

# **Management's Discussion and Analysis**

## For the three months ended March 31, 2020 and 2019

This Management's Discussion and Analysis ("MD&A") of Taiga Building Products Ltd. ("Taiga" or the "Company") has been prepared based on information available as at May 7, 2020 and should be read in conjunction with the unaudited condensed interim consolidated financial statements and the corresponding notes thereto For the three months ended March 31, 2020 and 2019. This discussion and analysis provides an overview of significant developments that have affected Taiga's performance during the three months ended March 31, 2020

The financial information reported herein has been prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards ("IFRS"), which is the required reporting framework for Canadian publicly accountable enterprises, and is expressed in Canadian dollars.

Taiga's consolidated financial statements and the accompanying notes included within this report include the accounts of Taiga and its subsidiaries. Unless otherwise noted, all references in this MD&A to "dollars" or "\$" are to Canadian dollars.

Unless otherwise noted, there are no material changes to the Company's contractual obligations and risks and uncertainties as described in its management's discussion and analysis for the year ended December 31, 2019.

Additional information relating to the Company including the Company's Annual Information Form dated February 21, 2020 can be found on SEDAR at <u>www.sedar.com</u>.



#### Forward-Looking Information:

This MD&A contains certain forward-looking information relating, but not limited, to future events or performance and strategies and expectations of Taiga. Forward-looking information typically contains statements with words such as "consider", "anticipate", "believe", "expect", "plan", "intend", "likely", "may", "will", "should", "predict", "potential", "continue" or similar words suggesting future outcomes or statements regarding expectations, beliefs, plans, objectives, assumptions, intentions or statements about future events or performance. Examples of such forwardlooking information within this document include statements relating to: the Company's perception of the building products industry and markets in which it participates and anticipated trends in such markets in any of the countries in which the Company does business; the Company's anticipated business operations, inventory levels and ability to meet order demand; the Company's anticipated ability to procure products and its relationship with suppliers; sufficiency of cash flows; and the anticipated outcome of legal and regulatory proceedings. Readers should be aware that these statements are subject to known and unknown risks. uncertainties and other factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those suggested by the forward-looking information. Forward-looking information reflects management's current expectations or beliefs and is based on information currently available to Taiga and although Taiga believes it has a reasonable basis for providing the forward-looking information included in this document, readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on such forward-looking information. By its nature, the forward-looking information of Taiga involves numerous assumptions and inherent risks and uncertainties, both general and specific that contribute to the possibility that the predictions, forecasts and other forward-looking information will not occur. These factors include, but are not limited to: changes in business strategies; the effects of legal or regulatory proceedings, competition and pricing pressures; changes in operational costs; changes in laws and regulations, including tax, environmental, employment, competition, anti-terrorism and trade laws and Taiga's anticipation of and success in managing the risks associated with the foregoing; and other risks detailed in this MD&A and Taiga's filings with the Canadian securities regulatory authorities available at www.sedar.com. Forwardlooking information speaks only as of the date of this discussion and analysis. Taiga does not undertake, and specifically disclaims, any obligation to update or revise any forward-looking information, whether as a result of new information, future developments or otherwise, except as required by applicable law.

#### Non-IFRS Financial Measure:

In this MD&A, reference is made to EBITDA, which represents earnings before interest, taxes, and amortization. As there is no generally accepted method of calculating EBITDA, the measure as calculated by Taiga might not be comparable to similarly titled measures reported by other issuers. EBITDA is presented as management believes it is a useful indicator of the Company's ability to meet debt service and capital expenditure requirements and because management interprets trends in EBITDA as an indicator of relative operating performance. EBITDA should not be considered by an investor as an alternative to net income or cash flows as determined in accordance with IFRS. Reconciliations of EBITDA to net earnings reported in accordance with IFRS are included in this MD&A.

