Management's Discussion & Analysis (Expressed in Canadian Dollars)



As at and for the quarter ended November 30, 2018



Management's Discussion & Analysis
As at and for the quarter ended November 30, 2018

This Management's Discussion and Analysis ("MD&A") has been prepared with an effective date of January 25, 2019 and provides an update on matters discussed in, and should be read in conjunction with the audited annual consolidated financial statements of People Corporation ("the Company"), including the notes thereto, as at and for the year ended August 31, 2018, which were prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards ("IFRS") and the unaudited interim condensed consolidated financial statements as at and for the three months ended November 30, 2018 (the "November 30, 2018 Interim Consolidated Financial Statements"), unless otherwise specified. Annual references are to the Company's fiscal year which ends August 31. The financial data discussed in this MD&A, including financial data relating to comparative periods in the prior year, has been prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards ("IFRS"). All amounts contained within this MD&A are in Canadian dollars unless otherwise specified. Amounts set forth in this MD&A are stated in thousands of dollars except for per share, issued and outstanding share data, and unless otherwise noted. Certain totals, subtotals and percentages may not reconcile due to rounding.

#### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Additional information regarding the Company is available on SEDAR at www.sedar.com and on the Company's website at www.peoplecorporation.com.

#### FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This MD&A contains "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of applicable securities laws, such as statements concerning anticipated future events, results, circumstances, performance or expectations that are not historical facts. Use of words such as "may", "will", "expect", "believe", "intends", "likely", or other words of similar effect may indicate a "forward-looking" statement. These statements are not guarantees of future performance and are subject to numerous risk factors, including those described in the Company's publicly filed documents (available on SEDAR at www.sedar.com) and in this MD&A under the heading "Risk Factors". Those risk factors include the ability to maintain profitability and manage growth, reliance on information systems and technology, reputation risk, dependence on key clients, reliance on key professionals and general economic conditions. Many of these risk factors can affect the Company's actual results and could cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed or implied in any forward-looking statement made by the Company or on its behalf. Given these risk factors, investors should not place undue reliance on forward-looking statements as a prediction of actual results. All forward-looking statements in this MD&A are qualified by these cautionary statements. These statements are made as of the date of this MD&A and, except as required by applicable law, the Company undertakes no obligation to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statement, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise. Additionally, the Company undertakes no obligation to comment on analyses, expectations or statements made by third parties in respect of the Company, its financial or operating results or its securities.

Readers are cautioned that the following terms used herein and other similar terms do not have standardized meanings as prescribed by IFRS and may not be comparable to similar measures presented by other companies. In this MD&A: "Standardized EBITDA" means net income before finance expense, income tax expense, depreciation and amortization; "REI" means retained economic interest, which represents the earnings attributable to vendors and/or principals of acquired companies based on prescribed formulas; "Adjusted EBITDA before REI" means Standardized EBITDA before acquisition, integration and reorganization costs, share-based compensation expense, compensation-based REI and equity-based REI; "Adjusted EBITDA" means Standardized EBITDA net of REI before acquisition, integration and reorganization costs and share based compensation expense; "Adjusted Net Earnings" means net income (loss) before estimated changes in the fair value of non-controlling interest and contingent consideration, acquisition, integration and reorganization costs (net of tax) and equity-based REI, "Operating Income before Corporate Costs" means Adjusted EBITDA before corporate costs; and "Corporate Costs" and "Operating Working Capital", have the meanings hereinafter set out. Further, readers are cautioned that Standardized EBITDA, Adjusted EBITDA before REI, Adjusted EBITDA and Operating Income before Corporate Costs should not replace net income or loss or cash flows from operating, investing and financing activities (as determined in accordance with IFRS), as an indicator of the Company's performance. See the "Non-IFRS Financial Measures" section for further commentary.



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### PEOPLE CORPORATION

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The Company is primarily involved in the delivery of employee group benefit consulting, third-party benefits administration services, group retirement consulting and human resource consulting to help companies recruit, retain and reward employees. With a growing national footprint, the Company is bringing together leading consultants in the industry to offer innovative and customized product solutions to clients. The Company is listed on the TSX Venture Exchange ("TSX-V") under the symbol "PEO".

#### **FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS**

The Company's financial results for the three months ended November 30, 2018 fully reflect the effect of last year's acquisitions of Assurances Dalbec ("Dalbec"), Rockwater Benefits Company Ltd. ("Rockwater"), Lane Quinn Benefit Consultants Ltd. ("Lane Quinn"), and Silverberg & Associates Inc. ("Silverberg"). In addition, the effect of the current year acquisition of Benefit Partners Inc. ("BPI") is reflected in the current period.

	1	Nov 30, 2018		Nov 30, 2017		
	Т	hree months ended	T	hree months ended		
Revenue	\$	36,341.9	\$	28,470.1		
Adjusted EBITDA	\$	7,426.2	\$	5,393.8		
Adjusted net earnings	\$	1,120.4	\$	1,447.3		
Net income (loss)	\$	(1,522.0)	\$	463.7		
Net income (loss) per share (basic)	\$	(0.025)	\$	0.009		
Adjusted net earnings per share (basic)	\$	0.018	\$	0.028		

For the three months ended November 30, 2018, the Company experienced revenue growth of \$7,871.8 (27.6%). Organic growth of \$2,151.2 (7.6%) was recognized primarily from gaining new clients, increasing product and service penetration with existing clients and natural inflationary factors. The Company recognized acquired growth of \$5,720.6 (20.0%) resulting from the acquired operations of Dalbec, Rockwater, Lane Quinn, Silverberg, and BPI.

