contribution pension plan and life insurance premiums. Messrs. Fitch and Johnston received other compensation in the form of contributions to the Corporation's defined contribution pension plan.

5. Barry M. Heck was appointed President and Chief Executive Officer of the Corporation on January 15, 2003 and prior to that he was a Senior Vice President of the Corporation.

6. For the year ended December 31, 2005, Messrs. Barry M. Heck, Fitch and Johnston each received bonus compensation in respect of their exceptional 2005 performance. For the year ended December 31, 2004, Mr. Fitch received bonus compensation in respect of his role in the completion of a transaction for the Corporation. See also Human Resources and Compensation Committee Report on Executive Compensation – Executive Compensation Policy, and Human Resources and Compensation Committee Report on Executive Compensation – Chief Executive Officer Compensation, below.

7. These bonuses were paid under the Corporation's variable pay program, an annual bonus system which is part of the compensation structure that encourages employees to work toward and to share in corporate and business unit/subsidiary success. All permanent full time and part time employees of the Corporation and its subsidiaries, except for the most senior executive officers of the Corporation, participate in this program based on the achievement of specific goals or measures established each year. Mr. Johnston was, during 2003 and 2004, eligible to participate in the variable pay program in respect of his employment with iFire Technology Inc. and iFire Technology Corp., subsidiaries of the Corporation. Brian D. Heck was, during 2004 and 2005, eligible to participate in the variable pay program in respect of his employment as Vice President, General Counsel and Corporate Secretary of the Corporation. Messrs. Barry M. Heck, Fitch and Johnston are not eligible to participate in the variable pay program in respect of their employment with the Corporation.

8. Brian D. Heck was appointed General Counsel and Corporate Secretary of the Corporation on February 1, 2003, and appointed Vice President of the Corporation on March 1, 2004.

9. For the period from January 1, 2004 to February 28, 2004, Brian D. Heck received other annual compensation of \$20,000 in the form of contractor income for his role as General Counsel and Corporate Secretary, and for the years ended December 31, 2004 and December 31, 2005, he received cash allowances of \$8,334 and \$10,000 respectively in lieu of perquisites.

10. On January 1, 2004, prior to becoming a Named Executive Officer, Brian D. Heck received a grant of 22,000 bonus appreciation units under the Corporation's Corporate Support Groups Long Term Cash Bonus Incentive Plan. See Human Resources and Compensation Committee Report on Executive Compensation – Executive Compensation Policy, below.

11. For the period from February 1, 2003 to December 31, 2003, Brian D. Heck received other annual compensation of \$124,300 in the form of contractor income for his role as General Counsel and Corporate Secretary.

Long Term Incentive Plan Awards Granted During the Year Ended December 31, 2005

Name	Securities, Units or Rights (being RSUs in each case)	Performance or Other Period Until Maturation
		Vesting Date
Barry M. Heck	81,195	February 17, 2008
G.A. Fitch	37,526	February 17, 2008
A.B. Johnston	33,715	February 17, 2008
B.D. Heck	Nil	Nil

Option Grants During the Year Ended December 31, 2005

Name	Securities Under Options Granted ¹	% of Total Options Granted to Employees in Financial Year	Exercise or Base Price (\$/Security)	Market Value of Securities Underlying Options on the Date of Grant (\$/Security)	Expiration Date
B.M. Heck	100,000 ²	40%	\$3.62	\$3.62	Feb. 17, 2015
G.A. Fitch	65,000 ²	26%	\$3.62	\$3.62	Feb. 17, 2015
A.B. Johnston	60,000 ²	24%	\$3.62	\$3.62	Feb. 17, 2015
B.D. Heck	25,000 ²	10%	\$3.62	\$3.62	Feb. 17, 2015

1. These awards were made in Options to purchase Common Shares of the Corporation pursuant to the Option Plan and, in the ordinary course, are exercisable for a period ending 10 years from the date of the grant.

2. These awards were granted on the basis that in the ordinary course they will be exercisable as to one third of the grant on each of the first, second and third anniversaries of the date of the grant.

