# **Management's Discussion and Analysis**

Q3 2023



This Management's Discussion and Analysis of the financial condition and results of operations ("MD&A") of Athabasca Oil Corporation ("Athabasca" or the "Company") is dated October 31, 2023 and should be read in conjunction with the unaudited condensed interim consolidated financial statements ("Consolidated Financial Statements") as at and for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2023, and the MD&A and audited consolidated financial statements of the Company for the year ended December 31, 2022. These financial statements, including the comparative figures, were prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards ("IFRS"). This MD&A contains forward looking information based on the Company's current expectations and projections. For information on the material factors and assumptions underlying such forward-looking information, refer to the "Advisories and Other Guidance" section within this MD&A. Also see the "Advisories and Other Guidance" section within this MD&A for important information regarding the Company's reserves and resource information and abbreviations included in this MD&A. Additional information relating to Athabasca is available on SEDAR at www.sedar.com, including the Company's most recent Revised Annual Information Form dated May 11, 2023 ("AIF"). The Company's common shares are listed on the Toronto Stock Exchange under the trading symbol "ATH".

# ATHABASCA'S STRATEGY

Athabasca is a liquids-weighted intermediate producer with exposure to Canada's premier resource plays (Oil Sands, Duvernay). The Company's strategy is guided by:

- Thermal Oil: Predictable, Low Decline Production
- Light Oil: De-risked High Margin Liquids Rich Kaybob Duvernay Development
- Financial Sustainability: Low Leverage, Flexible Capital, Prudent Risk Management

Athabasca is currently focused on maximizing corporate free cash flow and maintaining its production base with low sustaining capital requirements. The Company has long term growth optionality across a deep inventory of high-quality Thermal Oil projects and flexible Light Oil development opportunities. This balanced portfolio provides shareholders with differentiated exposure to liquids weighted production and significant long reserve life assets.

# **THIRD QUARTER 2023 & RECENT HIGHLIGHTS**

### Corporate

- Production of 36,176 boe/d (95% Liquids<sup>(1)</sup>).
- Petroleum, natural gas & midstream sales of \$379.2 million.
- Operating Income<sup>(1)</sup> of \$168.4 million (\$164.6 million Operating Income Net of Realized Hedging<sup>(1)</sup>).
- Operating Netback<sup>(1)</sup> of \$50.84/boe (\$49.70/boe Operating Netback Net of Realized Hedging<sup>(1)</sup>).
- Record Adjusted Funds Flow<sup>(1)</sup> of \$141.1 million (cash flow from operating activities \$134.9 million).
- Record Free Cash Flow<sup>(1)</sup> of \$107.9 million supporting return of capital commitments.
- Strong Liquidity<sup>(1)</sup> of \$425.0 million, including \$337.1 million of cash as at September 30, 2023.
- Successfully closed the sale of the Company's non-core Light Oil assets for \$160 million in cash before closing adjustments.
- Share buyback program commenced in April and the Company has repurchased a total of 33.2 million common shares for \$113.4 million year to date, representing approximately 57% of its annual Normal Course Issuer Bid ("NCIB") limit.

#### **Thermal Oil Division**

- Production of 31,691 bbl/d (24,232 bbl/d at Leismer and 7,459 bbl/d at Hangingstone).
- Petroleum, natural gas & midstream sales of \$360.8 million.
- Operating Income<sup>(1)</sup> of \$155.4 million.
- Operating Netback<sup>(1)</sup> of \$53.59/bbl (\$55.17/bbl at Leismer and \$48.15/bbl at Hangingstone).
- Capital expenditures of \$31.1 million; focused on advancing the Leismer expansion project to 28,000 bbl/d by mid-2024 and activity during the quarter included the ramp-up of five well pairs at Pad 8M, completions of four well pairs on Pad 8S and four infill wells on Pad 7 and ongoing facility work. These additional new wells are expected to start steaming at the end of the fourth quarter of 2023 and they will support production in 2024 and beyond.

# **Light Oil Division**

- Production of 4,485 boe/d (55% Liquids<sup>(1)</sup>). Volumes were partially impacted by the closing of the non-core asset sale on September 14, 2023.
- Petroleum, natural gas & midstream sales of \$24.5 million.
- Operating Income<sup>(1)</sup> of \$13.0 million.
- Operating Netback<sup>(1)</sup> of \$31.50/boe.

# **FINANCIAL & OPERATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS**

The following tables summarize selected financial and operational information of the Company for the periods indicated:

		Three months ended			Nine months ended			
		Septem	ıbe	er 30,		Septem	bei	r <b>30</b> ,
(\$ Thousands, unless otherwise noted)		2023		2022		2023		2022
CONSOLIDATED								
Petroleum and natural gas production (boe/d) <sup>(1)</sup>		36,176		37,240		34,950		35,064
Petroleum, natural gas and midstream sales	\$	379,241	\$	397,059	\$	952,596	\$	1,222,161
Operating Income (Loss) <sup>(1)</sup>	\$	168,410	\$	140,081	\$	320,063	\$	459,976
Operating Income (Loss) Net of Realized Hedging <sup>(1)(2)</sup>	\$	164,643	\$	110,021	\$	289,645	\$	316,564
Operating Netback (\$/boe) <sup>(1)</sup>	\$	50.84	\$	39.17	\$	33.27	\$	47.43
Operating Netback Net of Realized Hedging (\$/boe)(1)(2)	\$ \$	49.70	\$	30.76	\$	30.11	\$	32.64
Capital expenditures	\$	33,286	\$	52,300	\$	101,080	\$	134,420
THERMAL OIL DIVISION								
Bitumen production (bbl/d) <sup>(1)</sup>		31,691		31,023		29,972		28,578
Petroleum, natural gas and midstream sales	\$	360,761	\$	366,804	\$	895,167	\$	1,126,878
Operating Income (Loss) <sup>(1)</sup>	\$	155,415	\$	117,916	\$	278,533	\$	369,820
Operating Netback (\$/bbl) <sup>(1)</sup>	\$	53.59	\$	39.25	\$	33.72	\$	46.66
Capital expenditures	\$	31,069	\$	35,412	\$	83,817	\$	99,687
LIGHT OIL DIVISION								
Petroleum and natural gas production (boe/d) <sup>(1)</sup>		4,485		6,217		4,978		6,486
Percentage Liquids (%) <sup>(1)</sup>		55%		57%		56%		57%
Petroleum, natural gas and midstream sales	\$	24,508	\$	39,990	\$	78,403	\$	138,923
Operating Income (Loss) <sup>(1)</sup>	\$	12,995	\$	22,165	\$	41,530	\$	90,156
Operating Netback (\$/boe)(1)	\$	31.50	\$	38.76	\$	30.56	\$	50.92
Capital expenditures	\$	(1,153)	\$	860	\$	11,476	\$	10,068
CASH FLOW AND FUNDS FLOW								
Cash flow from operating activities	\$	134,879	\$	117,853	\$	202,330	\$	246,250
per share - basic	\$	0.23	\$	0.20	\$	0.34	\$	0.44
Adjusted Funds Flow <sup>(1)</sup>	\$ \$ \$	141,138	\$	102,370	\$	213,406	\$	261,930
per share - basic		0.24	\$	0.17	\$	0.36	\$	0.47
Free Cash Flow <sup>(1)</sup>	\$	107,852	\$	50,070	\$	112,326	\$	127,510
NET INCOME (LOSS) AND COMPREHENSIVE INCOME (LOSS)								
Net income (loss) and comprehensive income (loss)	\$	(79,212)		155,097		(78,726)		82,617
per share - basic	\$	(0.14)	\$	0.27	\$	(0.13)	\$	0.15
per share - diluted <sup>(3)</sup>	\$	(0.14)	\$	0.22	\$	(0.13)	\$	0.14
COMMON SHARES OUTSTANDING								
Weighted average shares outstanding - basic		581,917,255		585,058,807		586,906,810		561,823,801
Weighted average shares outstanding - diluted		581,917,255		620,563,273		586,906,810		580,580,442

As at (\$ Thousands)	September 30, 2023	December 31, 2022
LIQUIDITY AND BALANCE SHEET		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 337,125	\$ 197,525
Available credit facilities <sup>(4)</sup>	\$ 87,838	\$ 87,838
Face value of term debt <sup>(5)</sup>	\$ 212,264	\$ 237,231

<sup>(1)</sup> Refer to the "Advisories and Other Guidance" section within this MD&A for additional information on Non-GAAP Financial Measures and production disclosure.

<sup>(2)</sup> Includes realized commodity risk management loss of \$3.8 million and \$30.4 million for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2023 (three and nine months ended September 30, 2022 – loss of \$30.1 million and \$143.4 million).

<sup>(3)</sup> In the calculation of dilutive earnings per share for the three months ended September 30, 2022, earnings were reduced by \$16.4 million to account for the impact to net income had the outstanding warrants and PSUs been converted to equity.

<sup>(4)</sup> Includes available credit under Athabasca's Credit Facility and Unsecured Letter of Credit Facility.

<sup>(5)</sup> The face value of the term debt at September 30, 2023 was US\$157 million (December 31, 2022 – US\$175 million) translated into Canadian dollars at the September 30, 2023 exchange rate of US\$1.00 = C\$1.3520 (December 31, 2022 – C\$1.3544).

# **BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT**

# **Benchmark prices**

	Three months ended September 30,					Nine months ended September 30,			
(Average)	2023	.ptc	2022	Change	2023	CP.	2022	Change	
Crude oil:									
West Texas Intermediate (WTI) (US\$/bbl)(1)	\$ 82.26	\$	91.55	(10) %	\$ 77.39	\$	98.09	(21) %	
West Texas Intermediate (WTI) (C\$/bbl)(1)	\$ 110.29	\$	119.54	(8) %	\$ 104.11	\$	125.80	(17) %	
Western Canadian Select (WCS) (C\$/bbl)(2)	\$ 93.00	\$	93.48	(1) %	\$ 80.41	\$	105.49	(24) %	
Edmonton Par (C\$/bbl) <sup>(3)</sup>	\$ 107.85	\$	116.79	(8) %	\$ 100.84	\$	123.42	(18) %	
Edmonton Condensate (C5+) (C\$/bbI)(4)	\$ 104.05	\$	112.87	(8) %	\$ 101.87	\$	123.80	(18) %	
WCS Differential:									
to WTI (US\$/bbl)	\$ (12.91)	\$	(19.86)	(35) %	\$ (17.59	)\$	(15.73)	12 %	
to WTI (C\$/bbl)	\$ (17.29)	\$	(26.06)	(34) %	\$ (23.70	)\$	(20.31)	17 %	
Edmonton Par Differential:									
to WTI (US\$/bbl)	\$ (1.86)	\$	(2.05)	(9) %	\$ (2.57	)\$	(1.84)	40 %	
to WTI (C\$/bbl)	\$ (2.44)	\$	(2.75)	(11) %	\$ (3.27	)\$	(2.38)	37 %	
Natural gas:									
AECO (C\$/GJ) <sup>(5)(6)</sup>	\$ 2.46	\$	3.95	(38) %	\$ 2.61	\$	5.10	(49) %	
Foreign exchange:									
USD : CAD	1.3408		1.3057	3 %	1.3452		1.2825	5 %	

Primary benchmark for:

- (1) Light oil pricing in North America.
- (2) Athabasca's Heavy oil (i.e. blended bitumen) sales.
- (3) Light oil (i.e. light and medium crude oil and tight oil) sales in the Company's Light Oil Division.
- 4) Natural gas liquids condensate sales in the Company's Light Oil Division and for diluent purchases in the Thermal Oil Division.
- (5) Natural gas consumed by Athabasca in order to generate steam in the Thermal Oil Division.
- (6) Natural gas (i.e. shale gas and conventional natural gas) sales in the Company's Light Oil Division.