Adjusted EBITDA for the three months ended November 30, 2018 was \$7,426.2, representing an increase of \$2,032.4 (37.7%), as compared to the same period in fiscal 2018. Growth in Adjusted EBITDA for the three month period was primarily driven by contribution from acquired operations and the increase in first quarter revenue, partially offset by increases in variable compensation expenses tied directly to the higher revenue, expanded leadership to accommodate integration and future growth, and the continued investment in recently-hired benefit consultants and related support costs incurred to drive organic growth.

For the three months ended November 30, 2018, the Company reported a Net income (loss) of \$(1,522.0), a decrease of \$1,985.7 mainly resulting from higher accretion of the non-controlling interest put options, an increase in depreciation and amortization expense and an increase in acquisition, integration and reorganization expenses; partly offset by revenue increases related to acquired operations and organic growth.



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#### **BUSINESS OVERVIEW**

The Company delivers employee group benefit consulting, third-party benefits administration services (including claims processing, disability management and administration services), group retirement services (including consulting and advisory services), and human resource consulting services to help companies recruit, retain and reward employees. The Company achieves this through approximately 846 professionals and support staff with 51 offices (includes 19 satellite offices) located across Canada where the Company is registered to do business in all 10 provinces and 3 territories. The Company earns revenues from a diverse base of clients in various industries. The Company maintains a corporate strategic plan, a financial plan and an ongoing annual planning process that enables the continued growth and execution of the strategy aligned with its vision. The Company's priority is the continued profitable expansion of existing operations through a focus on organic growth and the acquisition of synergistic companies with a view to maximize value for its stakeholders: i) shareholders, ii) clients, iii) acquisition partners, and iv) employees. The Company has financial and management resources in place to execute these priorities.



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The Company is organized in order to emphasize integration of all of its practice areas, which are as follows:



	ISULTING LUTIONS	BENEFIT SOLUTIONS	HUMAN RESOURCE SOLUTIONS
gallivan student health & wellness	Investment Guild Emplayer Benefits by Design	HealthSource Plus.	Talent Acquisition
<b>☼</b> JSL		COUGHLIN	Wellness Solutions
Buffett Taylor	WHITE WILLOW	employue kronfites specialises	Marketing & Communications
Bencom Sgl	Prosure Group  FAIRLES	GBPA Customer Service   Accountability   Innovation	PEOPLE FIRST HR SERVICES
IP	BENEFIT SERVICES	SiriuS Benefit Plans	
HAMILTON + PARTNERS	LaneQuinn  Servett Correctors (Connecti recurrence  Total Quine is a Prople Corporation company	ADL ASSURANCES DALBEC	
SILVERBERG GROUP Bringing Your Employee Benefits Into Focus	Benefit Partners	CASINET EN ASSISTANCE COLLECTIVE DE MERCONNES	

Integrated Solutions

**Group Retirement Solutions** 

The Company has offices across Canada; each led by experts and backed by strong executive management and capital resources. The Company's diverse team of experienced consultants have industry-specific expertise and can provide businesses with insight to customize an innovative suite of services specific to their business requirements.

While the Company continues to go to market with the various brands acquired through acquisition, the Company is organized in such a way so as to leverage the capabilities of the entire organization. People Corporation can help businesses attract the right talent for the job and provide the right incentives to motivate employees to excel, enabling client businesses to prosper.

People Corporation helps businesses:

Attract

The Company's employee benefit, group retirement and human resource practices are led by experts who understand a client's business and can help a client attract the best people for their industry, helping position them as top employers.

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Reward Proprietary solutions offered by the Company's employee group benefit consulting, third

party benefits administration, group retirement consulting, group retirement advisory services, claims processing, disability management and administration services ensures that a client's staff has access to health, wellness, dental, and retirement plans that make

financial sense for their families, as well as for the client's business.

Retain The Company can help make a client's organization a place where the best people will

want to build their careers while also ensuring cost containment for the client's benefit,

HR and group retirement plans.

Whether a client needs a simple benefits package or a comprehensive solution, the Company's experts can customize a program for its client's unique needs.

Expertise The Company's consultants are recognized industry leaders who can create value for a

client's organization. Through the experience of working with hundreds of clients, the Company's consultants have developed broad, as well as specialized, product, insurance

and industry expertise.

Custom Solutions The Company's broad range of innovative and proprietary group benefit solutions, group

retirement and disability solutions can be tailored to suit organizations of any size, in any sector. This is achieved through the Company's partner relationships, its ability to leverage its various systems and platforms and through the expertise of its consultants

and staff.

Industry Leading Pricing As a national provider, the Company's buying power allows it to offer clients the best

products on the best terms.

Independent Guidance The Company's expert advice is unbiased and independent. The Company works with all

major insurers to provide clients with the best customized solution for its clients'

businesses and people.

National Servicing With offices across the country, the Company can provide national clients with service at

a local level.

Below is a summary of the Company's various operating areas:

#### **Consulting Solutions**

Within the Consulting Solutions division, the Company focuses on providing a unique employee benefit, group retirement and human resource solution that is customized to individual client needs. The consulting advice primarily includes plan review and plan design, plan recommendations, alternative funding methods, plan set up, employee communications, wellness programs and plan marketing.

The Company's consultants are divided into teams that focus independently of each other on corporate benefits, public sector benefits, association benefits, student benefits and alternative funding methods including self-insurance. While each team goes to market independently, the Company has an advisor group that brings the skills of the different teams together and therefore, the Company is able to proactively approach client assignments in a manner that brings the expertise from various consultants together where necessary.

The Company assumes no underwriting risk as the insurance policies are underwritten by the insurance carrier.