Aggregated Option Exercises During the Year Ended December 31, 2005 and Financial Year-End ("FY-End") Option Values

Name	Securities Acquired on Exercise	Aggregate Value Realized	Options at FY-End Exercisable/Unexercisable	Value of Unexercised in-the-Money Options at FY-End ¹ Exercisable/Unexercisable
B.M. Heck	Nil	Nil	638,765 / 233,335	\$400,523 / \$260,003
G.A. Fitch	Nil	Nil	565,833 / 116,667	\$153,789 / \$111,200
A.B. Johnston	Nil	Nil	501,165 / 103,335	\$83,730 / \$88,069
B.D. Heck	Nil	Nil	58,333 / 41,667	\$53,924 / \$29,333

1. Based on the December 31, 2005 closing price of \$4.28 for the Common Shares on the TSX.

Employment Contracts

The Corporation has entered into agreements with Messrs. Fitch and Johnston providing that, in the event of a termination of employment by the Corporation for reasons other than just cause or other than upon a change of control they will be entitled to 24 months' salary and continued benefits under all benefits plans for a period of 24 months, and to the continued vesting of all Options granted under the Option Plan and all RSUs granted under the RSU Plan for a period of 24 months. The Corporation has also entered into agreements with Messrs. Fitch and Johnston providing that, in the event of a change of control of the Corporation, each of them will be entitled to receive payment equivalent to their monthly salary and the value of all perquisites and benefits under all benefits plans for a period of 24 months upon termination of their employment within 12 months of the change of control or for a period of 12 months if they elect to leave their employment within 90 days of the change of control. In 2004, the Corporation entered into an employment agreement with Brian D. Heck, providing that in the event of a

termination of employment by the Corporation for reasons other than just cause, he will be entitled to 12 months' salary and continued benefits under all benefits plans for a period of 12 months, and to the continued vesting of all Options granted under the Option Plan and all RSUs granted under the RSU Plan for a period of 12 months. Also, in the event of a change of control of the Corporation, each of Messrs. Fitch, Johnston and Brian D. Heck will be entitled to immediate vesting of all Options granted under the Option Plan and of all RSUs granted under the RSU Plan.

The Corporation has entered into an agreement with Barry M. Heck providing that, in the event of a termination of employment by the Corporation for reasons other than just cause or other than upon a change of control he will be entitled to 24 months' salary and continued benefits under all benefits plans for a period of 24 months, and to the continued vesting of all Options granted under the Option Plan and all RSUs granted under the RSU Plan for a period of 24 months. In 2003 the Corporation entered into an agreement with Barry M. Heck providing that, in the event of a change of control of the Corporation, he will be entitled to receive payment equivalent to his salary and the value of all perquisites and benefits under all benefits plans for a period of 36 months upon termination of employment by the Corporation or his election to leave employment within 90 days of the change of control. Also, in the event of a change of control of the Corporation, Barry M. Heck will also be entitled to immediate vesting of all Options granted under the Option Plan and all RSUs granted under the RSU Plan.

HUMAN RESOURCES AND COMPENSATION COMMITTEE REPORT ON EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

Composition of the Human Resources and Compensation Committee

The members of the Compensation Committee are Neil Carragher, Roger G.H. Downer and Guy J. Turcotte. No member of the Compensation Committee is employed by the Corporation or its affiliates and no member is a former officer or employee of the Corporation or its affiliates.

Executive Compensation Policy

The objective of the Corporation's executive compensation policy is to motivate and reward the creation of long term Shareholder value. To this end, stock options have historically been the focus of the executive compensation program.

In establishing the Corporation's executive compensation policy, the Compensation Committee periodically reviews the Corporation's executive compensation (base salary and long-term, mid-term and short-term incentive programs) using comparative North American industry data provided by the Corporation's independent professional compensation consultants. These comparisons are adjusted to reflect the relative size of the Corporation, the nature of the Corporation's business and the particular job functions and performance of executives.

Executive base salaries are targeted at the median of base salaries, as determined by such comparisons. The Corporation targets its benefits and perquisites at approximately the average for comparable companies. It is the policy of the Corporation not to pay regular annual bonuses to the most senior executive officers except in respect of their roles as executive officers of subsidiaries of the Corporation (see note 7 of Statement of Executive Compensation - Summary Compensation Table, above). However, the Compensation Committee has the authority to recognize exceptional performance by the senior executive officers of the Corporation, and the performance of those senior executive officers was judged exceptional in 2005, resulting in the award of bonuses to them. See Statement of Executive Compensation – Summary Compensation Table, above.

Annual grants of Options (not including grants of Options under the D&O Program – see Directors and Officers Share Purchase Program, above) and RSUs for the Corporation's most senior executive officers are intended to result in their total executive compensation package being approximately at the 75th percentile of comparable companies when performance of the executive and the Corporation warrants such compensation.