#### Market and Industry Data:

Unless otherwise indicated, the market and industry data contained in this MD&A is based upon information of independent industry and government publications and management's knowledge of, and experience in, the markets in which the Company operates. While management believes this data to be reliable, market and industry data is subject to variation and cannot be verified with complete certainty due to limits on the availability and reliability of raw data, the voluntary nature of the data gathering process and other limitations and uncertainties inherent in any statistical survey. The Company has not independently verified any of the data from third party sources referred to in this MD&A and no representation is given as to the accuracy of any of the data referred to in this MD&A obtained from third party sources.



## 1. Business Overview

Taiga is the largest independent wholesale distributor of building products in Canada. Taiga distributes building products in Canada, the United States and overseas. As a wholesale distributor, Taiga maintains substantial inventories of building products at fifteen strategically located distribution centres throughout Canada and two distribution centres in California and one in Washington. In addition, Taiga regularly distributes through the use of third party reload centres. Taiga also owns and operates four wood preservation plants that produce pressure-treated wood products. Factors that affect Taiga's year-over-year profitability include, among others, sales levels, price fluctuations and product mix.

Taiga's primary market is Canada. Taiga expects the Canadian housing market in calendar year 2020 to decline significantly compared 2019. Taiga's secondary market, the United States, is expected to decline in 2020 compared to calendar year 2019. See Item 9 "Outlook".

# 2. Results of Operations

#### Sales

The Company's consolidated net sales for the quarter ended March 31, 2020 were \$320.3 million compared to \$287.4 million over the same period last year. The increase in sales by \$32.9 million or 11% was largely due to increased selling prices for commodity products.

Sales by segments are as follows:

		Revenue by point of sale Three months ended March 31,			
	2020	2020		2019	
	\$000's	%	\$000's	%	
Canada	250,828	78.3	237,629	82.7	
United States	69,451	21.7	49,770	17.3	

For the quarter ended March 31, 2020, export sales totalled \$50.4 million compared to \$39.1 million in the previous year. These export sales were primarily to the United States and Asia, and are included as part of the Canadian segment in the table above.

The Company's sales of dimension lumber and panel, as a percentage of total sales, was 58.9% for the quarter ended March 31, 2020 and 56.6% over the same period last year. Allied, engineered and treated wood product sales, as a percentage of total sales, was 41.1% for 2020 and 43.4% over the same period last year.

#### **Gross Margin**

Gross margin for the quarter ended March 31, 2020 increased to \$30.6 million from \$27.5 million over the same period last year. The increase in gross margin was primarily due to higher commodity prices in the current quarter compared to the same quarter last year.

#### Expenses

Distribution expense for the quarter ended March 31, 2020 increased to \$6.4 million compared to \$5.9 million over the same period last year primarily due to higher distribution costs.

Selling and administration expense for the quarter ended March 31, 2020 increased to \$12.6 million compared to \$12.3 million over the same period last year primarily due to higher compensation costs.



Finance expense for the quarter ended March 31, 2020 was \$2.3 million compared to \$2.2 million over the same period last year

Subordinated debt interest expense was \$0.2 million for both the quarter ended March 31, 2020 and the quarter ended March 31, 2019.

Other income for the quarter ended March 31, 2020 was \$0.03 million compared to \$0.04 million last year.

### **Net Earnings**

Net earnings for the quarter ended March 31, 2020 increased to \$6.6 million from \$4.7 million for the same period last year primarily due to increased gross margin.

#### **EBITDA**

EBITDA for the quarter ended March 31, 2020 was \$13.1 million compared to \$11.1 million for the same period last year.

Reconciliation of net earnings to EBITDA:

	Three Months Ended March 31, 2020 2019		
(in thousands of dollars)			
Net earnings	6,613	4,661	
Income tax expense	1,311	1,249	
Finance and subordinated debt interest expense	2,495	2,449	
Amortization	2,673	2,721	
EBITDA	13,092	11,080	

# 3. Cash Flows

#### **Operating Activities**

Cash flows from operating activities used cash of \$58.0 million for the quarter ended March 31, 2020 compared to \$46.1 million for the same period last year. Changes between the comparative periods were primarily due to changes in non-cash working capital.