#### PEOPLE CORPORATION

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#### **Benefit Solutions**

The Company's Benefit Solutions division has several third-party administration ("TPA") and third-party payor ("TPP") service and administration platforms allowing it to provide group benefit, group retirement and consulting advice that is highly customized towards the client's needs. TPA and TPP administer group benefit and group retirement plans on behalf of clients and insurance carrier partners. These administration platforms allow the Company to develop specialized, unique and customized benefit solutions for its clients through a plug-and-play approach of using multiple insurance carrier partners on a single benefits plan design. TPA services include employee data management, billing services, consolidated billing services where a client has multiple insurance carriers associated with its plan, customized reporting, customized plan design services, underwriting services, communication services and technology solutions. In addition, through its various partners, the TPA platforms also provide claims adjudication services and claims management.

The Company serves as an independent data administrator on behalf of the Company's clients, who are generally an employer and/or plan sponsor – this allows the benefit consultant to work with the client to select from various insurance carriers and funding options that are best suited to the benefit categories within the employee benefits program. The client benefits from the availability of multiple carriers and funding alternatives on one consolidated billing and reporting platform.

#### **Human Resource Solutions**

The Company's Human Resource Solutions division works with clients to diagnose, design and deliver customized human resource solutions. The human resources consulting team delivers a broad range of services, including: human resource consulting, compensation services, assessment services, recruiting, career transition services and talent management.

Through its Shared Services division, the Company works with its subsidiaries and divisions by providing subject matter experts and proprietary products, services and solutions to attract and retain clients and provide additional revenue opportunities. The Shared Services departments have been created to ensure that the Company's subsidiaries and divisions have access to an internal shared service not normally available to mid-size employee benefit firms, thereby ensuring clients are receiving the best possible consulting advice. This results in the Company's subsidiaries and divisions having a unique value proposition and thereby providing them with a competitive edge.

## **BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT AND STRATEGY**

As at January 25, 2019, the Company's business environment and strategy remain unchanged from those described in the Company's 2018 annual MD&A.

#### **OVERVIEW OF OPERATING PERFORMANCE**

As a result of a focus on executing its strategic plan, the Company continues to be successful in building upon and growing operational capabilities by investing in employee skills and expertise and the tools that they need to provide responsive solutions to address the Company's clients' business challenges. The Company continued its positive momentum and strong performance during the year.

#### PEOPLE CORPORATION

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#### **Notable Milestones**

- Completed the acquisition of Benefit Partners Inc., a group benefits, group retirement and insurance advisory practice based in Ontario;
- Added partners to the Company's market leading Preferred Provider Network, allowing our clients access to value added offerings and preferred pricing at some of Canada's most recognized national retailers;
- Launched our "HR @ Your Service" product platform to our small group clients;
- Continued to gain market share in the enterprise market;
- Further invested in Quebec by integrating multiple operations in Laval;
- Continued to attract talent, including expansion of product development, underwriting, sales and service, group retirement, corporate development and our digital technology teams.

#### **Growth Through Acquisitions**

The Company continues to pursue growth opportunities both organically, increasing its existing business by gaining new clients, increasing product and service penetration with existing clients, as well as through transactions in which the Company acquires new operating entities or subsidiaries. Over the past few years, the Company has enhanced its corporate development capabilities to execute transactions, through significant investments in people, technology and other organizational resources, and has developed techniques, processes and other intellectual capital, all with the objective of creating a compelling value proposition for new entities to join People Corporation.

Given the Company's strong financial position, Management believes it is well positioned to continue to make investments for growth.

The Company will consider acquisitions ranging in size and structure, but all share the characteristic of having a strong underlying strategic rationale, which may include enhancing the Company's position in existing markets or providing entry into adjacent markets, expanding the Company's administrative and technological capabilities, providing new supplier relationships, enhancing the breadth and depth of the Company's product and service offering and enhancing the plan member experience. At the same time, the Company also takes into consideration the financial characteristics of the underlying business of the acquisition target and the structural components and financial terms of the transactions so that the transaction will result in attractive financial returns to the Company.

With a flexible transaction model to address the objectives of vendors, and an operating model to support the ongoing success and growth of the underlying businesses, the Company continues to attract partners who want to join the People Corporation group of companies. In the past three fiscal years, eight transactions have been completed, and there continues to be significant momentum in this component of the Company's overall growth strategy.

On November 27, 2018, the Company acquired Benefits Partners Inc. ("BPI"), a leading independent privately-owned employee group benefits and group retirement consulting firm in the Ontario market. The addition of BPI to the People Corporation group of companies enhances the Company's position in the Ontario market, including establishing a presence in regions in which the Company did not formerly have a physical location.

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#### **OUTLOOK**

In order to position itself for growth in this environment, the Company invests significantly in people, technology and other organizational resources, and has developed techniques, processes and other intellectual capital to provide a compelling value proposition to its clients. Driven by these investments, the Company continues to pursue growth opportunities both organically, increasing its existing business by gaining new clients and increased penetration of products and services within its existing client base, hiring of new benefit consultants, as well as through acquisitions in which new operating entities or subsidiaries become part of the Company. Given the positive underlying industry trends and characteristics, the ongoing development of the Company's operating and transaction models, and the overall value proposition the Company provides to stakeholder groups that include its clients, consultants, suppliers and employees, Management currently expects to continue to generate growth in the foreseeable future.

#### **NON-IFRS FINANCIAL MEASURES**

The Company reports non-IFRS financial measures, including Standardized EBITDA, REI, Adjusted EBITDA, Adjusted EBITDA before REI, Adjusted Net Earnings, Operating Income before Corporate Costs, and Operating Working Capital as key measures used by Management to evaluate performance of the business, to compensate employees and to facilitate a comparison of quarterly and annual results of ongoing operations. Adjusted EBITDA is also a concept utilized in measuring compliance with debt covenants. The Adjusted EBITDA measure is commonly reported and widely used by investors and lending institutions as an indicator of a company's operating performance, ability to incur and service debt, and as a valuation metric. While used to assist in evaluating the operating performance and debt servicing ability of the Company, readers are cautioned that Adjusted EBITDA as reported by the Company may not be comparable in all instances to Adjusted EBITDA as reported by other companies.