The Board believes that, in combination with other elements of a compensation package, the Option Plan and the RSU Plan provide useful compensation tools for aligning executive interests with the interests of Shareholders.

The Corporation has established the 2004 Equity Incentive Plan ("EIP") for employees of its emerging technology business subsidiary, iFire Technology Corp., and the Corporate Support Groups Long Term Cash Bonus Incentive Plan ("LTIP") for employees of the Corporation. The EIP and the LTIP provide for awards of stock appreciation rights or stock options in the subsidiary or stock appreciation rights in the Corporation. The Named Executive Officers do not participate in the EIP or the LTIP in their capacities as executive officers of the Corporation,

although Brian D. Heck received an award of 22,000 bonus appreciation units under the LTIP in January 2004, prior to becoming a Named Executive Officer of the Corporation. See Statement of Executive Compensation – Summary Compensation Table, footnote 10, above.

Executive Compensation Procedures

The Compensation Committee develops a compensation program for the directors and the President and Chief Executive Officer. Compensation programs for other executive officers are developed by the President and Chief Executive Officer, with the approval of the Committee. Executive compensation is reviewed and set annually.

Chief Executive Officer Compensation

The Chief Executive Officer's compensation is established using the policy and procedures set forth above.

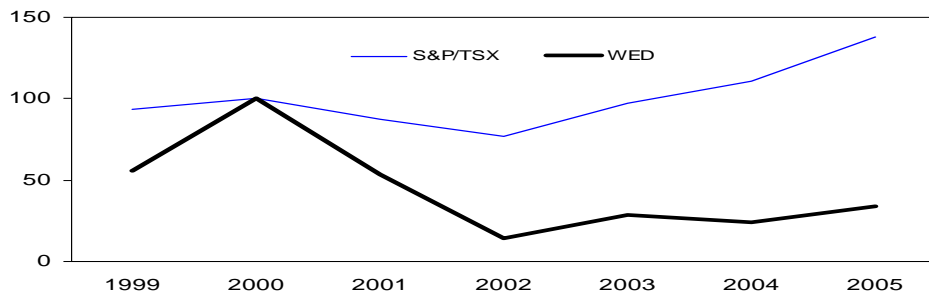
For 2005, Barry M. Heck's annual base salary was \$446,875.00, and a bonus of \$150,000 was paid to him in respect of his exceptional 2005 performance. On February 15, 2006, the Chief Executive Officer's annual base salary was increased to \$475,000. A grant of 100,000 Options was made to Barry M. Heck on February 17, 2005, and a grant of 100,000 Options was made to him on February 20, 2006. A grant of the right to earn RSUs in respect of 2005 performance was made to the Chief Executive Officer on February 17, 2005 pursuant to the RSU Plan, with the actual number of 81,195 RSUs earned being established and confirmed on February 15, 2006. On February 15, 2006, Barry M. Heck was granted the right to earn up to 57,739 RSUs during 2006 pursuant to the RSU Plan, subject to the achievement of certain objectives. The actual number of RSUs earned for 2006 will be established in early 2007 based on the achievement of these objectives.

The Compensation Committee believes that it is important for the Chief Executive Officer of the Corporation to have significant exposure to the Corporation's share price. As indicated above, Options are the focus of the long-term compensation program and RSUs are the focus of the mid-term compensation program for the Chief Executive Officer; other compensation elements are secondary.

Report presented by:
Neil Carragher, Chairman
Roger G.H. Downer
Guy J. Turcotte

Performance Graph

The following graph shows changes as at December 31 of each year, since December 31, 1999, assuming an investment in the Corporation valued at \$100 as at December 31, 2000, and an investment in the S&P/TSX Composite Index valued at \$100 as at December 31, 2000, and assuming reinvestment of dividends in both cases.



Remuneration of Directors

Directors other than Messrs. Barry M. Heck and Delaney are paid at the rate of \$5,000 per Board meeting attended in person, \$2,000 per committee meeting attended in person and \$1,000 for each Board or committee telephone meeting. Where committee meetings attended in person last longer than four hours, an additional \$1,000 is paid. Committee chairmen receive an additional \$1,000 for meetings attended in person, a further \$2,000 for such meetings lasting longer than four hours and an additional \$500 for committee meetings held by telephone. The chairman of the Audit Committee receives an additional annual retainer of \$5,000. Where a director travels for more than three hours to attend a Board or committee meeting, an additional fee of \$2,000 is paid, without duplication.