Oil prices advanced in the quarter with strong world oil demand. The global supply picture was supported by continued OPEC+ cuts and inventory drawdowns. Athabasca maintains a constructive outlook on prices supported by years of industry underinvestment, OPEC+ policy and demand trends.

Canadian WCS heavy differentials narrowed significantly in the quarter with differentials averaging approximately US\$13/bbl, compared to approximately US\$20/bbl in the first half of 2023. Athabasca believes the recent widening in differentials to approximately US\$21/bbl (fourth quarter strip pricing) is primarily a function of seasonality with refinery downtime and anticipates tightening from current levels in 2024 following the start-up of the Trans Mountain pipeline expansion (590,000 bbl/d) and new global heavy oil refining capacity.

## **OUTLOOK**

2023 Operational & Financial Guidance (\$ millions, unless otherwise noted)	Guidance July 26, 2023	Guidance Oct. 31, 2023
Production (boe/d) <sup>(1)</sup>	34,500-36,000	~34,500
% Liquids <sup>(1)</sup>	93%	95%
Adjusted Funds Flow <sup>(1)(2)(3)</sup>	\$310-365	\$310-335
Free Cash Flow <sup>(1)(2)(3)</sup>	\$165-220	\$165-190
Capital Expenditures	\$145	\$145
Thermal Oil	\$120	\$120
Light Oil	\$25	\$25

<sup>(1)</sup> Refer to the "Advisories and Other Guidance" section within this MD&A for additional information on Non-GAAP measures and production disclosure.

Athabasca's 2023 corporate production is expected to average approximately 34,500 boe/d with the 3,000 boe/d non-core disposition being partially offset by recent growth at Leismer. Athabasca's portfolio of long-life assets underpin a low corporate decline of approximately 5% annually.

The Company is executing a \$145 million capital program with activity focused on advancing the expansion project at Leismer and operational readiness in Light Oil. At Leismer, Athabasca has completed drilling the initial wells required to support sustainable growth to 28,000 bbl/d by mid-2024 at a competitive capital efficiency of \$14,000/bbl/d. This project is on-track with previous guidance and is expected to bolster future Free Cash Flow generation through enhanced margins.

Athabasca is focused on driving shareholder value through strong multi-year cash flow per share growth. The Company's asset base provides a platform to drive profitable liquids weighted growth supported by financial resiliency to execute on return of capital initiatives. The Company intends to release its 2024 guidance in December.

<sup>(2)</sup> Pricing assumptions for July 26, 2023 guidance: First half 2023 actual results and flat pricing of US\$80-90 WTI, US\$15 WCS heavy differential, C\$3 AECO, and \$0.75 C\$/US\$ FX for the remainder of 2023.

<sup>(3)</sup> Pricing assumptions for October 31, 2023 guidance: First nine months of 2023 actual results and Q4 average pricing of US\$80-90 WTI, US\$21 WCS heavy differential, C\$3 AECO, and \$0.73 C\$/US\$ FX for the fourth quarter of 2023.

# **CONSOLIDATED RESULTS**

For analysis of operating results see the Thermal Oil Division and Light Oil Division sections within this MD&A. For further details related to commodity risk management gains/losses see the Risk Management Contracts section.

# **Consolidated Operating Results**

	Three months ended Nine month September 30, Septembe			
	2023	2022	2023	2022
PRODUCTION				
Bitumen (bbl/d)	31,691	31,023	29,972	28,578
Oil and condensate (bbl/d) <sup>(1)</sup>	1,979	2,757	2,166	2,949
Natural gas (Mcf/d) <sup>(1)</sup>	11,869	15,966	13,181	16,635
Other natural gas liquids (bbl/d) <sup>(1)</sup>	528	799	615	765
Total (boe/d) <sup>(1)</sup>	36,176	37,240	34,950	35,064

<sup>(1)</sup> Refer to the "Advisories and Other Guidance" section within this MD&A for additional information on production disclosure.

	Three months ended September 30,			Nine months e September 3		
(\$ Thousands, unless otherwise noted)	2023		2022	2023	3	2022
Petroleum, natural gas and midstream sales <sup>(1)</sup>	\$ 385,269	\$	406,794	\$ 973,570	) ;	\$ 1,265,801
Royalties	(31,123)		(38,899)	(55,573	3)	(138,785)
Cost of diluent <sup>(1)</sup>	(117,418)		(138,244)	(380,781	L)	(419,840)
Operating expenses	(46,057)		(64,203)	(147,455	5)	(175,863)
Transportation and marketing <sup>(2)</sup>	(22,261)		(25,367)	(69,698	3)	(71,337)
Operating Income (Loss) <sup>(3)</sup>	168,410		140,081	320,063	3	459,976
Realized gain (loss) on commodity risk mgmt. contracts	(3,767)		(30,060)	(30,418	3)	(143,412)
OPERATING INCOME (LOSS) NET OF REALIZED HEDGING(3)	\$ 164,643	\$	110,021	\$ 289,645	5 5	316,564
REALIZED PRICES(3)						
Heavy oil (Blended bitumen) (\$/bbl) <sup>(3)</sup>	\$ 90.50	\$	89.89	\$ 77.09	9 9	5 101.12
Oil and condensate (\$/bbl) <sup>(3)</sup>	104.07		113.19	98.87	7	121.17
Natural gas (\$/Mcf) <sup>(3)</sup>	2.86		4.29	3.13	3	5.80
Other natural gas liquids (\$/bbl) <sup>(3)</sup>	50.13		67.61	51.63	3	72.05
Realized price (net of cost of diluent) (\$/boe)(3)	80.85		75.10	61.63	3	87.24
Royalties (\$/boe) <sup>(3)</sup>	(9.39)		(10.88)	(5.78	3)	(14.31)
Operating expenses (\$/boe)(3)	(13.90)		(17.96)	(15.33	3)	(18.14)
Transportation and marketing (\$/boe)(2)(3)	(6.72)		(7.09)	(7.25	5)	(7.36)
Operating Netback (\$/boe)(3)	50.84		39.17	33.27	7	47.43
Realized gain (loss) on commodity risk mgmt.						
contracts (\$/boe) <sup>(3)</sup>	(1.14)		(8.41)	(3.16	5)	(14.79)
OPERATING NETBACK NET OF REALIZED HEDGING (\$/boe)(3)	\$ 49.70	\$	30.76	\$ 30.11	LŞ	32.64

<sup>(1)</sup> Non-GAAP measure includes intercompany NGLs (i.e. condensate) sold by the Light Oil segment to the Thermal Oil segment for use as diluent that is eliminated on consolidation.

<sup>(2)</sup> Transportation and marketing excludes non-cash costs of \$0.6 million and \$1.7 million for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2023 (three and nine months ended September 30, 2022 - \$0.6 million and \$1.7 million).

<sup>(3)</sup> Refer to the "Advisories and Other Guidance" section within this MD&A for additional information on Non-GAAP Financial Measures and production disclosure.

# **Consolidated Segments Income (Loss)**

		Three months e September 3		Nine months ended September 30,		
(\$ Thousands)		2023	2022	2023	2022	
Operating Income (Loss) Net of Realized Hedging <sup>(1)</sup>	\$	164,643 \$	110,021 \$	289,645 \$	316,564	
Non-cash transportation and marketing		(557)	(557)	(1,672)	(1,672)	
Unrealized gain (loss) on commodity risk mgmt. contracts		5,737	83,635	4,955	31,436	
Depletion and depreciation		(28,271)	(30,353)	(84,864)	(87,129)	
Gain (loss) on sale of assets		(174,572)	14	(174,572)	403	
Exploration expenses		(487)	(2,003)	(880)	(2,487)	
CONSOLIDATED SEGMENTS INCOME (LOSS)	\$	(33,507) \$	160,757 \$	32,612 \$	257,115	

<sup>(1)</sup> Refer to the "Advisories and Other Guidance" section within this MD&A for additional information on Non-GAAP Financial Measures.

# **Consolidated Capital Expenditures**

	Three months September		Nine mont Septeml	
(\$ Thousands)	2023	2022	2023	2022
Thermal Oil Division	\$ 31,069 \$	35,412	\$ 83,817	\$ 99,687
Light Oil Division	(1,153)	860	11,476	10,068
Corporate assets	3,370	16,028	5,787	24,665
CAPITAL EXPENDITURES(1)(2)(3)	\$ 33,286 \$	52,300	\$ 101,080	\$ 134,420

<sup>(1)</sup> For the three and nine months ended September 30, 2023, expenditures include capitalized cash based stock-based compensation costs of \$0.5 million and \$1.5 million (three and nine months ended September 30, 2022 - \$nil and \$2.5 million).

#### THERMAL OIL DIVISION

Athabasca's Thermal Oil Division consists of its cornerstone producing Leismer asset, its producing Hangingstone asset, the high-quality Corner lease which is an extension of the Leismer field and the Dover West exploration asset in the Athabasca region of northeastern Alberta. The Thermal Oil Division underpins the Company's low corporate production decline and low relative sustaining capital requirements, supporting significant free cash flow generation in the current environment.

Athabasca has a 100% working interest in the producing Leismer Thermal Oil Project (the "Leismer Project") and the delineated Corner lease. The Leismer Project was commissioned in 2010 and has proven reserves in place to support a flat production profile for approximately 40 years and a reserve life index of approximately 85 years (proved plus probable). The Leismer Project has Proved plus Probable Reserves of approximately 698 MMbbl<sup>(1)</sup> and Best Estimate Development Pending Contingent Resources of 355 MMbbl (risked)<sup>(1)</sup> (395 MMbbl unrisked)<sup>(1)</sup>. The Corner lease has Proved plus Probable Reserves of approximately 353 MMbbl<sup>(1)</sup> and Best Estimate Development Pending Contingent Resources of 416 MMbbl (risked)<sup>(1)</sup> (520 MMbbl unrisked)<sup>(1)</sup>. The Leismer and Corner development application has regulatory approval for future development phases of up to a combined 80,000 bbl/d.

Athabasca also has a 100% working interest in the producing Hangingstone Thermal Oil Project (the "Hangingstone Project"). The Hangingstone Project was commissioned in 2015 and has proven reserves in place to support a flat production profile for approximately 25 years and a reserve life index of approximately 60 years (proved plus probable). Hangingstone has Proved plus Probable Reserves of approximately 170 MMbbl<sup>(1)</sup>.

