



## Core Nickel Corp.

CSE: CNCO

### Management Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations For the year ended April 30, 2024

This Management's Discussion and Analysis (“**MD&A**”) compares the financial results of Core Nickel Corp. (“**Core Nickel**” or the “**Company**”) for the three and twelve months ended April 30, 2024 (“**fourth quarter 2024**” and “**fiscal 2024**”, respectively). No comparison is available for the results for the three and twelve months ended April 30, 2023 (“**fourth quarter 2023**” and “**fiscal 2023**”). In order to gain a more complete understanding of the Company’s financial condition and results of operations, this MD&A should be read in conjunction with the April 30, 2024 audited financial statements and accompanying notes which have been prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (“**IFRS**”) and filed with the appropriate provincial regulatory bodies. The Company discloses additional information through press releases and financial information available on the Company’s website at [www.corenickel.com](http://www.corenickel.com) and on the SEDAR+ website, [www.sedarplus.ca](http://www.sedarplus.ca).

Core Nickel was incorporated on May 2, 2022, under the laws of Canada Business Corporation Act and commenced trading on the Canadian Securities Exchange (the “**CSE**”) on November 27, 2023 under the symbol “**CNCO**”. The Company’s head office and principal address is suite 204, 75 – 24<sup>th</sup> Street East, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada, S7K 1K3. The Company’s registered and records office is 600 - 890 West Pender Street, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, V6C 1J9.

The Company is considered to be in the exploration stage with respect to its mineral properties. The Company prepares its financial statements in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (“**IFRS**”).

The information contained in this document is provided as of July 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024 (the “**Report Date**”).

#### **OVERVIEW**

Core Nickel is principally engaged in the evaluation, acquisition and exploration of nickel properties that are located in the Thompson Nickel Belt in Northern Manitoba, Canada. The Company’s projects range from early-stage grassroots exploration through advanced-stage resource delineation. The Company’s business model is to build shareholder value through systematic project advancement while concurrently maintaining an opportunistic approach to the acquisition of additional nickel properties. Core Nickel actively manages its property portfolio. The Company may farm out or relinquishing properties when exploration results suggest that further expenditures by the Company are unwarranted.

Core Nickel has no producing operations and as a consequence, the Company does not generate any operating income or a positive cash flow. Exploration of its properties is therefore entirely dependent on the Company’s ability to access public equity markets to raise sufficient capital and/or its ability to attract joint venture partners to finance further work on its properties. With a working capital of approximately \$726,692 at April 30, 2024, Core Nickel will need to consider a financing to support its anticipated exploration programs in 2024 and 2025.



## **Exploration Projects**

The Company currently holds interests in five exploration projects located in the Thompson Nickel Belt in northern Manitoba, totaling 26,764 hectares of exploration ground. The company's current project portfolio was generated by CanAlaska Uranium Ltd, ("CanAlaska") and all five properties held by the company were included in the spinout arrangement between CanAlaska and the Company on November 11, 2023. The majority of the company's land is classified as greenfield or early-stage exploration, with the exception of the Mel property, which hosts the Mel deposit.

### ***Mel Project, Manitoba***

The Mel project is located in the northeastern portion of the Thompson Nickel Belt, approximately 20 kilometers northeast of the city of Thompson, Manitoba. The Mel property comprises one mineral lease and ten mineral claims covering a total of 2,613 hectares, with a carrying value of \$979,309. The property is 100% owned by the Company, subject to a 10% net profit royalty to Vale, and the Company has a milling agreement with Vale at cash cost plus 5%.

The Mel property was initially explored by Canada Nickel Co. Ltd. (a wholly owned subsidiary of INCO). INCO (now Vale) discovered the Mel deposit in 1961, and exploration on the property continued into the early 1970s. Exploration ceased until the late 1990s, when INCO entered into a joint venture agreement with Victory Nickel Inc. (previously Nunisco Resources). Victory Nickel Inc. primarily focused its exploration efforts on the Mel deposit, with minimal exploration on the remainder of the property. In 2007, Victory Nickel Inc. acquired the Mel property and completed a NI 43-101 resources estimate on the Mel deposit, indicating a historical indicated resource of 4,279,000 tonnes at 0.875% nickel and a historical inferred resource of 1,010,000 tonnes at 0.839% nickel (refer to the "Technical Report on the Mel Deposit, Northern Manitoba" prepared for Victory Nickel Inc. by Shane Naccashian (P. Geo) of Wardrop Engineering Inc. dated March 9, 2007). CanAlaska completed the acquisition of the Mel Deposit, the Mel mining lease, and ten mineral claims on May 15, 2023, through the receivership responsible for liquidating Victory Nickel's assets. On November 11, 2023, CanAlaska included the Mel deposit, the Mel mining lease, and ten mineral claims in the spinout arrangement with the Company. Dr. Chris Beaumont-Smith prepared a 43-101 technical report for the Company on the Mel property in 2023, the [Technical Report on the MEL Property Thompson Region, Manitoba](http://www.sedarplus.ca). The report is filed under the Company's profile on SEDAR+ [www.sedarplus.ca](http://www.sedarplus.ca).