Maximum daily fees payable are \$7,000 for directors and \$8,000 for committee chairmen who chair a meeting on the same day, plus travel fees. Travel expenses are paid in addition to meeting fees.

As chairman of the Board, Mr. Delaney receives an annual fee of \$100,000 in lieu of director's meeting fees. He is also reimbursed for expenses incurred in connection with attendance at meetings of the Board and committees.

Each of the directors, other than Messrs. Delaney and Barry M. Heck and Dr. Downer, has been granted an aggregate of 180,000 Options to purchase Common Shares. Dr. Downer was granted 60,000 Options to purchase Common Shares in October of 2004 at an exercise price of \$3.13 and a further 40,000 Options to purchase Common Shares in October of 2005 at an exercise price of \$4.00. In addition, all directors are designated participants in the D&O Program described under the heading Security Based Compensation Arrangements in this Information Circular.

In February of 2005, Mr. Delaney received a grant of Options to purchase 100,000 Common Shares at an exercise price of \$3.62. Mr. Delaney holds an aggregate of 1,597,200 Options including a grant of 50,000 Options in February of 2006 at an exercise price of \$6.18.

The above Options to directors were granted on the basis that in the ordinary course they will be exercisable as to one third of the grant on each of the first, second and third anniversaries of the date of the grant and are exercisable for a period ending 10 years from the date of the grant.

In 2001, the Corporation established a Deferred Share Unit Plan (the "DSU Plan") for eligible directors. Under the DSU Plan, at the end of each calendar quarter all eligible directors are granted DSUs equal in value to the meeting fees payable to that director for the preceding quarter. A DSU is attributed a value based on the closing price of the Common Shares on the TSX for the trading day immediately preceding the date of grant (previously defined in this Information Circular as the "Market Price"). In addition, eligible directors may elect to receive 50% or 100% of their meeting fees in the form of DSUs, valued at a 10% discount to Market Price upon grant. All DSUs will be paid out in cash only. The value of a DSU, when converted to cash, is equivalent to the Market Price of a Common Share at the time the conversion takes place. A director cannot convert DSUs to cash until the director ceases to be a member of the Board. Mr. Delaney and Mr. Barry M. Heck are not eligible to participate in the DSU Plan. The DSUs held by directors are reported in the Shareholdings column of the table under Election of Directors, above.

Directors' and Officers' Liability Insurance

Directors' and officers' liability insurance in the amount of \$40,000,000 was purchased during the last completed financial year at the Corporation's expense for the protection of all the directors and officers against liability incurred by them in their capacities as directors and officers of the Corporation and its past and present subsidiaries. The premium paid by the Corporation for such insurance is currently \$242,400 per year. There is a deductible to the Corporation of \$250,000 per occurrence.

Audit Committee

Information regarding the Audit Committee of the Board of Directors of the Corporation is disclosed in the Corporation's Annual Information Form under the section "*Directors and Officers – Audit Committee*" which has been filed on SEDAR at www.sedar.com.

STATEMENT OF CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

The Board sees its principal role as stewardship of the Corporation and its fundamental objective as the creation of Shareholder value, including the protection and enhancement of the value of the Corporation's assets and operating with honesty and integrity in the conduct of business. The Board's stewardship responsibility means that it oversees the conduct of the business and of Management, which is responsible for developing long-term strategy and conducting the Corporation's day-to-day business. As part of the Corporation's commitment to effective corporate governance, the Board, with the assistance of the Corporate Governance Committee, monitors changes in corporate governance practices and regulatory requirements.

During the past year, there have been several changes to the corporate governance disclosure requirements applicable to the Corporation. Specifically, the Canadian Securities Administrators introduced in final form National Instrument 58-101 *Disclosure of Corporate Governance Practices* ("NI 58-101") and National Policy 58-201 *Corporate Governance Guidelines* ("NP 58-201"), both of which came into force on June 30, 2005 and effectively

replaced the corporate governance guidelines and disclosure policies of the TSX. Under NI 58-101, the Corporation is required to disclose certain information relating to its corporate governance practices. This information is set forth below.