# <u>Royalty</u>

Athabasca has granted Contingent Bitumen Royalties on its Thermal Oil assets. The Royalty structure ensures the Thermal Oil assets are not encumbered at low commodity prices while allowing strong participation at high commodity prices. The Royalty on the Leismer and Hangingstone projects are based on a scale from 0% - 15% with a Western Canadian Select ("WCS") heavy benchmark. At prices below US\$60 WCS the rate is 0%. The minimum 2.5% rate is triggered at US\$60 WCS with a sliding scale up to 15% at US\$100 WCS. The Royalty is applied to Athabasca's realized bitumen price (C\$), which is determined net of storage and transportation costs.

<sup>(2)</sup> For the three and nine months ended September 30, 2023, expenditures include capitalized staff costs of \$1.9 million and \$5.7 million (three and nine months ended September 30, 2022 - \$1.7 million and \$5.4 million).

<sup>(3)</sup> Excludes non-cash capitalized costs related to stock-based compensation, decommissioning obligation assets and leased asset modifications.

<sup>(1)</sup> Based on the report of Athabasca's independent reserve evaluator effective December 31, 2022. Refer to the "Advisories and Other Guidance" section within this MD&A and the AIF for additional information about the Company's reserves and resources.

# **Leismer Operating Results**

	Three mon Septem		ed Nine months end September 30,		
	2023	2022	2023	2022	
VOLUMES					
Bitumen production (bbl/d)	24,232	22,309	22,070	19,583	
Bitumen sales (bbl/d)	24,395	22,591	22,388	19,687	
Heavy oil (blended bitumen) sales (bbl/d)	33,589	30,574	31,460	27,536	

	Three months ended September 30,		Nine months e		
(\$ Thousands, unless otherwise noted)	2023	2022	2023	2022	
Heavy oil (blended bitumen) sales	\$ 278,336 \$	250,927 \$	660,262 \$	755,917	
Cost of diluent	(93,092)	(95,387)	(284,648)	(280,762)	
Total bitumen sales	185,244	155,540	375,614	475,155	
Royalties	(21,500)	(22,876)	(34,539)	(82,309)	
Operating expenses - non-energy	(14,346)	(15,422)	(46,853)	(43,934)	
Operating expenses - energy	(13,425)	(17,437)	(39,400)	(50,749)	
Transportation and marketing	(12,154)	(13,082)	(37,387)	(38,050)	
LEISMER OPERATING INCOME (LOSS)(1)	\$ 123,819 \$	86,723 \$	217,435 \$	260,113	
REALIZED PRICE <sup>(1)</sup>					
Heavy oil (blended bitumen) sales (\$/bbl)(1)	\$ 90.07 \$	89.21 \$	76.88 \$	100.56	
Bitumen sales (\$/bbl) <sup>(1)</sup>	\$ 82.54 \$	74.84 \$	61.46 \$	88.41	
Royalties (\$/bbl) <sup>(1)</sup>	(9.58)	(11.01)	(5.65)	(15.31)	
Operating expenses - non-energy (\$/bbl) <sup>(1)</sup>	(6.39)	(7.42)	(7.67)	(8.17)	
Operating expenses - energy (\$/bbl)(1)	(5.98)	(8.39)	(6.45)	(9.44)	
Transportation and marketing (\$/bbl) <sup>(1)</sup>	(5.42)	(6.29)	(6.12)	(7.08)	
LEISMER OPERATING NETBACK (\$/bbl)(1)	\$ 55.17 \$	41.73 \$	35.57 \$	48.41	

<sup>(1)</sup> Refer to the "Advisories and Other Guidance" section within this MD&A for additional information on Non-GAAP Financial Measures and production disclosure.

Leismer's bitumen production for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2023 was 24,232 bbl/d and 22,070 bbl/d, an increase of 9% and 13%, respectively, compared to the corresponding periods in 2022. Production increases are primarily attributed to the ramp-up of Pad 8 (five well pairs) through 2022 and the additional new production from the five well pairs on Pad 8M in 2023.

Leismer's Operating Netback was \$55.17/bbl for the three months ended September 30, 2023, representing an increase of \$13.44/bbl compared with the same period in 2022. The increase is primarily a result of higher WCS benchmark oil prices and lower operating expenses. For the nine months ended September 30, 2023 Leismer's Operating Netback was \$35.57/bbl, representing a decrease of \$12.84/bbl compared with the same period in 2022. The decrease is primarily due to lower WCS benchmark oil prices, partially offset by a decrease in Government and contingent bitumen royalties due to lower oil prices.

Total operating expenses were \$12.37/bbl in the third quarter of 2023 and \$14.12/bbl in the first nine months of 2023, compared to \$15.81/bbl and \$17.61/bbl in the comparable periods of 2022. The decrease on a per barrel basis is largely the result of lower energy costs and higher production in the first nine months of 2023.

# **Hangingstone Operating Results**

	Three months ended September 30,				
	2023	2022	2023	2022	
VOLUMES					
Bitumen production (bbl/d)	7,459	8,714	7,902	8,995	
Bitumen sales (bbl/d)	7,132	10,059	7,869	9,347	
Heavy oil (blended bitumen) sales (bbl/d)	9,739	13,779	11,073	13,286	

	Three months ended September 30,		Nine months e September :		
(\$ Thousands, unless otherwise noted)	2023	2022	2023	2022	
Heavy oil (blended bitumen) and midstream sales	\$ 82,425 \$	115,877 \$	234,905 \$	370,961	
Cost of diluent	(24,326)	(42,857)	(96,133)	(139,078)	
Total bitumen and midstream sales	58,099	73,020	138,772	231,883	
Royalties	(6,113)	(8,595)	(10,631)	(37,569)	
Operating expenses - non-energy	(5,175)	(8,075)	(16,496)	(20,323)	
Operating expenses - energy	(7,147)	(15,093)	(24,718)	(37,959)	
Transportation and marketing <sup>(1)</sup>	(8,068)	(10,064)	(25,829)	(26,325)	
HANGINGSTONE OPERATING INCOME (LOSS)(2)	\$ 31,596 \$	31,193 \$	61,098 \$	109,707	
REALIZED PRICE <sup>(2)</sup>					
Heavy oil (blended bitumen) and midstream sales (\$/bbl)(2)	\$ 91.99 \$	91.41 \$	77.71 \$	102.28	
Bitumen and midstream sales (\$/bbl)(2)	\$ 88.55 \$	78.90 \$	64.60 \$	90.87	
Royalties (\$/bbl) <sup>(2)</sup>	(9.32)	(9.29)	(4.95)	(14.72)	
Operating expenses - non-energy (\$/bbl)(2)	(7.89)	(8.73)	(7.68)	(7.96)	
Operating expenses - energy (\$/bbl)(2)	(10.89)	(16.31)	(11.51)	(14.88)	
Transportation and marketing (\$/bbl)(1)(2)	(12.30)	(10.87)	(12.02)	(10.32)	
HANGINGSTONE OPERATING NETBACK (\$/bbl)(2)	\$ 48.15 \$	33.70 \$	28.44 \$	42.99	

<sup>(1)</sup> Transportation and marketing excludes non-cash costs of \$0.6 million and \$1.7 million for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2023 (three and nine months ended September 30, 2022 - \$0.6 million and \$1.7 million).

Average Hangingstone bitumen production for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2023 decreased compared to the same periods in 2022 as a result of natural declines and planned maintenance during the second quarter of 2023.

The Hangingstone Operating Netback was \$48.15/bbl for the three months ended September 30, 2023, representing an increase of \$14.45/bbl compared with the same period in 2022. The increase is primarily a result of higher WCS benchmark oil prices and lower operating expenses. For the nine months ended September 30, 2023 Hangingstone's Operating Netback was \$28.44/bbl, representing a decrease of \$14.55/bbl compared with the same period in 2022. The decrease is primarily due to lower WCS benchmark oil prices, partially offset by a decrease in Government and contingent bitumen royalties due to lower oil prices.

Total operating expenses were \$18.78/bbl in the third quarter of 2023 and \$19.19/bbl in the first nine months of 2023, compared to \$25.04/bbl and \$22.84/bbl in the comparable periods of 2022. The decrease on a per barrel is the result of lower energy costs and a lower steam oil ratio in the first nine months of 2023, partially offset by lower production.

<sup>(2)</sup> Refer to the "Advisories and Other Guidance" section within this MD&A for additional information on Non-GAAP Financial Measures and production disclosure.

# **Consolidated Thermal Oil Operating Results**

	Three months ended Nine months ended September 30, September 30,			
	2023	2022	2023	2022
VOLUMES				
Bitumen production (bbl/d)	31,691	31,023	29,972	28,578
Bitumen sales (bbl/d)	31,527	32,650	30,257	29,034
Heavy oil (blended bitumen) sales (bbl/d)	43,328	44,353	42,533	40,822

	Three months ended September 30,		Nine mont Septemi	
(\$ Thousands, unless otherwise noted)	2023	2022	2023	2022
Heavy oil (blended bitumen) and midstream sales	\$ 360,761 \$	366,804	895,167	\$ 1,126,878
Cost of diluent	(117,418)	(138,244)	(380,781)	(419,840)
Total bitumen and midstream sales	243,343	228,560	514,386	707,038
Royalties	(27,613)	(31,471)	(45,170)	(119,878)
Operating expenses - non-energy	(19,521)	(23,497)	(63,349)	(64,257)
Operating expenses - energy	(20,572)	(32,530)	(64,118)	(88,708)
Transportation and marketing <sup>(1)</sup>	(20,222)	(23,146)	(63,216)	(64,375)
THERMAL OIL OPERATING INCOME (LOSS)(2)	\$ 155,415 \$	117,916	278,533	\$ 369,820
REALIZED PRICE <sup>(2)</sup>				
Heavy oil (blended bitumen) and midstream sales (\$/bbl) <sup>(2)</sup>	\$ 90.50 \$	89.89		
Bitumen and midstream sales (\$/bbl) <sup>(2)</sup>	\$ 83.90 \$	76.09		•
Royalties (\$/bbl) <sup>(2)</sup>	(9.52)	(10.48)	(5.47)	(15.12)
Operating expenses - non-energy (\$/bbl) <sup>(2)</sup>	(6.73)	(7.82)	(7.67)	(8.11)
Operating expenses - energy (\$/bbl) <sup>(2)</sup>	(7.09)	(10.83)	(7.76)	(11.19)
Transportation and marketing (\$/bbl)(1)(2)	(6.97)	(7.71)	(7.65)	(8.12)
THERMAL OIL OPERATING NETBACK (\$/bbl)(2)	\$ 53.59 \$	39.25		

<sup>(1)</sup> Transportation and marketing excludes non-cash costs of \$0.6 million and \$1.7 million for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2023 (three and nine months ended September 30, 2022 - \$0.6 million and \$1.7 million).

Seasonality can have an impact on Operating Income (Loss) generated by the Thermal Oil business. In the first and fourth quarters of a given year, dilution costs will generally increase as more diluent is required to meet pipeline specifications.

# **Thermal Oil Segment Income (Loss)**

	Three months ended September 30,		Nine months e September 3	
(\$ Thousands)	2023	2022	2023	2022
Thermal Oil Operating Income (Loss) <sup>(1)</sup>	\$ 155,415 \$	117,916 \$	278,533 \$	369,820
Non-cash transportation and marketing	(557)	(557)	(1,672)	(1,672)
Depletion and depreciation	(19,847)	(20,234)	(57,234)	(55,835)
Gain (loss) on sale of assets	_	14	_	403
Exploration expenses	(487)	(2,003)	(880)	(2,487)
THERMAL OIL SEGMENT INCOME (LOSS)	\$ 134,524 \$	95,136 \$	218,747 \$	310,229

<sup>(1)</sup> Refer to the "Advisories and Other Guidance" section within this MD&A for additional information on Non-GAAP Financial Measures.

