

# **407 International Inc.**

Management's Discussion and Analysis March 31, 2023



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The following is management's discussion and analysis dated April 20, 2023 (the "MD&A") of the consolidated financial condition and results of operations of 407 International Inc. and its subsidiaries (the "Company") for the three-month period ended March 31, 2023. The MD&A should be read in conjunction with the interim condensed consolidated financial statements of the Company and the relaed notes (the "Financial Statements") for the same period and the consolidated financial statements of the Company and the related notes for years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021 as well as the management's discussion and analysis for the year ended December 31, 2022. Unless otherwise indicated, all financial information presented in this MD&A is in millions of Canadian dollars and is prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards ("IFRS"). Additional information about the Company, including the Financial Statements and the Company's 2022 annual information form (the "AIF"), dated February 16, 2023, can be accessed on the System for Electronic Document Analysis and Retrieval ("SEDAR") (www.sedar.com) or the Company's website at www.407etr.com. Information contained in or otherwise accessible through the website referenced in the MD&A does not form part of this MD&A and is not incorporated by reference into the MD&A.

# **FORWARD-LOOKING INFORMATION**

This MD&A includes statements about expected future events and financial and operating results that are forward-looking. Forward-looking statements may include words such as anticipate, believe, could, expect, goal, intend, may, outlook, plan, strive, target and will. These forward-looking statements, including those set out in the "Outlook" sections of the MD&A, reflect the internal projections, expectations, future growth, performance and business prospects and opportunities of the Company and are based on information currently available to the Company. Actual results and developments may differ materially from results and developments discussed in the forward-looking statements as they are subject to a number of risks and uncertainties discussed under the section entitled "Risks and Uncertainties" and are made based on certain assumptions including those relating to traffic and the operation and maintenance of Highway 407 ETR (as defined below). These forward-looking statements are also subject to the risks described in the AIF under the heading "Risk Factors". Readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on the Company's forward-looking statements and assumptions as management of the Company ("Management") cannot provide assurance that actual results or developments will be realized or, even if substantially realized, that they will have the expected consequences to, or effects on, the Company. These forward-looking statements are made as of April 20, 2023, the date of this MD&A, and are subject to change as a result of new information, future events or other circumstances, as discussed above, in which case they will be updated by the Company as required by law.

# **NON-IFRS FINANCIAL MEASURES**

This MD&A contains certain non-IFRS financial measures and ratios, including earnings before interest and other expenses, taxes, depreciation and amortization ("EBITDA") and EBITDA as a percentage of revenues ("EBITDA Margin"). Readers are cautioned that EBITDA and EBITDA Margin should not be construed as an alternative to net income or net income as a percentage of revenues as an indicator of the Company's performance. Management uses EBITDA and EBITDA Margin to assist in identifying underlying operating trends and it allows for a comparison of the Company's operating performance on a consistent basis. Readers may also use EBITDA and EBITDA Margin, among other financial measures, to assist in the valuation of the Company. A reconciliation of EBITDA to net income can be found under "Results of Operations – EBITDA".

# **COMPANY BACKGROUND**

407 International Inc. was incorporated on March 17, 1999 under the Business Corporations Act (Ontario) (the "OBCA") for the purpose of submitting a bid to the government of the Province of Ontario (the "Province") to acquire all of the issued and outstanding shares of 407 ETR Concession Company Limited ("407 ETR"). On May 5, 1999, the Company completed the acquisition of all of the issued and outstanding shares of 407 ETR. Currently, the principal business of the Company is the ownership of 407 ETR and, through 407 ETR, the operation, maintenance, management and expansion of Highway 407 ETR (see "Our Business" section below). On October 10, 2003, the Company was continued under the Canada Business Corporations Act (the "CBCA").

On December 6, 2001, 2007466 Ontario Inc. was incorporated under the OBCA. On October 10, 2003, 2007466 Ontario Inc. was continued under the CBCA under the name Canadian Tolling Company International Inc. ("Cantoll"). Cantoll owns and is responsible for the development of the integrated automation systems, the implementation and management of road-side tolling technologies and back-office systems and transponder management. 11783378 Canada Inc. ("11783378 Inc.") and 14374304 Canada Inc. ("14374304 Inc.") were incorporated under the CBCA on December 11, 2019 and September 20, 2022, respectively, to assist in the implementation of the Company's tax planning strategies. 11783378 Inc. was dissolved on February 16, 2023.

The Company has no direct or indirect subsidiaries other than 407 ETR, Cantoll, and 14374304 Inc. The registered and principal executive office of the Company, and the head office of 407 ETR, are located at 6300 Steeles Avenue West, Woodbridge, Ontario, L4H 1J1.