The CPA's Canadian Performance Reporting Board defined EBITDA to foster comparability of the measure between entities Standardized EBITDA. Standardized EBITDA represents an indication of an entity's capacity to generate income from operations before taking into account Management's financing decisions and costs of consuming tangible and intangible capital assets, which vary according to their vintage, technological age and Management's estimate of their useful life. Accordingly, Standardized EBITDA comprises revenue less operating costs before interest expense, capital asset depreciation, intangible asset amortization and impairment charges, and income taxes. Adjusted EBITDA is calculated to exclude items of an unusual or one-time nature that do not reflect normal or ongoing operations of the Company and should not be included in assessment of the Company's ability to service or incur debt. Adjusted EBITDA excludes acquisition, integration and reorganization costs, REI, and share-based compensation. Acquisition, integration and reorganization costs, which do not relate to the current operating performance of the business but are typically costs incurred to expand operations or improve productivity and efficiency, are comprised of professional fees and other non-recurring incremental costs incurred to secure and complete specific acquisitions; non-operating expenses associated with integrating acquired operations into the Company's business model subsequent to completion of an acquisition; and non-recurring expenses including severance costs, recruiting fees and direct costs associated with reorganization operations to position the Company for building additional scale and to enhance operating performance.



Management's Discussion & Analysis As at and for the quarter ended November 30, 2018

#### **OVERVIEW OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE**

#### **Adjusted Net Earnings**

The following is a reconciliation of the Company's Net income to Adjusted net earnings and Adjusted net earnings per share:

	for the three <b>Nov 30, 2018</b>	months ended Nov 30, 2017
Net income (loss) Add (deduct): Change in estimated fair value of non-controlling interest	\$ (1,522.0)	\$ 463.7
put option and contingent consideration (non-taxable) Acquisition, integration and reorganization costs (net of tax) Equity-based REI (non-taxable)	2,176.0 1,590.7 (1,124.3)	1,258.2 650.5 (925.1)
Adjusted net earnings Weighted average number of common shares (basic)	<b>\$ 1,120.4</b> 60,640,511	<b>\$ 1,447.3</b> 51,435,465
Adjusted net earnings per share (basic)	\$ 0.018	\$ 0.028

The adjusted results are intended to highlight the core operating business of the Company by removing non-recurring items and consolidated earnings (loss) that are not attributable to the Company. These items include i) non-recurring acquisition, integration and restructuring charges, ii) changes to the fair value of non-controlling interest put options, and iii) equity-based REI, all net of applicable taxes. The reconciliation of net income (loss) to adjusted net earnings (loss), and the resulting adjusted earnings (loss) per share, are presented above.



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### **Adjusted EBITDA**

The following is a reconciliation of the Company's Net Income to Standardized EBITDA and Adjusted EBITDA:

	for the three mo Nov 30, 2018 Nov	
Net income (loss) Add:	\$ (1,522.0)	\$ 463.7
Depreciation, amortization and impairment losses	3,334.2	2,206.4
Finance expenses, net	2,782.0	1,628.8
Income taxes, net	716.9	901.8
Standardized EBITDA Add:	5,311.1	5,200.7
Acquisition, integration and reorganization costs	2,173.0	888.6
Compensation-based REI	505.3	503.2
Share-based compensation	1,066.4	229.6
Adjusted EBITDA before REI Deduct:	\$ 9,055.8	\$ 6,822.1
Compensation-based REI	(505.3)	(503.2)
Equity-based REI	(1,124.3)	(925.1)
Adjusted EBITDA	\$ 7,426.2	\$ 5,393.8
Adjusted EBITDA before REI as a % of Revenue	24.9 %	24.0 %
Adjusted EBITDA as a % of Revenue	20.4 %	18.9 %

Adjusted EBITDA before REI for the three months ended November 30, 2018 was \$9,055.8, an increase of \$2,233.7, (32.7%) from \$6,822.1 reported for the same period in the prior year. Factors influencing the increase in Adjusted EBITDA before REI include:

- Revenue growth of \$7,871.8 representing increased contribution to run-rates from acquisitions as well as organic growth resulting from the addition of new clients;
- Increased personnel and compensation expenses, of \$4,797.0, primarily attributable to the increased employee count resulting from acquired operations representing \$2,520.6 of the change, increases in variable compensation expenses tied directly to the higher revenue and an expanded staff complement to accommodate future growth; and
- A net increase in all other operating costs of \$841.1, inclusive of general and administrative expenses, occupancy, and administration fees.

The increase in the Adjusted EBITDA before REI as a percentage of Revenue is due to Adjusted EBITDA contributions through current period acquisitions, increased organic revenue growth, natural inflationary factors and the increased ability to leverage the Company's value proposition to existing customers.

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Adjusted EBITDA for the three months ended November 30, 2018 was \$7,426.2, an increase of \$2,032.4 (37.7%) from \$5,393.8 reported for the same period in the prior year. The increase in Adjusted EBITDA is due to the factors affecting Adjusted EBITDA before REI, net of the vendors' interest in Coughlin, BPA, Silverberg, BPI, H+P and Bencom of \$1,629.6, which increased by \$201.3 (14.1%) as compared to the same period in the prior year.