Depletion and depreciation increased \$1.4 million during the nine months ended September 30, 2023, compared to the same period in the prior year primarily due to higher production volumes at Leismer.

<sup>(2)</sup> Refer to the "Advisories and Other Guidance" section within this MD&A for additional information on Non-GAAP Financial Measures and production disclosure.

# **Thermal Oil Capital Expenditures**

			Three months ended September 30,		ths ended ber 30,
(\$ Thousands)		2023	2022	2023	2022
Leismer Project	\$	26,644	\$ 33,612	\$ 74,008	\$ 93,648
Hangingstone Project		4,277	1,614	9,325	5,717
Other Thermal Oil exploration		148	186	484	322
THERMAL OIL CAPITAL EXPENDITURES(1)	\$	31,069	\$ 35,412	\$ 83,817	\$ 99,687

<sup>(1)</sup> For the three and nine months ended September 30, 2023, capital expenditures include \$1.5 million and \$4.5 million of capitalized staff costs (three and nine months ended September 30, 2022 - \$1.2 million and \$4.1 million).

Thermal Oil capital expenditures for the nine months ended September 30, 2023 of \$83.8 million were primarily focused at Leismer along with routine pump replacements across both assets. At Leismer, the Company converted the five well pairs to production at Pad 8M, drilled and completed four infill well pairs on Pad 7 and four well pairs on Pad 8S and work continued on advancing the expansion project that will support growth to 28,000 bbl/d by mid-2024. At Hangingstone, Athabasca commenced the Pad AA extension for two future sustaining well pairs.

In comparison, capital expenditures for the first nine months of 2022 of \$99.7 million were primarily related to sustaining operations and a planned facility turnaround at Leismer, along with routine pump replacements across both assets. The Company converted five Pad 8 wells to production, two Pad 6 infill wells to production and rig released the Pad 8 expansion (five additional well pairs).

#### LIGHT OIL DIVISION

Athabasca produces light oil and liquids-rich natural gas from unconventional reservoirs. Development has been focused on the Duvernay in the Greater Kaybob area near the town of Fox Creek, Alberta. As at December 31, 2022, the Greater Kaybob assets had approximately 24 MMboe of Proved plus Probable Reserves<sup>(1)</sup>. Athabasca's Light Oil Division assets are supported by operated regional infrastructure consisting of two batteries and a network of gas pipelines which connect the facilities to two regional third party gas processing plants.

In Greater Kaybob, Athabasca has a 30% non-operated interest in approximately 155,000 gross acres of commercially prospective Duvernay lands with exposure to both Liquids-rich gas and volatile oil opportunities and an inventory of approximately 500<sup>(2)</sup> gross drilling locations.

# **Light Oil Non-Core Asset Sale**

Athabasca completed the sale of its 70% operated working interest in Placid targeting the Montney, its 30% non-operated working interest in Saxon and Simonette targeting the Duvernay and other associated non-core Placid Montney assets to a private company for \$160 million in cash before closing adjustments and transaction costs (\$149.9 million net). The deal closed on September 14, 2023 with an effective date of March 1, 2023. Athabasca de-recognized \$330.5 million of PP&E and \$6.0 million in decommissioning obligations resulting in a loss of \$174.6 million on the asset sale.

The transaction was completed at attractive and accretive metrics, and crystallizes the value of the assets that have become non-core due to the smaller scale, lower liquids content and lower relative returns versus core assets within the Company's portfolio. During the first half of 2023, these assets collectively averaged approximately 3,000 boe/d (approximately 45% Liquids).

<sup>1)</sup> Based on the report of Athabasca's independent reserve evaluator effective December 31, 2022. Refer to the "Advisories and Other Guidance" section within this MD&A and the AIF for additional information about the Company's reserves and resources.

<sup>(2)</sup> Refer to the "Advisories and Other Guidance" section within this MD&A for additional information regarding the Company's drilling locations.

# **Light Oil Operating Results**

	Three mont Septemb		Nine month Septemb	
	2023	2022	2023	2022
PRODUCTION <sup>(1)</sup>				
Oil and condensate (bbl/d)	1,979	2,757	2,166	2,949
Natural gas (Mcf/d)	11,869	15,966	13,181	16,635
Other natural gas liquids (bbl/d)	528	799	615	765
Total (boe/d)	4,485	6,217	4,978	6,486
Consisting of:				
Greater Placid area (boe/d)	2,138	3,181	2,545	3,339
% Liquids	40%	43%	41%	43%
Greater Kaybob area (boe/d)	2,347	3,036	2,433	3,147
% Liquids	70%	72%	71%	73%

<sup>(1)</sup> Refer to the "Advisories and Other Guidance" section within this MD&A for additional information on production disclosure.

	Three mon		Nine months ended		
	Septem	ber 30,	Septeml	ber 30,	
(\$ Thousands, unless otherwise noted)	2023	2022	2023	2022	
Petroleum and natural gas sales	\$ 24,508	\$ 39,990	\$ 78,403	\$ 138,923	
Royalties	(3,510)	(7,428)	(10,403)	(18,907)	
Operating expenses	(5,964)	(8,176)	(19,988)	(22,898)	
Transportation and marketing	(2,039)	(2,221)	(6,482)	(6,962)	
LIGHT OIL OPERATING INCOME (LOSS)(1)	\$ 12,995	\$ 22,165	\$ 41,530	\$ 90,156	
REALIZED PRICES <sup>(1)</sup>					
Oil and condensate (\$/bbl) <sup>(1)</sup>	\$ 104.07	\$ 113.19	\$ 98.87	\$ 121.17	
Natural gas (\$/Mcf) <sup>(1)</sup>	2.86	4.29	3.13	5.80	
Other natural gas liquids (\$/bbl) <sup>(1)</sup>	50.13	67.61	51.63	72.05	
Realized price (\$/boe) <sup>(1)</sup>	59.40	69.92	57.69	78.46	
Royalties (\$/boe) <sup>(1)</sup>	(8.51)	(12.99)	(7.65)	(10.68)	
Operating expenses (\$/boe)(1)	(14.45)	(14.29)	(14.71)	(12.93)	
Transportation and marketing (\$/boe) <sup>(1)</sup>	(4.94)	(3.88)	(4.77)	(3.93)	
LIGHT OIL OPERATING NETBACK (\$/boe)(1)	\$ 31.50	\$ 38.76	\$ 30.56	\$ 50.92	

<sup>(1)</sup> Refer to the "Advisories and Other Guidance" section within this MD&A for additional information on Non-GAAP Financial Measures and production disclosure.

Average Light Oil production for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2023 decreased as a result of natural declines and the September 14, 2023 closing of the Light Oil Non-Core Asset Sale.

The Operating Netback was \$31.50/boe and \$30.56/boe for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2023, respectively. The decrease from the prior year is primarily due to lower commodity prices and higher operating expenses on a per boe basis correlated to lower production volumes, partially offset by a decrease in royalties primarily due to lower commodity prices and an annual gas cost allowance adjustment from the Crown.

**Light Oil Segment Income (Loss)** 

	Three months ended September 30,				nded 0,
(\$ Thousands)		2023	2022	2023	2022
Light Oil Operating Income (Loss)(1)	\$	12,995 \$	22,165 \$	41,530 \$	90,156
Depletion and depreciation		(8,424)	(10,119)	(27,630)	(31,294)
Gain (loss) on sale of assets		(174,572)	_	(174,572)	_
LIGHT OIL SEGMENT INCOME (LOSS)	\$	(170,001)\$	12,046 \$	(160,672)\$	58,862

<sup>(1)</sup> Refer to the "Advisories and Other Guidance" section within this MD&A for additional information on Non-GAAP Financial Measures.

During the three and nine months ended September 30, 2023, Athabasca recorded a loss on sale of assets of \$174.6 million on the Light Oil Non-Core Asset Sale.

Depletion and depreciation decreased \$1.7 million and \$3.7 million during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2023, respectively, compared to the same periods in the prior year primarily due to lower production volumes.

# **Light Oil Capital Expenditures**

	Three months en September 30		Nine months ended September 30,		
(\$ Thousands)	2023	2022	2023	2022	
LIGHT OIL CAPITAL EXPENDITURES(1)	\$ (1,153) \$	860 \$	11,476 \$	10,068	

<sup>(1)</sup> For the three and nine months ended September 30, 2023, capital expenditures include \$0.4 million and \$1.2 million of capitalized staff costs (three and nine months ended September 30, 2022, \$0.5 million and \$1.3 million)

Light Oil capital expenditures for the nine months ended September 30, 2023 of \$11.5 million were focused on operational readiness in advance of the upcoming drilling season.

In comparison, capital expenditures for the first nine months of 2022 of \$10.1 million were primarily incurred at Greater Kaybob for the completion and infrastructure work for three gross wells and two facility turnarounds at Kaybob West and Kaybob East.

#### CORPORATE REVIEW

# **Liquidity and Capital Resources**

#### **Funding**

For 2023, Athabasca's capital and operating activities will be funded through cash flow from operating activities and existing cash and cash equivalents. The Company is directing a portion of its forecasted Free Cash Flow in 2023 to share buybacks with flexibility for further debt reduction and high return growth projects. An active commodity risk management program and maintaining sufficient liquidity is expected to allow the Company to manage periods of volatility.

As at September 30, 2023, Athabasca had Liquidity of \$424.9 million which included \$337.1 million of cash and cash equivalents and \$87.8 million of available capacity on its credit facilities.

# **Indebtedness**

Athabasca had the following debt instruments and credit facilities in place as at September 30, 2023:

## Term Debt

As at September 30, 2023, the principal balance on Athabasca's senior secured second lien notes ("2026 Notes" or "Notes") was \$212.3 million (US\$157 million). During the first nine months of 2023 the Company redeemed \$24.9 million (US\$18.2 million) of the Notes and achieved a 55% reduction in the principal balance from the original US\$350 million Notes issuance in the fourth quarter of 2021. During the first quarter of 2023 the Excess Cash Flow ("ECF") feature was terminated within the indenture as the principal balance fell below US\$175 million.

The Notes are due November 1, 2026 and bear interest at 9.75% per annum. Athabasca may redeem all or part of the 2026 Notes at any time prior to November 1, 2024 at 100% of the principal amount plus an applicable premium, as set out in the 2026 Note indenture. On or after November 1, 2024, Athabasca may redeem all or part of the 2026 Notes at 104.875% from November 1, 2024 to November 1, 2025 and at 100% from November 1, 2025 to November 1, 2026.