### ***Hunter Property, Manitoba***

The Hunter property is 100% owned by the Company. The property consists of eleven claim blocks and one mineral exploration lease (MEL) covering a total of 8,232 hectares and is located approximately 20 kilometers north from the city of Thompson, Manitoba. The Hunter property was explored by various companies including INCO from the 1950s to the early 1970s. Exploration on the Hunter property ceased until the late 1990s, when INCO entered into a joint venture agreement with Victory Nickel Inc. In 2018, CanAlaska staked the mineral exploration lease and ten claim blocks that make up the Hunter project. CanAlaska conducted a property wide airborne VTEM survey over Hunter and included the Hunter project in the spinout arrangement with the Company.

### ***Odei River, Manitoba***

The Odei River has a carrying value of \$5,107 and consists of one mineral exploration license for a total of 9,411 hectares. The property is located in the Thompson Nickel Belt, Manitoba and is situated approximately 20 kilometers north of the City of Thompson, Manitoba. The property was explored in the 1960s by Canadian Nickel Company (a wholly owned subsidiary of INCO) and Merrit Copper. In 1999, the property was staked by Victory Nickel and INCO, and exploration activities were carried out under a JV between Victory Nickel and INCO until 2007. In 2022, CanAlaska staked the Odei River property and in 2023, the property was included in the spinout arrangement between CanAlaska and the Company.



### ***Resting Lake Project, Manitoba***

The Resting Lake property consists of eleven claim blocks covering a total of 2,322 hectares in the southern portion of the Thompson Nickel Belt situated approximately five kilometers to the northeast of Wabowden, Manitoba. The property was covered by a regional electromagnetic survey by INCO in 1949 and was later explored by Falconbridge Nickel Mines Ltd. and Bowden Lake Nickel Mines Limited in 1959 to 1975 and in 1994. CanAlaska staked the Resting Lake claims in 2021 and conducted a property wide aeromagnetic survey in 2022. The property was included in the spinout arrangement between CanAlaska and the Company. Dr. Chris Beaumont-Smith prepared a 43-101 technical report for the Company on the Resting Lake property in 2023, the Technical Report on the Halfway and Resting Lake Properties Thompson, Manitoba. The report is filed under the Company's profile on SEDAR+ [www.sedarplus.ca](http://www.sedarplus.ca).

### ***Halfway Lake Property, Manitoba***

The Halfway Lake property consists of twenty mineral claims covering a total of 4,186 hectares in the southern portion of the Thompson Nickel Belt, Manitoba, situated approximately 12 kilometers to the northeast of Wabowden, Manitoba. The property was explored by National Malartic in the late 1950s and early 1960s, and by Falconbridge from 1962 to 1975 and in 1994. CanAlaska staked the Resting Lake claims in 2021 and conducted a property wide aeromagnetic survey in 2022. In 2023, the property was included in the spinout arrangement between CanAlaska and the Company. Dr. Chris Beaumont-Smith prepared a 43-101 technical report for the Company on the Halfway Lake property in 2023, the Technical Report on the Halfway and Resting Lake Properties Thompson, Manitoba. The report is filed under the Company's profile on SEDAR+ [www.sedarplus.ca](http://www.sedarplus.ca).

For additional information please visit the Company's website [www.corenickel.com](http://www.corenickel.com).

## **RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

### **For the three months ended April 30, 2024**

The loss for the three months ended April 30, 2024 was \$554,967.

A summary of the costs is described in the paragraph below.

- Insurance in the amount of \$7,672 were incurred during the fourth quarter 2024.
- Interest income in the amount of \$11,239 was earned during the fourth quarter 2024.
- Legal, audit, and accounting fees in the amount of \$72,635 were incurred in the fourth quarter 2024.
- Management fees in the amount of \$57,263 were incurred.
- Office and miscellaneous costs in the amount of \$4,707 were incurred during the fourth quarter 2024.
- Regulatory and transfer agent fees in the amount of \$10,240 were incurred.
- Rent costs of \$2,278 were incurred in the fourth quarter 2024.
- Investor relations and presentations expenses of \$34,322 were incurred.
- Travel and accommodations costs of \$2,320 were incurred.
- Wages and benefits in the amount of \$1,856 were incurred in the fourth quarter 2024.