#### **Operating Income before Corporate Costs**

The following is a reconciliation of the Company's Adjusted EBITDA to Operating Income before Corporate Costs:

	for the three <b>Nov 30, 2018</b>	months ended Nov 30, 2017
Adjusted EBITDA Add:	\$ 7,426.2	\$ 5,393.8
Corporate costs	1,152.3	1,230.1
Operating Income before Corporate Costs	\$ 8,578.5	\$ 6,623.9

Corporate costs, which represent expenses incurred to support executive management of the Company, such as remuneration, public company compliance costs, certain insurance premiums and corporate development activities, were \$1,152.3 for the three months ended November 30, 2018 versus \$1,230.1 for the same period in the prior year. The decrease of \$77.8 (6.3%) is primarily related to a decrease in professional fees incurred during the period.

Operating income before corporate costs for the three months ended November 30, 2018 was \$8,578.5 versus \$6,623.9 for the same period in the prior year. The increase of \$1,954.6 (29.5%) is due to primarily organic growth in Adjusted EBITDA and contributions from acquired operations.

#### Revenue

Revenue from the Consulting Solutions division is primarily comprised of commissions from insurance carriers. In addition, the Company provides group retirement plan advisory services from which it earns commissions paid by the carrier who administers and invests the funds. The Company is a reseller of benefit products and services and therefore assumes no underwriting risk as the insurance policy is underwritten by the insurance carrier.

Revenue from the Benefit Solutions division is primarily from fees earned for third party administration services. In addition, the Company earns fees from group retirement consulting and administration, and individual financial services including insurance and wealth management.

Revenue from the Human Resource Solutions division is primarily earned from hourly or fixed fees for consulting services and as a percentage of compensation for recruiting services.

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The calculation of 'organic growth' includes: i) year-over-year increases or decreases in revenue from operating units the Company has owned longer than one year; and ii) increases or decreases in revenue recognized from operating units the Company has owned for less than one year above or below baseline acquired revenue. The calculation of 'acquired revenue' includes a baseline representing estimated revenue of the acquired operations at the time of acquisition.

Revenue is as follows:

For the three months ended	Nov 30, 2018	Nov 30, 2017	\$ Variance	% Variance
	\$ 36,341.9	\$ 28,470.1	\$ 7,871.8	27.6 %

For the three months ended November 30, 2018, the Company experienced revenue growth of \$7,871.8 (27.6%). The Company recognized acquired growth of \$5,720.6 (20.0%) resulting from the acquired operations of Dalbec, Rockwater, Lane Quinn, Silverberg, and BPI. Organic growth of \$2,151.2 (7.6%) is primarily from the addition of new clients, increasing product and service penetration with existing clients and natural inflationary factors.

#### **Personnel and Compensation Expenses**

The largest operating expense of the Company is compensation and related costs which includes salaries, bonuses and commissions, compensation-based REI, stock-based compensation, group benefits, and payroll taxes.

Personnel and compensation expenses are as follows:

For the three months ended	Nov 30, 2018	Nov 30, 2017	\$ Variance	% Variance
	\$ 23,318.4	\$ 17,335.4	\$ 5,983.0	34.5 %

The Company believes that investment in its employees and associate consultant networks are key to ensuring successful execution of its strategic plans.

For the three months ended November 30, 2018, personnel and compensation costs represent 64.2% of revenues (November 30, 2017 - 60.9%). The increase in personnel and compensation for the three months ended November 30, 2018 of \$5,983.0 is attributable to the increased employee count resulting from the acquisitions of Dalbec, Rockwater, Lane Quinn and Silverberg, representing \$2,520.6 of the increase, variable compensation tied directly to higher revenue, and an expanded staff complement to accommodate integration and future growth. Share-based compensation has increased by \$836.8 during the period.

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#### **General and Administrative Expenses**

General and administrative expenses include expenses relating to acquisition, integration and reorganization, travel, office supplies, telephone and internet, computer costs, professional fees, advertising, business development and other costs supporting operations.

General and administrative expenses are as follows:

For the three months ended	Nov 30, 2018		Nov 30, 2017		\$ Variance		% Variance
	\$	5,100.1	\$	3,462.4	\$	1,637.7	47.3 %

For the three months ended November 30, 2018; general and administrative expenses are higher than the three months ended November 30, 2017 primarily due to the following:

- An increase of \$294.4 resulting from a higher general and administrative run-rates from the acquisitions;
- An increase of \$920.3 pertaining to acquisition, integration and reorganization costs; and,
- An increase in \$423.0 in all other general and administrative expenses, including office supplies, professional fees, business development and travel.

#### **Depreciation and Amortization Expense**

Depreciation is recognized over the estimated useful lives of each part of an item of property and equipment in a manner which most closely reflects the expected pattern of consumption of the future economic benefits embodied in the asset. Definite life intangible assets are amortized from the date of acquisition or, for internally developed assets, from the time the asset is available for use. Amortization is recognized either on a declining balance or on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful life of the asset.

Depreciation and amortization expense is as follows:

For the three months ended	Nov 30, 2018		Nov 30, 2017		\$ Variance		% Variance
	\$	3,334.2	\$	2,206.4	\$	1,127.8	51.1 %

Depreciation and amortization expense increased by \$1,127.8 (51.1%) for the three months ended November 30, 2018 primarily due to higher amortization expense on customer relationships of \$998.4 combined with higher depreciation of \$129.4 due to increased leasehold improvements including furniture and fixtures pertaining to the Company's new head office.



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### **Occupancy Costs**

Occupancy costs are as follows:

For the three months ended	Nov 30, 2018		Nov 30, 2017		\$ Variance		% Variance
	\$	1,412.0	\$	1,502.5	\$	(90.5)	(6.0)%

Occupancy costs for the three months ended November 30, 2018 of \$1,412.0 are comparable to those incurred in the three months ended November 30, 2017.