#### Credit Facility

Athabasca has a \$110.0 million reserve-based credit facility (the "Credit Facility"). The Credit Facility is a committed facility available on a revolving basis until May 31, 2024, at which point in time it may be extended at the lenders' option. If the revolving period is not extended, the undrawn portion of the facility will be cancelled and any amounts outstanding would be repayable at the end of the non-revolving term, being May 31, 2025. The Credit Facility is subject to a semi-annual borrowing base review, occurring by May 31 and November 30 of each year. Subsequent to September 30, 2023, the semi-annual borrowing base review was completed and

the borrowing base was confirmed at \$110.0 million. The borrowing base is determined based on the lenders' evaluation of the Company's petroleum and natural gas reserves and their commodity price outlook at the time of each renewal. As at September 30, 2023, the Company had no amounts drawn and \$27.1 million of letters of credit outstanding under the Credit Facility. As at December 31, 2022, the Company had no amounts drawn and \$34.4 million of letters of credit outstanding under the Credit Facility.

#### Unsecured Letter of Credit Facility

Athabasca maintains a \$60.0 million unsecured letter of credit facility (the "Unsecured Letter of Credit Facility") with a Canadian bank that is supported by a performance security guarantee from Export Development Canada (December 31, 2022 - \$60.0 million). The facility is available on a demand basis and letters of credit issued under this facility incur an issuance and performance guarantee fee of 3.0%. As at September 30, 2023, the Company had \$55.1 million of letters of credit outstanding under the Unsecured Letter of Credit Facility (December 31, 2022 - \$47.8 million).

#### **Financing and Interest**

	Three mor	nths ended	Nine mon	ths ended
	Septem	ber 30,	Septem	ber 30,
(\$ Thousands)	2023	2022	2023	2022
Financing and interest expense on indebtedness	\$ 6,825	\$ 9,719	\$ 20,576	\$ 39,732
Accretion of 2026 Notes	2,824	826	1,232	19,133
Accretion of warrants	149	275	598	2,520
Accretion of provisions	2,004	2,606	5,869	7,875
Interest expense on lease liability	136	218	461	712
TOTAL FINANCING AND INTEREST	\$ 11,938	\$ 13,644	\$ 28,736	\$ 69,972

During the three and nine months ended September 30, 2023 and 2022, total financing and interest expenses were primarily attributable to the financing, interest and accretion expenses related to the Company's Notes. Accretion of the 2026 Notes decreased in the first nine months of 2023 as a result of the early redemption requirement of the Notes no longer being applicable with the termination of the ECF in the first quarter of 2023.

# Foreign Exchange Gain (Loss), Net

	Three months ended September 30,		Nine months end September 30	
(\$ Thousands)	2023	2022	2023	2022
Unrealized foreign exchange gain (loss)	\$ (2,296) \$	(6,156)\$	2,126 \$	(4,423)
Realized foreign exchange gain (loss)	1,618	2,742	(140)	(375)
FOREIGN EXCHANGE GAIN (LOSS), NET	\$ (678) \$	(3,414) \$	1,986 \$	(4,798)

Athabasca is exposed to foreign currency risk primarily on the principal and interest components of its US dollar denominated term debt partially offset by its US dollar cash balances. The unrealized foreign exchange gains (losses) recognized were primarily due to unrealized gains (losses) on the note principal as the value of the Canadian dollar fluctuates relative to the US dollar.

# **Risk Management Contracts**

Under the Company's commodity risk management program, Athabasca may utilize financial and/or physical delivery contracts to fix the commodity price associated with a portion of its future production in order to manage its exposure to fluctuations in commodity prices.

Financial commodity risk management contracts are valued on the consolidated balance sheet by multiplying the contractual volumes by the differential between the anticipated market price (i.e. forecasted strip price) and the contractual fixed price at each future settlement date. The corresponding change in the asset or liability is recognized as an unrealized gain or loss in net income (loss). As the commodity derivatives are unwound (i.e. settled in cash), Athabasca recognizes a corresponding realized gain or loss in net income (loss). Physical delivery contracts are not considered financial instruments and therefore, no asset or liability is recognized on the consolidated balance sheet.

# Financial commodity risk management contracts

As at September 30, 2023, the following financial commodity risk management contracts were in place:

			C\$ Average	US\$ Average
Instrument	Period	Volume	Price <sup>(1)</sup>	Price <sup>(1)</sup>
<u>Sales contracts</u>			<u>C\$/bbl</u>	<u>US\$/bbl</u>
WTI collar	October - December 2023	23,300 bbl/d	\$ 67.60 - 150.03	\$ 50.00 - 110.97
<u>Purchase contracts</u>			<u>C\$/GJ/bbl</u>	US\$/GJ/bbl
AECO fixed price swaps	October - December 2023	20,000 GJ/d	\$ 4.90	\$ 3.63
WTI/C5+ differential swap	October - December 2023	1,000 bbl/d	\$ (4.12)	\$ (3.05)

<sup>(1)</sup> The implied C\$ or US\$ Average Price per bbl or GJ, as applicable, was calculated using the September 30, 2023 exchange rate of US\$1.00 = C\$1.3520.

In 2021, Athabasca entered into a seven-year marketing agreement for 15,000 bbl/d with an industry counterparty that diversifies the Company's sales to the US Gulf Coast through the Keystone pipeline system. The marketing agreement has a pricing derivative that provides exposure to WCS Gulf Coast pricing. As at September 30, 2023, the pricing derivative had an asset value of \$1.2 million (December 31, 2022 - \$0.8 million).

The following table summarizes the Company's net gain (loss) on commodity risk management contracts for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2023 and 2022:

				Nine months e September 3	
(\$ Thousands)		2023	2022	2023	2022
Unrealized gain (loss) on commodity risk mgmt. contracts	\$	5,737 \$	83,635 \$	4,955 \$	31,436
Realized gain (loss) on commodity risk mgmt. contracts		(3,767)	(30,060)	(30,418)	(143,412)
GAIN (LOSS) ON COMMODITY RISK MGMT. CONTRACTS, NET	\$	1,970 \$	53,575 \$	(25,463)\$	(111,976)

At September 30, 2023, a US\$5 increase/decrease in the price of WTI has a nil impact on the WTI collar contracts. The following table summarizes the sensitivity to price changes for Athabasca's other commodity risk management contracts:

	Change	in A	ECO
	Increase of		Decrease of
As at September 30, 2023	C\$1.00/GJ		C\$1.00/GJ
Increase (decrease) to fair value of commodity risk management contracts	\$ 2,454	\$	(2,454)

Additional financial commodity risk management has taken place subsequent to September 30, 2023 as noted in the table below:

			C\$ Average	US\$ Average
Instrument	Period	Volume	Price <sup>(1)</sup>	Price <sup>(1)</sup>
<u>Sales contracts</u>			<u>C\$/bbl</u>	<u>US\$/bbl</u>
WTI collar	January - March 2024	9,040 bbl/d	\$ 67.60 - 170.24	\$ 50.00 - 125.92

<sup>(1)</sup> The implied C\$ or US\$ Average Price per bbl or GJ, as applicable, was calculated using the September 30, 2023 exchange rate of US\$1.00 = C\$1.3520.

# **Commitments and Contingencies**

The following table summarizes Athabasca's estimated future unrecognized minimum commitments as at September 30, 2023 for the following five years and thereafter:

	Re	emaining						
(\$ Thousands)		2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	Thereafter	Total
Transportation and processing(1)	\$	27,929	\$ 110,012	\$ 107,697	\$ 107,472	\$ 105,455	\$ 1,053,318	\$ 1,511,883
Interest expense on term debt(1)		5,174	20,696	20,696	17,246	_	_	63,812
Purchase commitments and other(1)		8,959	8,913	_	_	_	_	17,872
TOTAL COMMITMENTS	\$	42,062	\$ 139,621	\$ 128,393	\$ 124,718	\$ 105,455	\$ 1,053,318	\$ 1,593,567

<sup>(1)</sup> Commitments which are denominated in US dollars were translated into Canadian dollars at the September 30, 2023 exchange rate of US\$1.00 = C\$1.3520.

#### **Credit Risk**

Credit risk is the risk of financial loss to Athabasca if a customer or counterparty to a financial instrument fails to meet its contractual obligations, and arises principally from Athabasca's cash balances, accounts receivables from petroleum and natural gas marketers, joint interest partners and risk management contract counterparties.

Athabasca's cash and cash equivalents are held with two counterparties, which are large reputable financial institutions, and management concluded that credit risk associated with the investments is low. Management concluded that collection risk of the outstanding accounts receivables is low given the high credit quality of the Company's material counterparties. No material receivables were past due as at September 30, 2023. Athabasca's risk management contracts are held with three counterparties, all of which are large reputable financial institutions, and management concluded that credit risk associated with these risk management contracts is low.

#### **Interest rate Risk**

The Company's exposure to interest rate fluctuations on interest earned on its floating rate cash and cash equivalents balance at September 30, 2023 of \$337.1 million (December 31, 2022 - \$197.5 million), from a 1.0% change in interest rates, would have an annualized impact of approximately \$3.4 million (December 31, 2022 - \$2.0 million). The 2026 Notes and letters of credit issued are subject to fixed interest rates and are not exposed to changes in interest rates.

# **Other Corporate Items**

#### General and Administrative ("G&A")

	Three months en September 3		Nine months er September 3	
(\$ Thousands, unless otherwise noted)	2023	2022	2023	2022
TOTAL GENERAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE	\$ 3,944 \$	5,382 \$	14,361 \$	14,744
G&A per boe <sup>(1)</sup>	\$ 1.19 \$	1.57 \$	1.51 \$	1.54

<sup>(1)</sup> Refer to the "Advisories and Other Guidance" section within this MD&A for additional information on Non-GAAP Financial Measures.

# **Stock Based Compensation**

During the three and nine months ended September 30, 2023, Athabasca's stock-based compensation expense (recovery) was \$17.2 million and \$52.5 million, respectively, compared to (\$0.6) million and \$21.2 million in the respective prior year periods. The increase year to date is due to the increase in the fair value of the cash settled stock-based compensation plans as a result of the share price increase in 2023. In addition, during the first quarter of 2023, the Company elected for the 2020 PSUs vesting April 1, 2023 to be settled in cash to reduce share dilution in advance of its proposed share buyback program which commenced in the second quarter of 2023. The PSUs, PUPs and DSUs plans are accounted for as cash-settled stock-based compensation plans and are recognized as liabilities on the Consolidated Balance Sheet. The liabilities under cash settled plans are revalued at each reporting date based on the Company's closing share price.

# Gain (Loss) on Revaluation of Provisions and Other

	Three months en September 30		Nine months ei September 3	
(\$ Thousands)	2023	2022	2023	2022
Change in fair value of warrant liability Change in estimated decommissioning obligations	\$ (30,188) \$	15,136 \$	(37,526) \$	(61,233)
related to fully impaired E&E assets	_	_	_	(3,073)
Other	_	860	_	1,227
GAIN (LOSS) ON REVALUATION OF PROVISIONS AND OTHER	\$ (30,188) \$	15,996 \$	(37,526) \$	(63,079)

The warrants are classified as a financial liability due to the cashless exercise provision and are therefore revalued quarterly. The changes in the fair value of the warrant liability in 2022 and 2023 primarily relate to changes in the share price.

#### **Income Taxes**

In the first nine months of 2023, a \$14.2 million deferred income tax recovery was recorded (first nine months of 2022 - \$nil) resulting in a September 30, 2023 deferred income tax asset of \$433.4 million (December 31, 2022 - \$413.3 million). The Company has approximately \$2.8 billion in tax pools, including approximately \$2.3 billion in non-capital losses and exploration tax pools available for immediate deduction against future income.