### **For the year ended April 30, 2024**

The loss for the year ended April 30, 2024 was \$700,802. Note that operations for the Company commence on November 10, 2023 (date of closing of the plan of arrangement).

A summary of the costs is described in the paragraph below.

- Insurance in the amount of \$13,244 were incurred during fiscal 2024.
- Interest income in the amount of \$13,964 was earned during fiscal 2024.
- Legal, audit, and accounting fees in the amount of \$102,892 were incurred largely due to the filing costs related to the



plan of arrangement and the audit and review of the Company’s financial statements.

- Management fees in the amount of \$92,925 were incurred.
- Office and miscellaneous costs in the amount of \$7,818 were incurred during fiscal 2024.
- Regulatory and transfer agent fees in the amount of \$24,776 were incurred.
- Rent costs of \$5,058 were incurred in fiscal 2024.
- Investor relations and presentations expenses of \$60,273 were incurred.
- Travel and accommodations costs of \$3,713 were incurred.
- Wages and benefits in the amount of \$2,887 were incurred in fiscal 2024.

### Summary of Quarterly Results

The following table summarizes information derived from the Company's financial statements for each of the eight most recently completed quarters.

	Year: Quarter Ended:	2024 Apr 30	2024 Jan 31	2023 Oct 31	2023 Jul 31	2023 Apr 30	2023 Jan 31	2022 Oct 31	2022 Jul 31
Net sales or total revenue		\$Nil	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Total Assets		\$2,047,983	\$2,436,578	\$0.01	\$0.01	\$0.01	\$0.01	\$0.01	n/a
Net income (loss):									
(i) in total		\$(554,967)	\$(145,835)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
(ii) per share <sup>(1)</sup>		\$(0.02)	\$(0.02)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

(1) Basis and diluted loss per share are the same as the Company has losses and they are anti-dilutive, hence not disclosed.

While the information set out in the foregoing table is mandated by *National Instrument 51-102*, it is management’s view that the variations in financial results that occur from quarter to quarter are not particularly helpful in analyzing the Company’s performance. It is in the nature of the business of junior exploration companies that unless they sell a mineral interest for a sum greater than the costs incurred in acquiring such interest, they have no significant net sales or total revenue.

In addition, the Company incorporated on May 5, 2022 and has limited history of operations to compare.

Significant variances in the Company’s reported loss from quarter to quarter most commonly arise from several factors that are difficult to anticipate in advance or to predict from past results. These factors include: (i) level of exploration and project evaluations expenses incurred, (ii) decisions to write off acquisition costs when management concludes there has been an impairment in the carrying value of a mineral property, or the property is abandoned, and (iii) the vesting of incentive stock options, which results in the recording of amounts for share-based compensation expense that can be quite large in relation to other general and administrative expenses incurred in any given quarter.

### Plan of Arrangement Spin-out transaction

On November 10, 2023, a plan of arrangement spin-out transaction was completed by the Company.

The arrangement agreement dated September 1, 2023, entered into between CanAlaska Uranium Ltd. (“CanAlaska”) and the Company (a wholly owned subsidiary of CanAlaska), was approved by the shareholders of CanAlaska on October 25, 2023, by a Final Order granted by the Supreme Court of British Columbia on October 31, 2023, in accordance with Part 9 of the Business Corporations Act (British Columbia), and accepted by the TSX Venture Exchange and the Canadian Securities Exchange (“CSE”).



Pursuant to the Arrangement Agreement and on the effective date:

- a) CanAlaska transferred the following assets to Core Nickel in consideration for 24,997,482 common shares of Core Nickel (the “Core Nickel Shares”);
  - i) The five (5) mineral properties commonly referred to as the Halfway Lake Property, the Resting Lake Property, the Hunter Property, the Odei River Property and the Mel Property;
  - ii) \$1,000,000 cash
- b) the existing common shares of CanAlaska were re-designated as Class A Shares (“the CVV Class A Shares”) and CanAlaska created a new class of common shares known as the “New CVV Common Shares”;
- c) each CVV Class A Share was exchange for one New CVV Common Share and 0.19987 of one Core Nickel Share
- d) the CVV Class A Shares were cancelled;
- e) all outstanding warrants of CanAlaska were adjusted to allow holders to acquire, upon exercise, one New CVV Common Share and 0.19987 of one Core Nickel Share, such that an aggregate of 4,565,469 Core Nickel Shares may be issued if all outstanding warrants are exercised;
- f) all holders of the outstanding options of CanAlaska received 0.19987 of one Core Nickel option with whole option entitling the holder therefore to purchase one Core Nickel Share, such that an aggregate of 2,416,393 Core Nickel Shares may be issued if all such options are exercised; and
- g) Core Nickel became a reporting issuer in British Columbia, Alberta, Ontario and Newfoundland and Labrador.