#### **Administration Fees**

Administration fees represent amounts paid by the company to third party claims adjudicators for services provided on behalf of the Company to certain of its clients on its TPA platform.

Administration fees are as follows:

For the three months ended	Nov 30, 2018		Nov 30, 2017		\$ Variance		% Variance
	\$	1,107.4	\$	907.8	\$	199.6	22.0 %

Administration fees increased by \$199.6 (22.0%) for the three months ended November 30, 2018 due to an increase in claims processing fees is volume driven and is a direct result from the increase in TPA revenue.

#### **Finance Expenses**

Finance expenses, net of interest income, are as follows:

For the three months ended	Nov	v 30, 2018	Nov	30, 2017	\$ Variance	% Variance
Interest and other finance costs Non-cash accretion expenses Change in estimate of NCI put options	\$	480.1 163.4 2,138.5	\$	353.9 16.8 1,258.1	\$ 126.2 146.6 880.4	35.7 % 872.6 % 70.0 %
	\$	2,782.0	\$	1,628.8	\$ 1,153.2	70.8 %

Finance expenses increased by \$1,153.2 (70.8%) for the three months ended November 30, 2018. The change is primarily due to an increase in accretion relating to non-controlling interest put options, an increase in accretion on vendor take-back loans and finance costs on long-term debt due to higher interest rates.



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## **Public Company Costs**

Public Company costs are as follows:

For the three months ended	Nov 30, 2018		Nov 30, 2017		\$ Variance		% Variance
	\$	92.8	\$	61.2	\$	31.6	51.6 %

Public company costs have increased by \$31.6 (51.6%) for the three months ended November 30, 2018. The increase is due to the Company engaging an investor relations firm.

## **SELECTED QUARTERLY INFORMATION**

The selected financial information provided below is derived from the Company's unaudited quarterly financial statements for each of the last eight quarters:

	Q1 - 2019	Q4 - 2018	Q3 - 2018	Q2 - 2018	Q1 - 2018	Q4 - 2017	Q3 - 2017	Q2 - 2017
Revenue	\$ 36,341.9	\$ 36,279.5	\$ 33,254.0	\$ 32,514.5	\$ 28,470.1	\$ 28,927.0	\$ 27,965.8	\$ 25,602.5
Operating & corporate expenses	(27,791.4)	(27,522.2)	(24,910.2)	(26,637.8)	(24,001.4)	(24,016.9)	(21,763.4)	(19,591.2)
Adjusted EBITDA	7,426.2	7,744.9	7,373.9	7,029.4	5,393.8	5,718.4	5,430.0	5,225.2
Finance expenses	(2,782.0)	(10,464.2)	(1,619.3)	(2,213.6)	(1,628.4)	(1,792.5)	(730.7)	(607.2)
Depreciation and amortization	(3,334.2)	(3,606.3)	(2,515.7)	(2,330.5)	(2,206.7)	(2,625.8)	(1,943.7)	(1,959.2)
Share-based compensation	(1,066.4)	(563.6)	(236.1)	(283.9)	(229.6)	(174.5)	(183.8)	(183.5)
Equity-based REI	(1,124.3)	(1,012.4)	(969.9)	(1,152.7)	(925.1)	(808.3)	(772.4)	(786.1)
Income tax expense, net Acquisition, integration and	(716.9)	(967.6)	(1,069.8)	(1,359.1)	(901.8)	(875.0)	(446.0)	(1,120.4)
reorganization costs	(2,173.0)	(2,634.2)	(1,418.9)	(1,384.8)	(888.6)	(817.7)	(1,024.8)	(502.2)
Net income (loss)	(1,522.0)	(9,478.6)	1,484.0	610.2	463.8	241.2	1,873.4	1,638.8
Adjusted net earnings	1,120.4	`1,131.6 <sup>°</sup>	2,871.7	1,949.8	1,447.3	1,424.9	2,182.0	1,581.8
Total assets	265,630.5	262,555.1	221,021.6	194,755.6	189,690.8	169,952.6	171,180.5	144,533.3
Total loans and borrowings	44,435.4	38,273.5	54,943.9	38,998.7	35,892.6	36,526.7	37,376.9	21,922.3
Total other liabilities	93,534.7	96,165.6	67,897.4	61,208.9	60,221.5	65,055.0	66,161.8	57,094.8
Shareholders' equity	127,660.4	128,116.0	98,180.3	94,548.1	93,576.8	68,371.0	67,641.7	65,516.2
Net income (loss)								
per share (basic)	(0.025)	(0.169)	0.027	0.011	0.009	0.005	0.037	0.032
Net income (loss) per share (diluted)	(0.025)	(0.169)	0.026	0.011	0.009	0.005	0.036	0.032
Adjusted net earnings	( /	(/						
per share (basic)	0.018	0.020	0.052	0.035	0.028	0.028	0.043	0.031



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#### LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES

#### **Contractual Obligations**

The following table summarizes, as at November 30, 2018, the Company's contractual obligations for the periods specified.

	Payments due by period					
	Total	Less than 1 Year	1 - 3 Years	4 - 5 Years	Thereafter	
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities \$ Contractual obligations Loans and borrowings	16,672.1 \$ 24,530.8 45,021.9	13,928.4 \$ 5,060.8 9,597.4	2,241.9 \$ 8,723.6 35,424.5	147.3 \$ 6,447.5	354.5 4,298.9 -	
\$	86,224.8 \$	28,586.6 \$	46,390.0 \$	6,594.8 \$	4,653.4	

Management believes that operations will generate sufficient cash flows to fund ongoing operations and finance its seasonal working capital needs.