From time to time, Athabasca undergoes income tax audits in the normal course of business. In 2018, the Company received a notice of reassessment from the Canada Revenue Agency ("CRA") and Alberta Finance with regards to its 2012 taxation year resulting in a \$12.6 million deposit posted with the CRA. In the second quarter of 2023, Athabasca successfully appealed the reassessment and the \$12.6 million was refunded.

# **Environmental and Regulatory Risks Impacting Athabasca**

Athabasca operates in jurisdictions that have regulated greenhouse gas ("GHG") emissions and other air pollutants. While some regulations are in effect, further changes and amendments are at various stages of review, discussion and implementation. There is uncertainty around how any future federal legislation will harmonize with provincial regulation, as well as the timing and effects of regulations. Climate change regulation at both the federal and provincial level has the potential to significantly affect the regulatory environment of the crude oil and natural gas industry in Canada. Such regulations impose certain costs and risks on the industry, and there remains some uncertainty with regard to the impacts of federal or provincial climate change and environmental laws and regulations, as Athabasca is unable to predict additional legislation or amendments that governments may enact in the future. Any new laws and regulations, or additional requirements to existing laws and regulations, could have a material impact on the Company's assets, operations and cash flow.

# **Off Balance Sheet Arrangements**

The Company does not have any off-balance sheet arrangements that have or are reasonably likely to have a material current or future effect on the Company's consolidated financial statements.

# **Outstanding Share Data**

As at September 30, 2023, there were 577.1 million common shares outstanding, an aggregate of 11.6 million restricted share units and performance share units outstanding, 3.6 million stock options outstanding and 19.7 million (15.4 million assuming cashless exercise at September 30, 2023 share price) potential shares issuable under warrants agreements (86,748 warrants outstanding).

As at September 30, 2023, the Company repurchased for cancellation 27.3 million common shares under its NCIB program, for total consideration of \$88.2 million. Subsequent to September 30, 2023, the Company repurchased for cancellation 5.9 million common shares under its NCIB program, for total consideration of \$25.2 million.

As at October 31, 2023, there were 571.4 million common shares outstanding, an aggregate of 11.7 million restricted share units and performance share units outstanding, 3.6 million stock options outstanding and 19.5 million (15.0 million assuming cashless exercise at October 30, 2023 share price) potential shares issuable under warrants agreements (85,866 warrants outstanding).

# **SUMMARY OF QUARTERLY RESULTS**

The following table summarizes selected consolidated financial information for the Company for the preceding eight quarters:

	2023				202	2		2021
(\$ Thousands, unless otherwise noted)	Q3	Q2	Q1	Q4	Q3	Q2	Q1	Q4
BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT								
WTI (US\$/bbl)	82.26	73.78	76.13	82.65	91.55	108.41	94.29	77.19
WTI (C\$/bbl)	110.29	99.09	102.92	112.21	119.54	138.39	119.38	97.25
Western Canadian Select (C\$/bbl)	93.00	78.80	69.42	77.36	93.48	122.04	100.96	78.67
Edmonton Par (C\$/bbl)	107.85	95.33	99.34	110.13	116.79	137.83	115.62	93.14
Edmonton Condensate (C5+) (C\$/bbl)	104.05	96.10	105.44	111.82	112.87	137.70	120.84	99.24
AECO (C\$/GJ)	2.46	2.32	3.05	4.85	3.95	6.86	4.49	4.41
Foreign exchange (USD : CAD)	1.34	1.34	1.35	1.36	1.31	1.28	1.27	1.26
CONSOLIDATED			1.00					
Petroleum and natural gas production (boe/d) <sup>(1)</sup>	36,176	33,971	34,683	35,850	37,240	33,247	34,679	35,147
Realized price (net of cost of diluent) (\$/boe) <sup>(1)</sup>	80.85	59.25	44.74	53.84	75.10	105.99	83.53	63.89
Petroleum, natural gas and midstream sales (\$) <sup>(2)</sup>	385,269	289,310	298,991	292,105	406,794	453,618	405,389	305,313
Operating Income (Loss) (\$) <sup>(1)</sup>	168,410	95,118	56,535	70,319	140,081	169,255	150,640	110,648
Operating income (Loss) Net of Realized Hedging $(\$)^{(1)}$	164,643	90,522	34,480	62,131	110,021	103,549	102,994	65,735
Operating Netback (\$/boe) <sup>(1)</sup>	50.84	32.23	16.85	23.17	39.17	57.51	47.40	35.43
Operating Netback (\$/boe)(1)  Operating Netback Net of Realized Hedging (\$/boe)(1)	49.70	30.67	10.83	20.47	30.76	35.18	32.41	21.05
Capital expenditures (\$)	33,286	41,432	26,362	13,029	52,300	51,191	30,929	18,352
THERMAL OIL DIVISION	33,200	41,432	20,302	13,029	32,300	31,191	30,323	10,332
	21 (01	20.016	20.170	20.210	24.022	26.769	27.000	20.004
Bitumen production (bbl/d)	31,691	29,016	29,179	30,210	31,023	26,768	27,909	28,084
Bitumen sales volumes (bbl/d)	31,527	27,482	31,765	27,346	32,650	25,863	28,545	26,889
Realized bitumen price (\$/bbl) <sup>(1)</sup>	83.90	60.33	42.03	50.49	76.09	109.67	85.78	64.40
Heavy Oil (blended bitumen) and midstream sales (\$)	360,761	265,304	269,102	255,749	366,804	399,793	360,281	265,076
Operating Income (Loss) (\$) <sup>(1)</sup>	155,415	81,621	41,497	50,691	117,916	131,067	120,837	82,729
Operating Netback (\$/bbl)(1)	53.59	32.64	14.52	20.15	39.25	55.68	47.04	33.43
Capital expenditures (\$)	31,069	29,912	22,836	10,895	35,412	43,093	21,182	12,355
LIGHT OIL DIVISION								
Petroleum and natural gas production (boe/d) <sup>(1)</sup>	4,485	4,955	5,504	5,640	6,217	6,479	6,770	7,063
Realized price (\$/boe) <sup>(1)</sup>	59.40	53.24	60.34	70.07	69.92	91.29	74.03	61.92
Petroleum and natural gas sales (\$) <sup>(2)</sup>	24,508	24,006	29,889	36,356	39,990	53,825	45,108	40,237
Operating Income (Loss) (\$)(1)	12,995	13,497	15,038	19,628	22,165	38,188	29,803	27,919
Operating Netback (\$/boe) <sup>(1)</sup>	31.50	29.92	30.35	37.83	38.76	64.77	48.92	42.95
Capital expenditures (\$)	(1,153)	10,753	1,876	1,594	860	1,221	7,987	5,291
OPERATING RESULTS								
Cash flow from operating activities (\$)	134,879	46,914	20,537	69,368	117,853	68,535	59,862	81,189
Adjusted Funds Flow (\$)(1)	141,138	81,664	(9,396)	46,074	102,370	84,799	74,761	42,643
Free Cash Flow (\$) <sup>(1)</sup>	107,852	40,232	(35,758)	33,045	50,070	33,608	43,832	24,291
Net income (loss) (\$)	(79,212)	57,121	(56,635)	489,654	155,097	47,121	(119,601)	384,073
Net income (loss) per share - basic (\$)	(0.14)	0.10	(0.10)	0.83	0.27	0.08	(0.23)	0.72
BALANCE SHEET ITEMS								
Cash and cash equivalents (\$)	337,125	132,491	173,280	197,525	200,100	154,172	213,534	223,056
Total assets (\$)	2,102,338	2,162,091	2,210,487	2,230,354	1,803,624	1,815,390	1,814,662	1,742,131
Term debt (\$) <sup>(3)</sup>	182,398	181,577	184,509	206,133	240,078	250,756	355,328	384,298
Shareholders' equity (\$)		1,682,906		•				1,025,959
(1) Defer to the "Advisories and Other Cuidence" section within								, ,

<sup>(1)</sup> Refer to the "Advisories and Other Guidance" section within this MD&A for additional information on Non-GAAP Financial Measures and production disclosure.

Refer to the Results of Operations and other sections of this MD&A for detailed financial and operational variances between reporting periods as well as to Athabasca's previously issued annual and quarterly MD&As for changes in prior periods.

<sup>(2)</sup> Includes intercompany NGLs (i.e. condensate) sold by the Light Oil segment to the Thermal Oil segment for use as diluent that is eliminated on consolidation.

<sup>(3)</sup> Balances include the current and long-term portions as reported in the consolidated balance sheets.

# **ACCOUNTING POLICIES AND ESTIMATES**

During the nine months ended September 30, 2023, there were no changes to Athabasca's accounting policies or use of estimates and judgments in the preparation of the Consolidated Financial Statements and the notes thereto, except as disclosed in Note 12 Stock-based Compensation of the Consolidated Financial Statements. A summary of the significant accounting policies, including the use of estimates and judgments, used by Athabasca can be found in Note 3 of the December 31, 2022 audited consolidated financial statements. All of the estimates and judgments are subject to measurement uncertainty and changes in these estimates could materially impact the consolidated financial statements of future periods and have a significant impact on net income (loss).

#### **ADVISORIES AND OTHER GUIDANCE**

# Non-GAAP and Other Financial Measures, and Production Disclosure

The "Adjusted Funds Flow", "Adjusted Funds Flow per Share", "Free Cash Flow", "Light Oil Operating Income", "Light Oil Operating Netback", "Thermal Oil Operating Income", "Thermal Oil Operating Netback", "Consolidated Operating Income", "Consolidated Operating Netback", "Consolidated Operating Netback Net of Realized Hedging", "Consolidated Operating Netback Net of Realized Hedging", "Realized Prices", "Cash Transportation & Marketing Expenses", "Excess Cash Flow" and "Sustaining Capital" financial measures contained in this MD&A do not have standardized meanings which are prescribed by IFRS and they are considered to be non-GAAP financial measures or ratios. These measures may not be comparable to similar measures presented by other issuers and should not be considered in isolation with measures that are prepared in accordance with IFRS. The Liquidity and the per boe or per bbl disclosures for each segment's royalties, operating expenses, transportation and marketing, realized gain (loss) on commodity risk management contracts and G&A are supplementary financial measures. The Leismer and Hangingstone operating results are supplementary financial measures that when aggregated, combine to the Thermal Oil segment results and the Greater Placid and Greater Kaybob operating results are supplementary financial measures that when aggregated, combine to the Light Oil segment results.