Governance Disclosure Guideline under NI 58-101	Corporate Governance Practices of the Corporation																		
<p>1. Board of Directors (a) Disclose the identity of directors who are independent.</p>	<p>The Board has determined that seven of the eight directors are "independent", within the meaning of NI 58-101. The seven independent directors are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Neil Carragher; • Ian W. Delaney; • Roger G.H. Downer; • Frank W. King; • Daniel P. Owen; • Guy J. Turcotte; and • Bruce V. Walter. 																		
<p>(b) Disclose the identity of directors who are not independent, and describe the basis for that determination.</p>	<p>Mr. Barry M. Heck is the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Corporation and is therefore not considered to be an independent director.</p>																		
<p>(c) Disclose whether or not a majority of directors are independent. If a majority of directors are not independent, describe what the Board of Directors does to facilitate its exercise of independent judgment in carrying out its responsibilities</p>	<p>The Board has determined that a majority of the directors are "independent", within the meaning of NI 58-101.</p>																		
<p>(d) If a director is presently a director of any other issuer that is a reporting issuer (or the equivalent) in a jurisdiction or a foreign jurisdiction, identify both the director and the other issuer.</p>	<p>The following directors currently serve on the board of other issuers that are reporting issuers (or equivalent) which are set out below:</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;"><u>Director</u></th> <th style="text-align: left;"><u>Directorships</u></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>• Barry M. Heck</td> <td>Kereco Energy Ltd. NUCRYST Pharmaceuticals Corp.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>• Neil Carragher</td> <td>Agrium Inc. NUCRYST Pharmaceuticals Corp.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>• Ian W. Delaney</td> <td>Dynatec Corporation EnCana Corporation OPTI Canada Inc. Sherritt International Corporation</td> </tr> <tr> <td>• Roger G.H. Downer</td> <td>NUCRYST Pharmaceuticals Corp.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>• Frank W. King</td> <td>Agrium Inc. CanWest Global Communications Corp. RioCan Real Estate Investment Trust Wi-LAN Inc.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>• Daniel P. Owen</td> <td>Dynatec Corporation Dynex Power Inc. Sherritt International Corporation</td> </tr> <tr> <td>• Guy J. Turcotte</td> <td>Fort Chicago Energy Partners L.P. Western Oil Sands Inc.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>• Bruce V. Walter</td> <td>Dynatec Corporation FNX Mining Company Inc.</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	<u>Director</u>	<u>Directorships</u>	• Barry M. Heck	Kereco Energy Ltd. NUCRYST Pharmaceuticals Corp.	• Neil Carragher	Agrium Inc. NUCRYST Pharmaceuticals Corp.	• Ian W. Delaney	Dynatec Corporation EnCana Corporation OPTI Canada Inc. Sherritt International Corporation	• Roger G.H. Downer	NUCRYST Pharmaceuticals Corp.	• Frank W. King	Agrium Inc. CanWest Global Communications Corp. RioCan Real Estate Investment Trust Wi-LAN Inc.	• Daniel P. Owen	Dynatec Corporation Dynex Power Inc. Sherritt International Corporation	• Guy J. Turcotte	Fort Chicago Energy Partners L.P. Western Oil Sands Inc.	• Bruce V. Walter	Dynatec Corporation FNX Mining Company Inc.
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Governance Disclosure Guideline under NI 58-101	Corporate Governance Practices of the Corporation
<p>(e) Disclose whether or not the independent directors hold regularly scheduled meetings at which members of management are not in attendance. If the independent directors hold such meetings, disclose the number of meetings held during the preceding 12 months. If the independent directors do not hold such meetings, describe what the board does to facilitate open and candid discussion among its independent directors.</p>	<p>Each independent director of the Corporation is a member of the Corporate Governance Committee of the Board and Barry M. Heck, the only non-independent director of the Corporation, is not a member of that committee. The Corporate Governance Committee meets independently of management on a regular basis, and the Board during its meetings also has regular in-camera discussions with all members of Management, including Barry M. Heck, excused from that portion of the meeting.</p> <p>During the financial year ended December 31, 2005, there were 3 meetings of the Corporate Governance Committee.</p> <p>In addition, the independent members of the Board are authorized to retain independent financial, legal and other experts or advisors as required whenever, in their opinion, matters come before the Board or any committee which require an independent analysis by the independent members of the Board or any committee.</p>
<p>(f) Disclose whether or not the chair of the board is independent. If the board has a chair or lead director who is independent, disclose the identity of the independent chair or lead director, and describe his or her role and responsibilities. If the board has neither a chair that is independent nor a lead director that is independent, describe what the board does to provide leadership for its independent directors.</p>	<p>Mr. Ian W. Delaney, the chairman of the Board, is independent of the Corporation.</p> <p>The role of the chairman of the Board includes ensuring that the Board discharges its duties independently of Management, serving as chairman of the Corporate Governance Committee, and setting the agendas for the meetings of the Board and its committees in consultation with the Chief Executive Officer of the Corporation.</p> <p>See also the corporate governance practices of the Corporation described under section 3. (a) of this statement, below, for further details of the role and responsibilities of the chairman of the Board.</p>
<p>(g) Disclose the attendance record of each director for all board meetings held since the beginning of the issuer's most recently completed financial year.</p>	<p>See Committee Memberships and Record of Attendance at Meetings, above.</p>
<p>2. Mandate of the Board of Directors</p> <p>Disclose the text of the Board's written mandate. If the Board does not have a written mandate, describe how the Board delineates its role and responsibilities.</p>	<p>As at the date hereof, the Board has not formally adopted a written mandate. The Board sees its principal role as stewardship of the Corporation and its fundamental objective as the creation of Shareholder value, including the protection and enhancement of the value of the Corporation's assets and operating with honesty and integrity in the conduct of business. The Board's stewardship responsibility means that it oversees the conduct of the business and of Management, which is responsible for developing long-term strategy and conducting the Corporation's day-to-day business.</p> <p>The Board meets frequently and is comprised of individuals with considerable experience as directors of public companies and in respect of corporate governance. The agenda for each Board meeting is carefully planned and set by the chairman of the Board working in conjunction with the Chief Executive Officer. Each of the committees of the Board have specific responsibilities delineated in the terms of reference or charter established for each respective committee, such terms of reference or charter having been approved by the Board in each case.</p>