The Company has determined that the transfer of assets to Core Nickel does not meet the definition of a business combination. As such, the transfer of assets has been accounted for as an acquisition of mineral property interests and cash in the financial statements.

### Selected Annual Information

Year	2024	2023	2022
	\$	\$	\$
Net sales or total revenue	-	-	NA
Net income (loss):			
(i) in total	(\$700,802)	-	NA
(ii) per share <sup>(1)</sup>	(0.05)	-	NA
Total Assets	\$2,047,983	0.01	NA

*(1) Per share amounts are calculated using the weighted average number of shares outstanding. Fully diluted loss per share amounts have not been calculated, as they would be anti-dilutive.*

### Financing Activities

During the year ended April 30, 2024, the Company received \$1,000,000 from CanAlaska as per the plan of arrangement, received \$69,100 from a government grant, completed a non-brokered private placement and issued 4,354,400 flow-through units for net proceeds of \$372,487, issued 447,704 common shares from the exercise of stock options for gross proceeds of \$22,385 and issued 255,122 common shares from the exercise of share purchase warrants for gross proceeds of \$44,676.

Core Nickel was awarded \$207,300 as a nonrepayable grant from the Manitoba Mineral Development Fund (the “MMDF”) to support Core Nickel’s exploration on its 100% owned Halfway Lake and Resting Lake properties in



the Thompson Nickel Belt, Manitoba. The Company has already received a total of \$138,200 from the MMDF and anticipates receiving the final tranche of \$69,100 upon the successful completion of its proposed summer exploration program on the Halfway Lake and Resting Lake properties.

During the year ended April 30, 2023, the Company did not have any active operations.

### **Project Activities**

The winter drill program on the Company's 100% owned Halfway Lake project was initiated on March 10, 2024. Three diamond drill holes, for a total of 797.45 m, were completed in the historical W62 Zone. The drill crew was mobilized out of the field on March 29, 2024. HFW-001 and HFW-002 intersected wide packages of serpentinized ultramafic rocks hosting disseminated nickel-bearing sulfide mineralization. Assay results returned 0.32% Ni over 31.6 m in HFW-001, and 0.37% Ni over 91.05 m in HFW-002.

Property-wide helicopter-borne Versatile Time-Domain Electromagnetics (VTEM) and horizontal magnetic gradiometer geophysical surveys were completed over the Company's Halfway Lake and Resting Lake projects by Geotech Ltd. on July 18, 2024. The surveys totaled 1,307 line-km between the two projects, with 808 line-km completed at Halfway Lake and 499 line-km completed at Resting Lake. The raw data has been reviewed and QA/QC by Core Nickel's contract geophysicist, Stephen Balch of Balch Exploration Consulting Inc. Initial comparison of the new VTEM data and historical GeoTEM data has shown that the recently acquired VTEM data has identified discrete conductors not previously detected by historical surveys. A final report will be provided by Geotech Ltd. and Stephen Balch will begin modelling and interpretation of the VTEM data to identify and prioritize drill targets.

### **Investing Activities**

During the year ended April 30, 2024, the Company expended \$160 related to mineral property interests and \$11,893 related to mineral bonds.

During the year ended April 30, 2023, the Company did not have any active operations.

### **Off Balance Sheet Arrangements**

The Company does not have any off-balance sheet arrangements.

### **Transactions with Related Parties**

#### *Key Management Personnel*

Key management personnel include those persons having authority and responsibility for planning, directing, and controlling the activities of the Company as a whole. The Company has determined that key management personnel consist of executive and non-executive members of the Company's Board of Directors and corporate officers, including the Company's Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer.

The Company entered into the following transactions with related parties and key management personnel during the year ended April 30, 2024.

Paid or accrued the following to Misty Urbatsch, the President, Director and Chief Executive Officer of the Company:

	<b>2024</b>		<b>2023</b>
Management fees	\$ 60,000	\$	n/a



Paid or accrued the following to Harry Chan, the Chief Financial Officer of the Company:

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
Management fees	\$ 22,000	\$ n/a

Paid or accrued the following to CanAlaska Uranium Ltd., a company with common directors and/or officer:

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
Rent	\$ 6,196	\$ n/a
Accounting, geology & other	39,553	n/a

Included in trade and other payables at April 30, 2024 is \$4,406 (April 30, 2023 - \$nil) due to officers and directors and companies with directors and/or officers in common.