The current shareholders of the Company are Cintra 4352238 Investments Inc., a wholly-owned subsidiary of Cintra Global S.E. ("Cintra"); MICI Inc., 7577702 Canada Inc., Ramp Canada Roads LP and CPPIB Ramp Canada Roads Inc., subsidiaries of Canada Pension Plan Investment Board ("CPPIB"), also known as CPP Investments, and SNC-Lavalin Highway Holdings Inc., a wholly-owned subsidiary of SNC-Lavalin Group Inc.

# **OUR BUSINESS**

The Company, through its wholly-owned subsidiary 407 ETR, operates, maintains and owns the right to toll the world's first all-electronic, open-access toll highway, which is situated just north of Toronto and runs from Burlington to Pickering ("Highway 407 ETR"). The Company's mission is to serve the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area (the "GTA") by providing customers a fast, safe, reliable customer experience on and off the highway. Highway 407 ETR consists of six, eight and ten-lane sections (expandable to eight and ten lanes) from Highway 403 / Queen Elizabeth Way ("QEW") in Burlington in the west, to Brock Road in Pickering in the east for a distance of 108 kilometres.

The Company's ability to create economic value depends largely on its ability to sustain revenue growth and generate earnings and cash flows from operations growth by controlling the level of its operating expenditures while maintaining a safe highway and a high standard of customer service.

Revenue growth depends on the future demand for this alternate transportation route in the GTA and the levels of toll rates. Factors that could affect future demand include residential and commercial construction along the Highway 407 ETR corridor and the relative congestion of traditional alternative routes, such as

Highway 401 and the QEW and additional traffic from Highway 407 (as defined below in Fee Revenue). Future demand could also be affected by economic conditions such as shocks to the macroeconomic environment (changes in fuel prices, inflation, employment, general spending patterns and trends relating to work-from-home and remote work).

The Company's ability to remain profitable and improve cash flow from operating activities also depends largely upon other factors, such as its ability to finance operating and capital expenditures, interest to bondholders and income tax payments.



Please note that tolls were removed on Highways 412 and 418 on April 5, 2022.

# **SELECT KEY FINANCIAL AND TRAFFIC RESULTS**

	Three	months en	ded Marcl	h 31
	2023	2022	Ch	ange
			\$	%
Financial Results				
Revenues	294.9	236.6	58.3	24.6%
Operating Expenses (excluding depreciation &				
amortization)	52.6	42.1	10.5	24.9%
Depreciation and amortization	24.5	24.2	0.3	1.2%
Interest and other expenses	81.6	92.5	(10.9)	(11.8%)
Income before tax	136.2	77.8	58.4	75.1%
Current income tax expense	35.7	19.5	16.2	83.1%
Deferred income tax expense	0.4	1.1	(0.7)	(63.6%)
Net Income	100.1	57.2	42.9	75.0%
EBITDA	242.3	194.5	47.8	24.6%
EBITDA Margin	82.2%	82.2%	-	(0.0%)
Traffic Results			#	%
Traffic/Trips (in millions) 1	22.5	17.9	4.6	25.6%
Vehicle Kilometres Travelled ("VKTs") (in millions) <sup>2</sup>	480.1	373.9	106.2	28.4%
Average Workday Trips (in thousands)	292.3	233.3	59.0	25.3%
Average Trip Length ("ATL") (kilometres) <sup>3</sup>	21.3	20.9	0.5	2.2%
Unbillable Trips (percent) <sup>4</sup>	2.6%	3.2%	-	(19.7%)
Average Revenue per Trip (\$) <sup>5</sup>	12.73	13.03	(0.3)	(2.3%)
Transponder Penetration Rate (percent) <sup>6</sup>	81.1%	81.9%	-	(1.0%)
Number of Transponders in Circulation at March 31 <sup>7</sup>	1,676,198	1,625,219	50,979	3.1%

- 1. Trips are measured during the reporting period based on the number of vehicle transactions recorded on Highway 407 ETR.
- 2. VKTs refer to the sum of distances travelled on Highway 407 ETR during the reporting period.
- 3. ATL is calculated as the total VKTs divided by the total number of trips in the reporting period.
- 4. Unbillable Trips represents the number of trips that were not billed divided by the number of trips in the reporting period. Unbillable Trips includes unreadable transactions where a licence plate image was not captured, trips taken by vehicles from jurisdictions in which 407 ETR is unable to bill and trips taken by certain toll-exempt vehicles (such as emergency and 407 ETR service vehicles and vehicles with diplomatic plates).
- 5. Average Revenue per Trip is calculated as total revenue less revenue from Highway 407 (as defined below in Fee Revenue) over total number of trips in the reporting period.
- 6. Transponder Penetration Rate is the ratio of transponder trips to total trips in the reporting period.