Governance Disclosure Guideline under NI 58-101	Corporate Governance Practices of the Corporation
<p>3. Position Descriptions</p> <p>(a) Disclose whether or not the Board has developed written position descriptions for the chair and the chair of each Board committee. If the Board has not developed written position descriptions for the chair and/or the chair of each Board committee, briefly describe how the Board delineates the role and responsibilities of each such position.</p>	<p>As at the date hereof, the Board has not developed a written position description for the chairman of the Board. Generally, the principal role assigned to the chairman of the Board by the Board includes providing leadership to the Board and acting as a direct liaison between the Board and Management. Further, the chairman of the Board is responsible for ensuring that the Board properly discharges its responsibilities, that the members of the Board have full opportunity to participate in meetings of the Board, and that all Board matters are properly and adequately addressed. The chairman of the Board is accountable to the Board.</p> <p>The terms of reference or the charter of each of the Audit Committee, the Corporate Governance Committee, the Human Resources and Compensation Committee and the Environmental, Health and Safety Committee describe certain of the responsibilities of the chairman of each of these committees. The primary role of the chairman of each such committee is managing the affairs of the committee, including ensuring the committee is organized properly, functions effectively and meets its obligations and responsibilities.</p> <p>The chairman of the Audit Committee also maintains on-going communications with the Corporation's external auditors in order to lead the committee in performing its oversight and other audit-related functions. For further information regarding the Corporation's Audit Committee, including the relevant education and experience of the committee members, see the Corporation's Annual Information Form for the financial year ended December 31, 2005 which is available on SEDAR at www.sedar.com.</p>
<p>(b) Disclose whether or not the Board and CEO have developed a written position description for the CEO. If the Board and CEO have not developed such a position description, briefly describe how the Board delineates the role and responsibilities of the CEO.</p>	<p>The Board does not have a specific written position description for the Chief Executive Officer of the Corporation. However, the role, responsibilities, and duties of the Chief Executive Officer are generally set out in his contract of employment with the Corporation, and are constantly reviewed and refined by the Board. Additionally, the specific annual objectives of the Chief Executive Officer are set, and his performance is reviewed, by the Board and by the Human Resources and Compensation Committee of the Board as circumstances dictate.</p>
<p>4. Orientation and Continuing Education</p> <p>(a) Briefly describe what measures the Board takes to orient new directors regarding (i) the role of the Board, its committees and its directors, and (ii) the nature and operation of the issuer's business.</p>	<p>Immediately following appointment, new directors are provided with historic information, current strategic plans for the Corporation and its subsidiaries, and materials summarizing issues relating to the Corporation. New directors are also briefed by the chairman of the Board, by the Chief Executive Officer of the Corporation, and by the chairmen of the committees of the Board, if any, to which they are appointed, as well as by senior management of the subsidiaries of the Corporation, and receive tours of the facilities of the Corporation and its subsidiaries.</p>
<p>(b) Briefly describe what measures, if any, the Board takes to provide continuing education for its directors. If the Board does not provide continuing education, describe how the Board ensures that its directors maintain the skill and knowledge necessary to meet their obligations as directors</p>	<p>The Board and its committees receive periodic reports from Management and external advisors as to new developments in regard to corporate governance and in regard to other issues affecting the Corporation.</p>