### **LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES**

Core Nickel has no operations that generate cash flows and the Company's future financial success will depend on the discovery of one or more economic mineral deposits. This process can take many years, can consume significant resources and is largely based on factors that are beyond the control of the Company's management.

For the foreseeable future, Core Nickel will rely upon its ability to raise financing through the sale of equity. This is dependent on positive investor sentiment, which in turn is influenced by a positive climate for nickel exploration generally, a company's track record and the experience and calibre of a company's management.

There is no assurance that Core Nickel will be able to access equity funding at the times and in the amounts required to fund the Company's activities. The outlook for the world economy remains uncertain and vulnerable to various events that could adversely affect the Company's ability to raise additional funds going forward.

### **Cash and Financial Condition**

The Company had a working capital of approximately \$726,692 at April 30, 2024, which is sufficient to cover anticipated operating costs and expenditures on the exploration programs on its properties for the near term. The Company will need to seek financing in the near term in order to fund its planned exploration programs. Nevertheless, the Company will evaluate offers of financing to enable the Company to maintain a strong balance sheet while continuing to fund exploration projects that are generating positive results.

Core Nickel has no other debt, does not have any unused lines of credit or other arrangement in place to borrow funds, and has no off-sheet balance arrangement. The Company has no current plans to use additional debt financing and does not use hedges or other financial derivatives.

### **Financial Instruments**

The Company's financial instruments currently consist of cash and cash equivalents, prepaid and deposit, and accounts payable and accrued liabilities. The fair value of cash and cash equivalents and prepaid and deposits are measured based on Level 1 of the fair value hierarchy. The fair value of accounts payable and accrued liabilities approximates their book values because of the short-term nature of these instruments. Moreover, it is management's opinion that the Company is not exposed to significant interest, currency or credit risks arising from these financial instruments.





## **OUTSTANDING SECURITIES DATA**

On the Report Date, the Company had the following securities outstanding:

Common Shares	30,075,514
Options	2,861,175
Warrants	<u>4,545,577</u>
Fully Diluted	<u>37,482,266</u>

## **OUTLOOK**

The Company has scheduled airborne electromagnetic (VTEM) surveys over Halfway Lake and Resting Lake in July 2024. The company is also hoping to conduct an airborne electromagnetics survey over Odei River and the Mel property in October or November of 2024. In addition, the Company is reviewing and compiling historical results from previous exploration campaigns to determine how best to advance and explore its current project portfolio. The Company continues to evaluate and discuss with other parties' potential nickel projects for possible acquisition, potential transactions, and corporate opportunities to add to its current portfolio.

## **FORWARD-LOOKING INFORMATION**

Certain of the statements made and information contained herein is "forward-looking information" within the meaning of the British Columbia Securities Act. This includes statements concerning the Company's plans at its mineral properties, which involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors which may cause the actual results, performance or achievements of the Company, or industry results, to be materially different from any future results, performance or achievements expressed or implied by such forward-looking information. Forward-looking information is subject to a variety of risks and uncertainties which could cause actual events or results to differ from those reflected in the forward-looking information, including, without limitation, the ability of the Company to continue to be able to access the capital markets for the funding necessary to acquire and maintain exploration properties and to carry out its desired exploration programs; competition within the minerals industry to acquire properties of merit, and competition from other companies possessing greater technical and financial resources; difficulties in executing exploration programs on the Company's proposed schedules and within its cost estimates, whether due to weather conditions in the areas where it operates, increasingly stringent environmental regulations and other permitting restrictions, or other factors related to exploring of its properties, such as the availability of essential supplies and services; factors beyond the capacity of the Company to anticipate and control, such as the marketability of mineral products produced from the Company's properties, government regulations relating to health, safety and the environment, and the scale and scope of royalties and taxes on production; the availability of experienced contractors and professional staff to perform work in a competitive environment and the resulting adverse impact on costs and performance and other risks and uncertainties, including those described in each management's discussion and analysis of financial condition and results of operations. In addition, forward-looking information is based on various assumptions including, without limitation, assumptions associated with exploration results and costs and the availability of materials and skilled labour. Should one or more of these risks and uncertainties materialize, or should underlying assumptions prove incorrect, actual results may vary materially from those described in forward-looking statements. Accordingly, readers are advised not to place undue reliance on forward-looking information. Except as required under applicable securities legislation, the Company undertakes no obligation to publicly update or revise forward-looking information, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.