## Adjusted Funds Flow, Adjusted Funds Flow Per Share and Free Cash Flow

Adjusted Funds Flow and Free Cash Flow are non-GAAP financial measures and are not intended to represent cash flow from operating activities, net earnings or other measures of financial performance calculated in accordance with IFRS. The Adjusted Funds Flow and Free Cash Flow measures allow management and others to evaluate the Company's ability to fund its capital programs and meet its ongoing financial obligations using cash flow internally generated from ongoing operating related activities. Adjusted Funds Flow per share is a non-GAAP financial ratio calculated as Adjusted Funds Flow divided by the applicable number of weighted average shares outstanding. Adjusted Funds Flow and Free Cash Flow are calculated as follows:

	Three mont Septemb		Nine mont Septem	
(\$ Thousands)	2023	2022	2023	2022
Cash flow from operating activities	\$ 134,879	117,853	\$ 202,330	\$ 246,250
Changes in non-cash working capital	5,898	(16,320)	22,498	14,386
Settlement of provisions	361	837	1,155	1,294
Long-term deposit	_	_	(12,577)	_
ADJUSTED FUNDS FLOW	141,138	102,370	213,406	261,930
Capital expenditures	(33,286)	(52,300)	(101,080)	(134,420)
FREE CASH FLOW	\$ 107,852	50,070	\$ 112,326	\$ 127,510

#### Operating Income (Loss) and Operating Netback

The non-GAAP measure Operating Income in this MD&A is calculated by subtracting the cost of diluent, royalties, operating expenses and cash transportation & marketing expenses from petroleum, natural gas and midstream sales which is the most directly comparable GAAP measure. The Operating Netback per boe is a non-GAAP financial ratio measure calculated by dividing the respective projects Operating Income by its respective sales volumes. The Operating Income and Operating Netback measures allow management and others to evaluate the production results from the Company's assets. The table on page 11 reconciles Light Oil Operating Income to its segmented income in *Note 14 - Segmented Information* of the Consolidated Financial Statements for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2023. The table on page 9 reconciles Thermal Oil Operating Income to its segmented income in *Note 14 - Segmented Information* of the Consolidated Financial Statements for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2023.

The non-GAAP measure Consolidated Operating Income Net of Realized Hedging in this MD&A is calculated by adding or subtracting realized gains (losses) on commodity risk management contracts, royalties, the cost of diluent, operating expenses and cash

transportation & marketing expenses from petroleum, natural gas and midstream sales which is the most directly comparable GAAP measure. The Consolidated Operating Netback Net of Realized Hedging measure per boe is a non-GAAP financial ratio calculated by dividing Consolidated Operating Income Net of Realized Hedging by the total sales volumes. The Consolidated Operating Income Net of Realized Hedging and the Consolidated Operating Netback Net of Realized Hedging measures allow management and others to evaluate the production results from the Company's Light Oil and Thermal Oil assets combined together including the impact of realized commodity risk management gains or losses. The table on page 6 reconciles Consolidated Operating Income Net of Realized Hedging to Consolidated segment income in *Note 14 - Segmented Information* of the Consolidated Financial Statements for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2023.

#### **Realized Prices**

The realized price financial measures contained in this MD&A are calculated by subtracting the cost of diluent from the petroleum, natural gas and midstream sales for the respective segment, and are considered to be non-GAAP financial ratios.

# **Cash Transportation & Marketing Expenses**

The Cash Transportation & Marketing Expense financial measures contained in this MD&A are calculated by subtracting the non-cash Transportation & Marketing Expense as reported in the Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows from the Transportation & Marketing Expense as reported in the Consolidated Statement of Income (Loss) and are considered to be non-GAAP financial measures.

#### **Excess Cash Flow and Sustaining Capital**

The Excess Cash Flow and Sustaining Capital measures allow management and others to evaluate the Company's ability to return capital to Shareholders. Sustaining Capital is managements' assumption of the required capital to maintain the Company's production base. The Excess Cash Flow measure is calculated by Adjusted Funds Flow less Sustaining Capital.

# **Supplementary Financial Measures**

The supplementary financial measure Liquidity is defined as cash and cash equivalents plus available credit capacity.

Per boe or per bbl disclosures for each segment's royalties, operating expenses, transportation and marketing, realized gain (loss) on commodity risk management contracts and G&A are supplementary financial measures that are calculated by dividing the respective GAAP measure by its respective sales volumes.

#### Production volumes details

	Three mon Septem		Nine mon	
Production	2023	2022	2023	2022
Greater Placid:				
Condensate NGLs bbl/d	581	908	705	1,003
Other NGLs bbl/o	281	464	344	428
Natural gas <sup>(1)</sup> mcf/o	7,654	10,855	8,977	11,449
Total Greater Placid boe/o	2,138	3,181	2,545	3,339
Greater Kaybob:				
Oil <sup>(2)</sup> bbl/d	1,398	1,849	1,461	1,946
Other NGLs bbl/d	247	335	271	337
Natural gas <sup>(1)</sup> mcf/o	4,215	5,111	4,204	5,186
Total Greater Kaybob boe/o	2,347	3,036	2,433	3,147
Light Oil:				
Oil <sup>(2)</sup> bbl/d	1,398	1,849	1,461	1,946
Condensate NGLs bbl/o	581	908	705	1,003
Oil and condensate NGLs bbl/o	1,979	2,757	2,166	2,949
Other NGLs bbl/d	528	799	615	765
Natural gas <sup>(1)</sup> mcf/o	11,869	15,966	13,181	16,635
Total Light Oil division boe/o	d 4,485	6,217	4,978	6,486
Total Thermal Oil division bitumen bbl/o	31,691	31,023	29,972	28,578
Total Company production boe/	36,176	37,240	34,950	35,064

<sup>(1)</sup> Comprised of 99% or greater of shale gas, with the remaining being conventional natural gas.

<sup>(2)</sup> Comprised of 99% or greater of tight oil, with the remaining being light and medium crude oil.

		Three mont		Nine months ended September 30,		
Liquids:		2023	2022	2023	2022	
Greater Placid:						
Condensate NGLs	bbl/d	581	908	705	1,003	
Other NGLs	bbl/d	281	464	344	428	
Total Greater Placid Liquids	bbl/d	862	1,372	1,049	1,431	
as % of Greater Placid production		40%	43%	41%	43%	
Greater Kaybob:						
Oil	bbl/d	1,398	1,849	1,461	1,946	
Other NGLs	bbl/d	247	335	271	337	
Total Greater Kaybob Liquids	bbl/d	1,645	2,184	1,732	2,283	
as % of Greater Kaybob production		70%	72%	71%	73%	
Total Light Oil:						
Oil and condensate NGLs	bbl/d	1,979	2,757	2,166	2,949	
Other NGLs	bbl/d	528	799	615	765	
Total Light Oil division Liquids	bbl/d	2,507	3,556	2,781	3,714	
as % of Light Oil production		56%		56%	57%	
Total Company:						
Total Light Oil division Liquids	bbl/d	2,507	3,556	2,781	3,714	
Total Thermal Oil division bitumen	bbl/d	31,691	31,023	29,972	28,578	
Total Company Liquids	bbl/d	34,198	34,579	32,753	32,292	
as % of Company production		95%	93%	94%	92%	

This MD&A also makes reference to Athabasca's forecasted total average daily production of approximately 34,500 boe/d for 2023. Athabasca expects that approximately 88% of that production will be comprised of bitumen, 5% shale gas, 4% tight oil, 2% condensate natural gas liquids and 1% other natural gas liquids.

# **Disclosure Control and Procedures**

Athabasca is required to comply with National Instrument 52-109 Certification of Disclosure in Issuers' Annual and Interim Filings ("NI 52-109"). NI 52-109 requires that Athabasca disclose in its interim MD&A any material weaknesses in Athabasca's internal control over financial reporting and/or any changes in Athabasca's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the period that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, Athabasca's internal controls over financial reporting. Athabasca confirms that no material weaknesses or such changes were identified in Athabasca's internal controls over financial reporting during the third quarter of 2023.

## **Risk Factors**

Factors currently influencing the Company's ability to succeed include, but are not limited to, the following:

## **Operational risks**

- the performance of the Company's assets;
- reservoir impairment when shutting in or curtailing production from oil and gas assets;
- Athabasca's exploration and development budget and Athabasca's capital expenditure programs;
- failure to realize anticipated benefits of acquisitions or divestments;
- uncertainties inherent in estimating quantities of Proved Reserves, Probable Reserves and Contingent Resources;
- the timing of certain of Athabasca's operations and projects, including the commencement of its planned Thermal Oil Division development projects, the exploration and development of Athabasca's Light Oil assets and the levels and timing of anticipated production;
- dependence upon Murphy as a working interest participant in its Light Oil assets and as operator of the Greater Kaybob assets;

- risks and uncertainties inherent in Athabasca's operations, including those related to exploration, development and production of reserves and resources;
- risks related to gathering and processing facilities and pipeline systems;
- reliance on third party infrastructure;
- supply chain disruption;
- seasonality and weather conditions, which may be impacted by climate change;
- risks associated with events of force majeure; and
- expiration of leases and permits or the failure of Athabasca or the holder of certain licenses, leases or permits to meet specific requirements of such licenses, leases or permits.

#### **Planning risks**

- the business strategy, objectives and business strengths of Athabasca;
- Athabasca's growth strategy and opportunities;
- Athabasca's plans to submit additional regulatory applications;
- Athabasca's drilling plans and plans and results regarding the completion of wells that have been drilled and other
  exploration and development activities;
- Athabasca's environment, social and governance goals;
- failure to accurately estimate abandonment and reclamation costs; and
- the potential for management estimates and assumptions to be inaccurate.

# Financial and market risks

- general economic, market and business conditions in Canada, the United States and globally;
- future commodity market prices;
- Canadian heavy and light oil export capacity constraints and the resulting impact on realized pricing;
- Athabasca's projections of commodity prices, costs and netbacks;
- the substantial capital requirements of Athabasca's projects and the Company's ability to raise capital;
- risk of reduced capital availability due to environmental and climate related reputational issues for industry;
- the potential for future joint venture arrangements;
- insurance risks;
- hedging risks;
- variations in foreign exchange and interest rates;
- risks related to the Company's indebtedness;
- risks related to the Common Shares; and
- risks of cybersecurity threats including the possibility of potential breakdown, invasion, virus, cyber-attack, cyber-fraud, security breach, and destruction or interruption of our information technology systems.

## Legal and compliance risks

- the regulatory framework governing royalties, taxes, environmental matters and foreign investment in the jurisdictions in which Athabasca conducts and will conduct its business;
- risks related to Athabasca's filings with taxation authorities, including the risk of tax related reviews and reassessments;
- risks related to climate change and carbon pricing;
- actions taken by the American administration on the imposition of taxes on the importation of goods into the United States;
- aboriginal claims;
- risks associated with establishing and maintaining systems of internal controls; and
- inaccuracy of forward-looking information.

For additional information regarding the risks and uncertainties to which the Company and its business are subject, please see the information under the headings "Forward Looking Information" below, and under the headings "Forward Looking Statements" and "Risk Factors" in the Company's most recent AIF, on the Company's SEDAR profile at www.sedar.com.