#### **Cash Flows**

The following table summarizes the Company's cash flows for the three months ended November 30, 2018:

For the three months ended	Nov 30, 2018	Nov 30, 2017	\$ Variance	% Variance
Net income (loss) for the period Add non-cash items, net	\$ (1,522.0) 5.410.9	\$ 463.7 2.979.5	\$ (1,985.7) 2.431.4	(428.2)% 81.6 %
Changes in non-cash working capital	(6,196.5)	(706.6)	(5,489.9)	776.9 %
Net cash from (used by) operating activities	(2,307.6)	2,736.6	(5,044.2)	(184.3)%
Net cash used by investing activities	(7,515.6)	(4,198.5)	(3,317.1)	79.0 %
Net cash from financing activities	5,172.4	22,212.1	(17,039.7)	(76.7)%
Net increase (decrease) in cash	\$ (4,650.8)	\$ 20,750.2	\$ (25,401.0)	(122.4)%

Cash from operating activities for the three months ended November 30, 2018 decreased \$5,044.2 as compared to the prior year. Changes in working capital accounts reflect the inclusion of Dalbec, Rockwater, Lane Quinn, Silverberg and BPI operations. Significant influences of cash inflows and outflows related to operating activities for the year-to-date period versus the same period in the prior year end include:

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- Cash generated from increased Adjusted EBITDA, before REI, was \$2,231.6 higher than was generated in the
  prior year. Management believes Adjusted EBITDA is a valuable indicator of the Company's ability to generate
  liquidity by producing operating cash flow to fund working capital needs, service debt obligations, and fund
  capital expenditures.
- Cash used to fund acquisitions, integration and reorganization costs increased \$1,284.4.
- Finance costs and income taxes used \$501.4 more cash than as compared to the prior year.
- Cash from changes in non-cash working capital accounts decreased \$5,489.9.

Cash used by investing activities for the three months ended November 30, 2018 increased by \$3,317.1 as compared to the same period in the prior year. The change is primarily due to \$6,752.2 more cash used to fund current quarter acquisition of BPI, offset by a decrease in cash invested in a new corporate head office that was in progress in the prior year.

Cash generated by financing activities for the three months ended November 30, 2018 decreased by \$17,039.7 as compared to the same period in the prior year. In the prior year the Company generated \$23,873.2 of cash from the completion of a private placement of shares which did not take place in the current period. In the current year the Company had a draw down of \$6,779.6 on its acquisition revolver to fund the current period acquisition of BPI.

### **Capital Management**

The Company's objectives when managing capital are to safeguard the Company's ability to continue as a going concern in order to provide opportunities for growth to shareholders and benefits for other stakeholders and to maintain financial flexibility in, or to take advantage of, organic growth and new acquisition opportunities as they arise

The Company includes cash, bank financing, vendor-take-back debt and shareholders' equity in the definition of capital. The Company manages its capital structure and adjusts it in light of changes in economic conditions and the risk characteristics of the underlying assets. In order to maintain or adjust capital structure, the Company may issue new shares, issue new debt, renegotiate vendor-take-back debt or issue new debt to replace existing debt with different terms & conditions. The Company has the opportunity to use its Operating Revolver during the year to finance cash flows related to seasonal changes in non-cash working capital items. The Company did not make use of its operating line of credit during the first three months of the year.

### **Working Capital**

The Company's working capital (defined as current assets less current liabilities) as at November 30, 2018 is set forth in the table below. The Company defines "Operating Working Capital" as current assets less current liabilities excluding contract liabilities.

Contract liabilities represents payments received in advance for services which have not yet been performed. Contract liabilities are recognized into income as services are rendered, in accordance with the revenue recognition policies described in the Company's financial statements. Contract liabilities is a non-cash liability and therefore Management believes that adding back the contract liabilities provides a more accurate reflection of the liquidity and working capital position of the Company.



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The table below reconciles the differences in the calculation of working capital and Operating Working Capital.

	Nov 30, 2018	Aug 31, 2018
Current assets	\$ 32,149.7	\$ 36,798.4
Less: Current liabilities	31,148.6	32,013.3
Working capital Add back:	1,001.1	4,785.1
Contract liabilities	4,436.9	-
Operating Working Capital	\$ 5,438.0	\$ 4,785.1

Operating Working Capital has increased by \$652.9 to a surplus of \$5,438.0 compared to the surplus of \$4,785.1 at August 31, 2018. The change in Operating Working Capital is due to a decrease in current assets of \$4,648.7, more than offset by a decrease in current liabilities excluding contract liabilities of \$5,301.6. The decrease in working capital is primarily due to the reclassification into current liabilities a current portion of non-controlling interest put options of \$2,889.8.

The Company maintains a revolving operating line of credit of \$5,000.0 to facilitate management of short-term working capital requirements. As at November 30, 2018, the Company had not utilized this facility.

#### **Credit Facilities**

The Company's existing credit agreement with a syndicate of Canadian banks has the following authorized limits:

- 1. the \$5,000 revolving credit facility to fund operating cash flow needs ("Operating Revolver");
- 2. the term acquisition credit facility to fund future acquisitions of \$63,800 ("Acquisition Revolver");
- 3. the term credit facility installment loan of \$19,500 ("Term Loan");
- the delayed draw term credit facility of \$9,500.0 ("Real Estate Loan").

On October 31, 2018, the Company negotiated a six month extension to its credit facility with a syndicate of Canadian banks, on similar terms and conditions, which matures on April 30, 2020. The Term Loan requires quarterly principal repayments of \$486.1 until February 28, 2019 and \$583.3 per quarter thereafter, with the balance due at maturity. The Operating Revolver and Acquisition Revolver do not have scheduled principal repayments prior to maturity.