#### **Investing Activities**

Investing activities used cash of \$0.9 million for the quarter ended March 31, 2020 compared to \$0.4 million over the same period last year.

#### **Financing Activities**

Financing activities generated cash of \$58.9 million for the quarter ended March 31, 2020 compared to \$46.5 million for the same period last year. The increase was due to more borrowing from the Company's revolving credit facility combined with greater repayments of long-term debt and lease obligations.



# 4. Summary of Quarterly Results

	Year ended December 31, 2020	Year e	ended Dece	ember 31, 2	2019	Year en	ded Decem	ber 31, 2018
(in thousands of dollars, except per share amount in dollars)	Q1	Q4	Q3	Q2	Q1	Q4	Q3	Q2
Sales	320,279	298,125	358,875	354,723	287,399	303,879	399,634	422,875
Net earnings	6,613	5,763	8,374	7,107	4,661	1,540	5,579	6,358
Net earnings per share <sup>(1)</sup>	0.06	0.05	0.07	0.06	0.04	0.01	0.05	0.05
EBITDA	13,092	12,874	17,272	16,448	11,080	5,795	9,228	16,128

Notes:

(1) The amounts are identical on a basic and fully-diluted per share basis. Earnings per share is calculated using the weighted-average number of shares.

## Seasonality

Taiga's sales are subject to seasonal variances that fluctuate in accordance with the normal home building season. Taiga generally experiences higher sales in the quarters ended June 30 and September 30 and reduced sales in the late fall and winter during its quarters ended December 31 and March 31 of each fiscal year.

# 5. Liquidity and Capital Resources

## **Revolving Credit Facility**

On June 28, 2019, the Company renewed its senior credit facility with a syndicate of lenders led by JPMorgan Chase Bank (the "Facility"). The Facility was increased from \$225 million to \$250 million, with an option to increase the limit by up to \$50 million. The Facility also features an ability to draw on additional term loans in an aggregate amount of approximately \$23 million at favourable rates, which Taiga utilized for the Business Acquisition referred to in Note 5 of the Notes to the Audited Consolidated Financial Statements. The Facility continues to bear interest at variable rates plus variable margins, is secured by a first perfected security interest in all personal property of the Company and certain of its subsidiaries, and will mature on June 28, 2023. Taiga's ability to borrow under the Facility is based upon a defined percentage of accounts receivable and inventories. The terms, conditions, and covenants of the Facility have been met as at March 31, 2020.

Taiga expects to meet its future cash requirements through a combination of cash generated from operations and its credit facilities. However, any severe weakening of the Canadian housing market driving reduced product demand or a significant increase in bad debts in accounts receivable could adversely impact the Company's liquidity in the short term.

## **Working Capital**

Working capital as at March 31, 2020 increased to \$121.0 million from \$114.0 million as at December 31, 2019 due to decreased liabilities. Taiga believes that current levels are adequate to meet its working capital requirements.



## **Summary of Financial Position**

(in thousands of dollars)	March 31, 2020	March 31, 2019	December 31, 2019
Current Assets	317,757	309,935	245,407
Current Liabilities (excluding Revolving Credit Facility)	(83,970)	(83,557)	(90,411)
Revolving Credit Facility	(112,744)	(116,170)	(40,968)
Working Capital	121,043	110,208	114,028
Long Term Assets	152,812	156,590	149,615
Long Term Liabilities (excluding Subordinated Notes)	(110,072)	(127,439)	(111,459)
Subordinated Notes	(12,500)	(12,500)	(12,500)
Shareholders' Equity (Deficiency)	151,283	126,859	139,684

#### Assets

Total assets were \$470.6 million as at March 31, 2020 compared to \$395.0 million as at December 31, 2019. The increase was primarily the result of additional accounts receivable and inventories.

Inventories increased to \$168.9 million as at March 31, 2020 compared to \$157.3 million as at December 31, 2019 primarily due to inventory build up in preparation for the busier spring season.

Property, plant and equipment increased to \$124.5 million as at March 31, 2020 compared to \$123.4 million as at December 31, 2019.