# **TRAFFIC RESULTS**

Total trips for the first quarter of 2023 were higher by 25.6%, VKTs were higher by 28.4% and average workday trips were higher by 25.3% compared to the same period in 2022. ATL increased by 2.2% compared to the same period in 2022.

Traffic volumes during the first quarter of 2023 were higher than the same period in 2022 primarily due to the lifting of pandemic-related restrictions that were in place during the first quarter of 2022, which led to increased mobility and commuting to workplaces. Traffic growth was also supported by an additional workday, fewer severe winter weather events, and increased short-term construction and collisions on alternative highways in the first quarter of 2023 compared to the first quarter of 2022.

Traffic VKT performance in the first quarter of 2023 was impacted by the seasonality of traffic patterns during the winter months of the first quarter of 2023 which resulted in a natural decline in traffic volumes. Adverse winter weather conditions further contributed to the decrease in traffic volumes due to increased work-from-home levels. Additionally, the completion of the Highway 401 construction project at the beginning of December 2022 had a full impact on traffic during the first quarter of 2023.

## **RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

#### **REVENUES**

Total revenue in the first quarter of 2023 was 24.6% higher compared to the same period in 2022. The increase was due to higher traffic volumes. Average revenue per trip of \$12.73 in the first quarter of 2023 decreased by 2.3% compared to the same period in 2022.

	Three months ended March 31			
	2023 2022		Chang	je
			\$	%
Toll Revenue	264.4	213.7	50.7	23.7%
Fee Revenue	26.1	22.9	3.2	14.0%
Contract R evenue	4.4	-	4.4	100.0%
Total Revenues	294.9	236.6	58.3	24.6%

## **TOLL REVENUE**

Toll revenue in the first quarter of 2023 was higher due to higher trips (25.6%) and higher VKTs (28.4%). Camera charge revenues were higher due to increased traffic coupled with higher traffic resulting from the removal of tolls on Highways 412 and 418.

Toll revenue is influenced by the mix of customers on Highway 407 ETR, which includes video and transponder customers, the type of vehicle, time, direction and zone of travel, distance travelled per trip, trip toll charge and toll rates. Toll rates have remained unchanged since February 2020.

For further details on the Company's toll rates, please visit www.407etr.com.

Under Schedule 22 of the [Concession and Ground Lease Agreement] ("Schedule 22"), certain Highway 407 ETR traffic levels are measured against annual minimum traffic thresholds for each of the 24 segments of the highway, which escalate annually up to a prescribed lane capacity. If the traffic level measurement for a segment is below the corresponding traffic threshold, an amount calculated under Schedule 22 is payable to the Province.

The Company and the Province are in agreement that the COVID-19 pandemic is considered a Force Majeure event under the provisions of the Concession and Ground Lease Agreement, and therefore that the Company is not subject to Schedule 22 payments until the end of the Force Majeure event. The Company and the Province are also in agreement that the Force Majeure event terminates when the traffic volumes on Highway 407 ETR reach pre-pandemic levels (measured as the average of 2017 to 2019), or when there is an increase in toll rates or user charges. Upon the termination of the Force Majeure event, the Company will be subject to Schedule 22 payments, if applicable, commencing the subsequent year.

## **FEE REVENUE**

Fee revenue in the first quarter of 2023 was higher compared to the same period in 2022 primarily due to higher account fees resulting from more video trips, higher service fees due to higher traffic volumes resulting from the removal of tolls on Highways 412 and 418 and higher interest charges.

Fees include transponder lease fees, account fees relating to the maintenance and billing of non-transponder customer accounts, late payment charges, enforcement fees for past due amounts sent to the Ontario Registrar of Motor Vehicles ("Registrar") to refuse to renew or issue vehicle permits until outstanding amounts are paid or settled. Account fees are driven by the number of non-transponder customers that travel on Highway 407 ETR and are subject to seasonal fluctuation. Enforcement fees and late payment charges are applied to customers with overdue accounts.

Also included in fees are service fees related to tolling, billing and back-office services billed to the Province for Highway 407. Highway 407 begins at the eastern terminus of Highway 407 ETR at Brock Road in Pickering and extends to Highways 35/115 and Highway 412, which runs north-south and connects Highway 407 to Highway 401, and Highway 418 which connects Taunton Road to Highway 401 (collectively "Highway 407"). Tolls on Highways 412 and 418 were removed April 5, 2022. The Province maintains public ownership, sets tolls and receives toll revenues in respect of its use. The Company continues to maintain the roadside tolling technology and provide tolling, billing and back-office services (the "Tolling Agreement") for Highway 407. The operational aspect of the Tolling Agreement, which commenced in December 2015, has an initial term of 10 years and is renewable by 10-year increments for up to 30 years in total.