# **Forward Looking Information**

This MD&A contains forward-looking information that involves various risks, uncertainties and other factors. All information other than statements of historical fact is forward-looking information. The use of any of the words "anticipate", "intend", "plan", "outlook", "guidance", "estimate", "expect", "may", "will", "target", "believe", "predict", "potential" and similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking information. The forward-looking information is not historical fact, but rather is based on the Company's current plans, objectives, goals, strategies, estimates, assumptions and projections about the Company's industry,

business and future financial results. This information involves known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that may cause actual results or events to differ materially from those anticipated in such forward-looking information. No assurance can be given that these expectations will prove to be correct and such forward-looking information included in this MD&A should not be unduly relied upon. This information speaks only as of the date of this MD&A. In particular, this MD&A may contain forward-looking information pertaining to the following: the Company's future growth outlook and how that growth outlook is funded; estimates of corporate, Thermal Oil and Light Oil production levels; reserve life index; on stream timing of additional well pairs and timing of expansion projects at Leismer; the Company's anticipated sources of funding for 2023 and beyond; the Company's use of Excess Cash Flow, including in respect of share buybacks; the Company's estimated future minimum commitments; the future allocation of capital; the Company's ability to manage periods of volatility; Adjusted Funds Flow; Free Cash Flow; capital expenditures and other matters.

In addition, information and statements in this MD&A relating to "Reserves" and "Resources" are deemed to be forward-looking information, as they involve the implied assessment, based on certain estimates and assumptions, that the reserves and resources described exist in the quantities predicted or estimated, and that the reserves and resources described can be profitably produced in the future. Certain assumptions related to the Company's Reserves and Resources are contained in the report of McDaniel & Associates Consultants Ltd. ("McDaniel") evaluating Athabasca's Proved Reserves, Probable Reserves and Contingent Resources as at December 31, 2022 (which is respectively referred to herein as the "McDaniel Report").

With respect to forward-looking information contained in this MD&A, assumptions have been made regarding, among other things: commodity prices; the regulatory framework governing royalties, taxes and environmental matters in the jurisdictions in which the Company conducts and will conduct business and the effects that such regulatory framework will have on the Company, including on the Company's financial condition and results of operations; the Company's financial and operational flexibility; the Company's financial sustainability; the Company's ability to obtain qualified staff and equipment in a timely and cost-efficient manner; the applicability of technologies for the recovery and production of the Company's reserves and resources; future capital expenditures to be made by the Company; future sources of funding for the Company's capital programs; the Company's future debt levels; future production levels; the Company's ability to obtain financing and/or enter into joint venture arrangements, on acceptable terms; operating costs; compliance of counterparties with the terms of contractual arrangements; impact of increasing competition globally; collection risk of outstanding accounts receivable from third parties; geological and engineering estimates in respect of the Company's reserves and resources; recoverability of reserves and resources; the geography of the areas in which the Company is conducting exploration and development activities and the quality of its assets.

Actual results could differ materially from those anticipated in this forward-looking information as a result of the risk factors set forth in the Company's most recent AIF available on SEDAR at www.sedar.com, including, but not limited to: weakness in the oil and gas industry; exploration, development and production risks; prices, markets and marketing; market conditions; climate change and carbon pricing risk; statutes and regulations regarding the environment; regulatory environment and changes in applicable law; gathering and processing facilities, pipeline systems and rail; reputation and public perception of the oil and gas sector; environment, social and governance goals; political uncertainty; state of capital markets; ability to finance capital requirements; access to capital and insurance; abandonment and reclamation costs; continued impact of the COVID-19 pandemic; changing demand for oil and natural gas products; anticipated benefits of acquisitions and dispositions; royalty regimes; foreign exchange rates and interest rates; reserves; hedging; operational dependence; operating costs; project risks; supply chain disruption; financial assurances; diluent supply; third party credit risk; indigenous claims; reliance on key personnel and operators; income tax; cybersecurity; advanced technologies; hydraulic fracturing; liability management; seasonality and weather conditions; unexpected events; internal controls; limitations and insurance; litigation; natural gas overlying bitumen resources; competition; chain of title and expiration of licenses and leases; breaches of confidentiality; new industry related activities or new geographical areas; and risks related to our debt and securities.

The risks and uncertainties referred to above are described in more detail in Athabasca's most recent AIF, which is available on the Company's SEDAR profile at www.sedar.com. Readers are cautioned that the foregoing list of risk factors should not be construed as exhaustive. The forward-looking information included in this MD&A is expressly qualified by this cautionary statement and is made as of the date of this MD&A. The Company does not undertake any obligation to publicly update or revise any forward-looking information except as required by applicable securities laws.

The Company's financial condition and results of operations discussed in this MD&A will not necessarily be indicative of the Company's future performance, particularly considering that many of the Company's activities are currently in the early stages of their planned exploration and/or development.

#### **Reserves and Resource Information**

The McDaniel Report was prepared using the assumptions and methodology guidelines outlined in the COGE Handbook and in accordance with National Instrument 51-101 Standards of Disclosure for Oil and Gas Activities, effective December 31, 2022. There are numerous uncertainties inherent in estimating quantities of bitumen, light crude oil and medium crude oil, tight oil, conventional natural gas, shale gas and NGL reserves and the future cash flows attributed to such reserves. The reserve and associated cash flow information set forth above are estimates only. In general, estimates of economically recoverable reserves and the future net cash flows therefrom are based upon a number of variable factors and assumptions, such as historical production from the properties, production rates, ultimate reserve recovery, timing and amount of capital expenditures, marketability of oil and natural gas, royalty rates, the assumed effects of regulation by governmental agencies and future operating costs, all of which may vary materially. For those reasons, estimates of the economically recoverable reserves attributable to any particular group of properties, classification of such reserves based on risk of recovery and estimates of future net revenues associated with reserves prepared by different engineers, or by the same engineers at different times, may vary. The Company's actual production, revenues, taxes and development and operating expenditures with respect to its reserves will vary from estimates thereof and such variations could be material. There is no certainty that it will be commercially viable to produce any portion of the resources. Reserves and Contingent Resources figures described herein have been rounded to the nearest MMbbl or MMboe. For additional information regarding the consolidated reserves and resources of the Company as evaluated by McDaniel in the McDaniel Report, please refer to the Company's AIF that is available on SEDAR at www.sedar.com.

# **Oil and Gas Information**

"Boe" may be misleading, particularly if used in isolation. A BOE conversion ratio of six thousand cubic feet of natural gas to one barrel of oil equivalent (6 Mcf: 1 bbl) is based on an energy equivalency conversion method primarily applicable at the burner tip and does not represent a value equivalency at the wellhead. As the value ratio between natural gas and crude oil based on the current prices of natural gas and crude oil is significantly different from the energy equivalency of 6:1, utilizing a conversion on a 6:1 basis may be misleading as an indication of value.

# **Drilling Locations**

The 500 Duvernay drilling locations referenced in this MD&A include: 5 proved undeveloped locations and 77 probable undeveloped locations for a total of 82 booked locations with the balance being unbooked locations. Proved undeveloped locations and probable undeveloped locations are booked and derived from the Company's most recent independent reserves evaluation as prepared by McDaniel as of December 31, 2022 and account for drilling locations that have associated proved and/or probable reserves, as applicable. Unbooked locations are internal management estimates. Unbooked locations do not have attributed reserves or resources (including contingent or prospective). Unbooked locations have been identified by management as an estimation of Athabasca's multi-year drilling activities expected to occur over the next two decades based on evaluation of applicable geologic, seismic, engineering, production and reserves information. There is no certainty that the Company will drill all unbooked drilling locations and if drilled there is no certainty that such locations will result in additional oil and gas reserves, resources or production. The drilling locations on which the Company will actually drill wells, including the number and timing thereof is ultimately dependent upon the availability of funding, commodity prices, provincial fiscal and royalty policies, costs, actual drilling results, additional reservoir information that is obtained and other factors.

## **Definitions**

"Best Estimate" is a classification of estimated resources described in the COGE Handbook as being considered to be the best estimate of the quantity that will actually be recovered. It is equally likely that the actual remaining quantities recovered will be greater or less than the Best Estimate. If probabilistic methods are used, there should be a 50% probability (P50) that the quantities actually recovered will equal or exceed the Best Estimate.

"Contingent Resources" are those quantities of petroleum estimated, as of a given date, to be potentially recoverable from known accumulations using established technology or technology under development, but which are not currently considered to be commercially recoverable due to one or more contingencies. Contingencies may include such factors as economic, legal, environmental, political and regulatory matters or a lack of markets. It is also appropriate to classify as "Contingent Resources" the estimated discovered recoverable quantities associated with a project in the early evaluation stage. Contingent resources may be divided into the following project maturity sub-classes: "Development Pending" is assigned to Contingent Resources for a particular project where resolution of the final conditions for development is being actively pursued (high chance of development); "Development On Hold" is assigned to Contingent Resources for a particular project where there is a reasonable chance of development, but there are major non-technical contingencies to be resolved that are usually beyond the control of the operator;

"Development Unclarified" is assigned to Contingent Resources for a particular project where evaluation is incomplete and there is ongoing activity to resolve any risks or uncertainties or which require significant further appraisal to clarify potential for development and where contingencies have yet to be defined; "Development Not Viable" is assigned to Contingent Resources for a particular project where no further data acquisition or evaluation is currently planned and there is a low chance of development. As at December 31, 2022, the Company reported Contingent Resources on a risked and unrisked basis located in its Leismer and Corner asset areas in the Development Pending project maturity sub-class.

"Liquids" includes bitumen, light oil and medium oil, tight oil and NGLs, as applicable.

"Proved Reserves" are those reserves that can be estimated with a high degree of certainty to be recoverable. It is likely that the actual remaining quantities recovered will exceed the estimated Proved Reserves.

"Probable Reserves" are those additional reserves that are less certain to be recovered than Proved Reserves. It is equally likely that the actual remaining quantities recovered will be greater or less than the sum of the estimated Proved Reserves plus Probable Reserves.

"Reserve Life Index" is a measure of the estimated length of time it will take to deplete the Company's oil and gas reserves (typically reported in number of years).

"Risked" or "risked" means the applicable reported volumes or revenues have been risked (or adjusted) based on the chance of commerciality of such resources in accordance with the COGE Handbook. In accordance with the COGE Handbook for contingent resources, the chance of commerciality is solely based on the chance of development based on all contingencies required for the re-classification of the contingent resources as reserves being resolved. Therefore, risked reported volumes and values of contingent resources reflect the risking (or adjustment) of such volumes or values based on the chance of development of such resources.

"Unrisked" or "unrisked" means applicable reported volumes or values of resources have not been risked (or adjusted) based on the chance of commerciality of such resources. In accordance with the COGE Handbook for contingent resources, the chance of commerciality is solely based on the chance of development based on all contingencies required for the re-classification of the contingent resources as reserves being resolved. Therefore, unrisked reported volumes and values of contingent resources do not reflect the risking (or adjustment) of such volumes or values based on the chance of development of such resources.

## **Abbreviations**

AECO physical storage and trading hub for natural gas on the TC Alberta transmission system which is the delivery point

for various benchmark Alberta index prices.

bbl barrel

bbl/d barrels per day

boe barrels of oil equivalent

boe/d barrels of oil equivalent per day

C\$ Canadian Dollars

COGE Canadian Oil and Gas Evaluation

GAAP Generally Accepted Accounting Principles

Mcf thousand cubic feet

Mcf/d thousand cubic feet per day

Mgmt. management
MMbbl millions of barrels

MMboe millions of barrels of oil equivalent

MMBtu million British thermal units

NGL Natural gas liquids

SAGD steam assisted gravity drainage

US\$ United States Dollars
WTI West Texas Intermediate
WCS Western Canadian Select