Governance Disclosure Guideline under NI 58-101	Corporate Governance Practices of the Corporation
<p>5. Ethical Business Conduct</p> <p>(a) Disclose whether or not the Board has adopted a written code for the directors, officers and employees. If the Board has adopted a written code: (i) disclose how a person or company may obtain a copy of the code; (ii) describe how the Board monitors compliance with its code, or if the Board does not monitor compliance, explain whether and how the Board satisfies itself regarding compliance with its code; and (iii) provide a cross-reference to any material change report filed since the beginning of the issuer's most recently completed financial year that pertains to any conduct of a director or executive officer that constitutes a departure from the code.</p> <p>(b) Describe any steps the Board takes to ensure directors exercise independent judgment in considering transactions and agreements in respect of which a director or executive officer has a material interest.</p> <p>(c) Describe any other steps the Board takes to encourage and promote a culture of ethical business conduct</p>	<p>The Board has adopted a Code of Conduct and Ethics for Directors, Officers and Employees and a Finance Code of Conduct for Chief Executive and Senior Financial Officers (the "Codes"). The Codes have been filed on and are accessible through SEDAR at www.sedar.com. Copies of the Codes may also be obtained, upon request, from the Corporation at 10102 114th Street, Fort Saskatchewan, AB T8L 3W4, Attention: Vice President, General Counsel and Corporate Secretary.</p> <p>The Board expects directors and employees to act ethically at all times and to acknowledge their adherence to the policies comprising the Codes. Any material issues regarding compliance with the Codes are brought forward by Management at either the Board or appropriate committee meetings, or are referred to the senior executive officers of the Corporation, as may be appropriate in the circumstances. The Board and/or appropriate committee or senior executive officers determine what remedial steps, if any, are required. Any waivers from the Codes that are granted for the benefit of a director or an employee may be granted only by the Board or by the Corporate Governance Committee or the Audit Committee. No waiver has ever been granted under the Codes.</p> <p>Each director must disclose all actual or potential conflicts of interest and refrain from voting on matters in which such director has a conflict of interest. In addition, the director must excuse himself or herself from any discussion or decision on any matter in which the director is precluded from voting as a result of a conflict of interest.</p> <p>The Corporation has adopted a Disclosure Policy, an Insider Trading Policy and a Whistleblower Policy.</p>
<p>6. Nomination of Directors</p> <p>(a) Describe the process by which the Board identifies new candidates for Board nomination.</p> <p>(b) Disclose whether or not the Board has a nominating committee composed entirely of independent directors. If the Board does not have a nominating committee composed entirely of independent directors, describe what steps the Board takes to encourage an objective nomination process.</p>	<p>The Corporate Governance Committee is mandated to recruit and consider director candidates and to make recommendations to the Board. In so doing, the Corporate Governance Committee considers, in addition to any other factors it deems relevant: (i) the competencies and skills that the Board considers to be necessary for the Board, as a whole, to possess; (ii) the competencies and skills that the Board considers each existing director to possess; (iii) the competencies, skills and background each nominee will bring to the Board; (iv) the time that each nominee will have available to devote to the Corporation's business; and (v) whether the nominee will be an independent director. Directors are encouraged to identify potential candidates. An invitation to stand as a nominee for election to the Board will normally be made to a candidate by the Board through the chairman of the Board or his delegate.</p> <p>The Corporate Governance Committee is composed of Messrs. Carragher, Delaney, Downer, King, Owen, Turcotte and Walter, all of whom are independent.</p>