#### Liabilities

Total liabilities increased to \$319.3 million as at March 31, 2020 from \$255.3 million as at December 31, 2019. The increase was primarily due to increased credit facility balance, offset by a reduction in income taxes payable and long-term debt.

#### **Outstanding Share Data**

The Company has only one class of shares outstanding, its common shares without par value. On May 7, 2020, there were 111,512,443 common shares issued and outstanding.

On April 27, 2018, the Company commenced a Normal Course Issuer Bid ("NCIB") for its common shares. Under the terms of the NCIB, the Company may purchase up to 5,841,155 of its 116,823,109 outstanding Common Shares, representing 5% of the outstanding Common Shares. For the year ended December 31, 2018, the Company purchased 1,259,471 of its Common shares for cash payments of \$1,658,175. These Common Shares purchased by the Company were cancelled.

On August 8, 2019, the Company commenced a Normal Course Issuer Bid ("NCIB") for its common shares. Under the terms of the NCIB, the Company may purchase up to 5,778,181 of its 115,563,638 outstanding Common Shares, representing 5% of the outstanding Common Shares. For the three months ended March 31, 2020, the Company purchased 8,140 of its Common shares for cash payments of \$6,405. These Common Shares purchased by the Company have been cancelled. At March 31, 2020 there were 1,726,986 remaining Common Shares permitted to be purchased by the Company per the terms of the NCIB.



# 6. Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates, and Future Accounting Changes

The significant accounting policies of Taiga are described in Note 3 to the Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended December 31, 2019.

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with IFRS requires management to make assumptions and estimates that affect the amounts reported in the financial statements and notes thereto. Financial results as determined by actual events could be different from those estimates. These estimates are described in the management's discussion and analysis for the year ended December 31, 2019 and there have been no material changes to such policies and estimates since that time.

# 7. Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements

Taiga does not have off-balance sheet arrangements except for commitments under operating leases as discussed under "Commitments and Contingencies" in this Management's Discussion and Analysis.

For a detailed description of financial instruments and their associated risks, see Note 24 to the Company's audited consolidated financial statements for the period ended December 31, 2019.

## 8. Disclosure Controls and Procedures and Internal Controls over Financial Reporting

Taiga's management is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate disclosure controls and procedures and internal controls over financial reporting ("ICFR") to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external reporting purposes in accordance with IFRS.

The CEO and CFO of Taiga acknowledge responsibility for the design of ICFR and confirm that there were no changes in these controls that occurred during the quarter ended March 31, 2020 which materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect the Company's ICFR.

# 9. Outlook

Taiga's financial performance is primarily dependent on the residential construction, renovation and repairs markets. These markets are affected by the strength or weakness in the general economy and as such are influenced by interest rates and other general market indicators.

In Canada, according to the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation ("CMHC") Housing Market Outlook, Canadian Edition for Fall 2019, housing starts are forecasted to range from 194,000 to 204,300 units in the 2020 calendar year. CMHC is reporting that housing starts is expected to recover after the decline in .2018 and 2019.

In the United States, the National Association of Home Builders reported in March 2020 that housing starts are forecasted to total 1,230,000 units in the 2020 calendar year compared to 1,300,000 units in calendar year 2019.

The recent outbreak of the coronavirus, also known as "COVID-19", has spread across the globe and is impacting worldwide economic activity. Conditions surrounding the coronavirus continue to rapidly evolve and government authorities have implemented emergency measures to mitigate the spread of the virus. As at the financial statement approval date, the outbreak and the related mitigation measures have had the following impacts on the Company's operations, among others: sales decline of approximately 30%. The extent to which these events may impact the Company's business activities will depend on future developments, such as the ultimate geographic spread of the disease, the duration of the outbreak, travel restrictions, business disruptions, and the effectiveness of actions taken



in Canada and other countries to contain and treat the disease. These events are highly uncertain and as such, the Company cannot determine the ultimate financial impacts at this time. However, the Company recognizes that there will be economic and financial challenges to be faced for the balance of the fiscal year.