The loans bear interest at a floating rate based on banker's acceptances plus a credit margin tied to the Company's quarterly leverage ratio. The facility is secured by a general security agreement over the assets of the Company and its subsidiaries and is subject to both financial and non-financial covenants, including maximum total leverage and senior leverage ratios and minimum fixed charge coverage ratios.



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At November 30, 2018, the Company had a balance of \$17,500.2 outstanding on the Term Loan, \$8,548.0 outstanding on the Real Estate Loan, \$6,779.7 outstanding on the Acquisition Revolver and was compliant with all financial covenants. At November 30, 2018, the Company had unutilized and available credit of \$62,020.0, including \$5,000.0 on the Operating Revolver and \$57,020.0 to fund acquisitions on the Acquisition Revolver.

#### **Share Capital**

The Company has authorized share capital of an unlimited number of common voting shares. The Company's outstanding securities are comprised of:

	November 30, 2018	August 31, 2018
Common shares issued and outstanding	60,640,511	60,640,511
Stock options outstanding Restricted Stock Units outstanding	3,670,044 582,113	3,681,861 442,279
Deferred Stock Units outstanding	90,100	69,278

During the three months ended November 30, 2018, the change in share capital can be attributed to grants under the Company's Security Based Compensation Plan.

## Contingencies

In the ordinary course of operating the Company's business it may from time to time be subject to various claims or possible claims. Although Management currently believes there are no claims or possible claims that if resolved would either individually or collectively result in a material adverse impact on the Company's financial position, results of operations, or cash flows, these matters are inherently uncertain and Management's view of these matters may change in the future.

#### **RISK FACTORS**

The Company operates in a well-established and highly competitive industry and its results of operations, business prospects and financial condition are subject to a number of risks and uncertainties and are affected by a number of factors outside the control of management of the Company. The risk and uncertainties remain substantially unchanged from those disclosed in the Company's 2018 annual and fourth quarter MD&A.

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#### CRITICAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES AND ESTIMATES

Critical accounting policies are defined as those that are both very important to the portrayal of the Company's financial condition and results, and require Management's most difficult, subjective or complex judgments. In preparing the Company's financial statements in accordance with IFRS, Management is required to make certain estimates, judgments and assumptions that it believes are reasonable based upon available information, historical information and/or forecasts. These estimates, judgments and assumptions affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported revenues and expenses during the reporting periods. Actual results could differ from these estimates. The accounting policies which Management believes are the most critical to aid in fully understanding and evaluating the Company's reported financial results include those relating to revenue recognition, business acquisitions and accounting for the resulting customer relationships and contracts, goodwill, contingent acquisition consideration and non-controlling interest put obligations, as well as income taxes.

The critical accounting estimates are substantially unchanged from those identified in the Company's 2018 annual and fourth quarter MD&A.

#### **CHANGES IN ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

As described in note 3(a) of the accompanying condensed consolidated interim financial statements, the Company adopted the following new and revised accounting standards:

#### IFRS 15, Revenue from Contracts with Customers ("IFRS 15")

The Company has adopted IFRS 15 effective September 1, 2018 using the modified retrospective approach, which recognizes the cumulative effect of initial application (if any) as an adjustment to opening retained earnings (deficit) at September 1, 2018 without restatement of comparatives. There was no impact on retained earnings as a result of adoption.

## IFRS 9, Financial Instruments ("IFRS 9")

Changes in accounting policies resulting from the adoption of IFRS 9 have been applied retrospectively. There was no impact on retained earnings as a result of the date of adoption of IFRS 9 as at September 1, 2018.

### **NEW STANDARDS NOT YET ADOPTED**

The following new and revised Standards and Interpretations have been issued by the IASB but are not yet effective and have not been applied in preparing the condensed consolidated interim financial statements:

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#### IFRS 16, Leases ("IFRS 16")

On January 13, 2016 the IASB issued IFRS 16 Leases. The new standard is effective for annual periods beginning on or after January 1, 2019. IFRS 16 will replace IAS 17 Leases. This standard introduces a single lessee accounting model and requires a lessee to recognize assets and liabilities for all leases with a term of more than 12 months, unless the underlying asset is of low value. A lessee is required to recognize a right-of-use asset representing its right to use the underlying asset and a lease liability representing its obligation to make lease payments. The Company is currently in the process of implementing a transition plan and evaluating the impact of adopting IFRS 16 on its financial statements, but expects this standard will have a significant impact on its consolidated statement of financial position, along with a change to the recognition, measurement and presentation of lease expenses in the consolidated statement of comprehensive income.

#### **SEASONALITY**

As the Company continues to grow through acquisitions, the revenue trends from quarter to quarter may change depending on the relative significance of acquisitions in a fiscal year and the seasonal variances of the client renewals of those particular acquisitions. As a result of such acquired growth and organic growth, the revenue and Adjusted EBITDA trends from quarter to quarter within a fiscal year may continue to vary, however the annual revenue trends will increasingly be more representative of the Company's annual revenue run rate as the Company achieves increasing scale.

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

Other than as outlined below, the Company does not have any off-balance sheet arrangements.

The Company sponsors certain individual pension plans ("IPP") which were assumed as a result of and established prior to the date of certain acquisitions. While the IPPs are ongoing, the Company's obligation to make contributions towards any funding deficiency required by pension legislation is indemnified by the beneficiaries of the respective IPPs. Conversely, any funding surpluses are payable to the beneficiaries of the respective IPPs. As a result, the Company has no net exposure to unfunded or overfunded IPPs.

#### FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The Company's financial instruments consist of basic financial instruments which are typically used in operations, including cash, restricted cash, trade and other receivables, trade payables, accrued and other liabilities. Additional financial instruments include long-term debt, contingent acquisition consideration, non-controlling interest put options and other non-current assets.