Governance Disclosure Guideline under NI 58-101	Corporate Governance Practices of the Corporation
(c) If the Board has a nominating committee, describe the responsibilities, powers and operation of the nominating committee.	In addition to recruiting and considering director candidates, the Corporate Governance Committee's mandate includes annual reviewing the competencies, skills and personal qualities applicable to candidates to be considered for nomination to the Board. The objective of this review is to maintain the composition of the Board in a way that provides, in the judgment of the Board, the best mix of competencies, skills and experience to provide for the overall stewardship of the Corporation.
<p>7. Compensation</p> <p>(a) Describe the process by which the Board determines the compensation for the issuer's directors and officers.</p>	See Human Resources and Compensation Committee Report on Executive Compensation above for a description of how the compensation for the directors and officers of the Corporation is determined.
(b) Disclose whether or not the Board has a compensation committee composed entirely of independent directors. If the Board does not have a compensation committee composed entirely of independent directors, describe what steps the Board takes to ensure an objective process for determining such compensation.	The Human Resources and Compensation Committee is composed of Messrs. Carragher, Downer and Turcotte, all of whom are independent.
(c) If the Board has a compensation committee, describe the responsibilities, powers and operation of the Compensation Committee.	The Human Resources and Compensation Committee has the responsibility of annually reviewing and approving the compensation package for Management. The Human Resources and Compensation Committee also reviews and approves changes to the Corporation's compensation policies in respect of matters such as pension plans and employee benefit plans. Lastly, the Human Resources and Compensation Committee approves the hiring of management recruited from outside the Corporation, as well as the promotion of management within the Corporation.
(d) If a compensation consultant or advisor has, at any time since the beginning of the issuer's most recently completed financial year, been retained to assist in determining compensation for any of the issuer's directors and officers, disclose the identity of the consultant or advisor and briefly summarize the mandate for which they have been retained. If the consultant or advisor has been retained to perform any other work for the issuer, state that fact and briefly describe the nature of the work.	During 2005, the Human Resources and Compensation Committee of the Board retained the firm of Towers Perrin to undertake a review of compensation for directors and the chairman of the Board. There was no change to such compensation as a result of this review.
<p>8. Other Board Committees</p> <p>If the Board has standing committees other than the audit, compensation and nominating committees, identify the committees and describe their function.</p>	In addition to the Audit Committee, the Corporate Governance Committee and the Human Resources and Compensation Committee, the Board has established an Environmental, Health and Safety Committee, which is responsible for monitoring the system of controls over workplace health and safety and protection of the environment. The Environmental, Health and Safety Committee meets periodically with Management to review safety and environmental statistics and discuss courses of action to assess the effectiveness of systems in place and personnel responsible for executing health, safety and environment programs.

Governance Disclosure Guideline under NI 58-101	Corporate Governance Practices of the Corporation
<p>9. Assessments</p> <p>Disclose whether or not the Board, its committees and individual directors are regularly assessed with respect to their effectiveness and contribution. If assessments are regularly conducted, describe the process used for the assessments. If assessments are not regularly conducted, describe how the Board satisfies itself that the Board, its committees, and its individual directors are performing effectively.</p>	<p>The Corporate Governance Committee is responsible for making regular assessments of the overall performance, effectiveness and contribution of the Board and each committee, the chairman of the Board, each committee chairman and each director, and reporting on such assessments to the Board. The objective of the assessments is to ensure the continued effectiveness of the Board in the execution of its responsibilities and to contribute to a process of continuing improvement. In addition to any other matters the Corporate Governance Committee deems relevant, the assessments will consider in the case of the Board or a committee, the applicable mandate or charter, and in the case of individual directors, the applicable position descriptions, as well as the competencies and skills each individual director is expected to bring to the Board</p>

OTHER INFORMATION

Interest of Certain Persons and Companies in Matters to be Acted Upon

Except as disclosed herein, Management of the Corporation is not aware of any material interest of any director or senior officer, or anyone who held office as such since the beginning of the Corporation's last financial year, or of any associate or affiliate of any of the foregoing persons, in any matter to be acted upon at the Meeting other than the election of directors.

Interest of Informed Persons in Material Transactions

Management of the Corporation is unaware of any material interest, direct or indirect, of any "informed person" (as such term is defined in National Instrument 51-102 – Continuous Disclosure Obligations) of the Corporation, or any associate or affiliate of any such individual or of the Corporation, in any transaction since the beginning of the last completed financial year of the Corporation or any of its subsidiaries.

Additional Information

Further financial information is provided in the Corporation's consolidated financial statements for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2005 and management's discussion and analysis of the results thereon. Shareholders wishing to receive a copy of such materials should mail a request to the Vice President, General Counsel and Corporate Secretary of the Corporation at 10102-114 Street, Fort Saskatchewan, Alberta, T8L 3W4.

Additional information relating to the Corporation is also available free of charge on SEDAR at www.sedar.com.