## **CONTRACT REVENUE**

Contract revenues earned in the first quarter of 2023 related to the reconfiguration of the road-side tolling technology in connection with the removal of tolls for Highways 412 and 418. The contract is expected to be completed mid-2023.

## **REVENUE OUTLOOK**

Management anticipates higher traffic volumes in 2023 with higher revenue than 2022.

#### **OPERATING EXPENSES**

	Three months ended March 31			
	2023	2023 2022 C		nge
			\$	%
S ys tem Operations	15.0	10.1	4.9	48.5%
Customer Operations	17.1	15.5	1.6	10.3%
Highway Operations	10.0	9.6	0.4	4.2%
General and Adminstration	8.6	6.9	1.7	24.6%
Contract Costs	1.9	-	1.9	100.0%
Total Operating Expenses	52.6	42.1	10.5	24.9%

System operations includes staff salaries and other costs for developing, operating and maintaining the Company's tolling system, office computer network and integrated automation systems. System operations costs were higher in the first quarter of 2023 compared to the same period in 2022 as a result of higher consulting and licencing costs mainly related to the Company's enterprise resource planning ("ERP") and customer relationship management ("CRM") project.

Customer operations includes costs incurred to operate the Company's call centre and customer relations group. These costs include account management salaries, transponder distribution channels, billing, customer address system access fees, ombudsman services and the collection of overdue accounts. Also included in customer operations is provision for lifetime expected credit loss ("Lifetime ECL"). Customer operations costs were higher in the first quarter of 2023 compared to the same period of 2022 as a result of a higher provision for Lifetime ECL due to higher revenues, higher billing costs and higher collections costs due to higher traffic volumes.

Highway operations costs relate to operating activities such as the maintenance of major elements of the highway system including roadway surfaces, bridges, culverts, drainage and lighting, together with seasonal maintenance, highway patrol operations, road safety enforcement and police enforcement. Highway operations expenses are seasonal in nature as winter maintenance expenses such as snow plowing and salt application, occur in the first and fourth quarters of the year and most other repairs and maintenance take place in the second and third quarters of the year. Highway operations expenses were higher in the first quarter of 2023 compared to the same period of 2022 mainly due to lower recovery of property damages.

General and administration expenses include public relations, finance, administration, facilities, human resources, business process, legal, audit and executive costs. General and administration expenses were higher in the first quarter of 2023 compared to the same period in 2022 mainly due to higher insurance expense, coupled with higher staffing costs and timing of donations and sponsorships expenses.

Contract expenses related to the reconfiguration of the road-side tolling technology in connection with the removal of tolls on Highways 412 and 418. Contract expenses were higher due to the timing of work completed.

#### **OPERATING EXPENSES OUTLOOK**

Management anticipates higher traffic volumes and higher revenues in 2023 resulting in higher customer operations expenses. Management also anticpates higher system and general and administration costs as a result of price increases.

#### **DEPRECIATION AND AMORTIZATION**

Depreciation and amortization were higher in the first quarter of 2023 compared to the same period in 2022 mainly due to higher toll highway depreciation as a result of higher traffic volumes.

## **DEPRECIATION AND AMORTIZATION OUTLOOK**

Management anticipates an increase in depreciation and amortization in 2023 as a result of higher highway depreciation due to an increase in traffic volumes.

#### INTEREST AND OTHER EXPENSES

	Three months ended March 31			ch 31
	2023	2022	Cha	nge
			\$	%
Interest expense on Bonds and Credit Facilities	107.5	100.8	6.7	6.6%
Non-cash inflation component of:				
Interest expense (recovery) RRBs	(0.5)	8.6	(9.1)	(105.8%)
Interest expense (recovery), Senior Bonds Series 04-A2	(2.8)	1.8	(4.6)	(255.6%)
Fair value adjustment recovery, Senior Bonds, Series 04-A2	(9.5)	(15.9)	6.4	40.3%
Capitalized Interest	(0.4)	(0.3)	(0.1)	(33.3%)
Total Interest Expense on Long-Term Debt	94.3	95.0	(0.7)	(0.7%)
Interest income on financial assets designated as FVTPL	(12.7)	(1.3)	(11.4)	(876.9%)
Other interest expense (recovery)	0.2	(1.0)	1.2	120.0%
Reclassification of gain and losses on cash flow hedges	(0.2)	(0.2)	-	-
Total Interest and Other Expenses	81.6	92.5	(10.9)	(11.8%)

#### INTEREST EXPENSE ON BONDS AND CREDIT FACILITIES

Interest expense on Bonds and Credit Facilities was higher by \$6.7 million in the first quarter of 2023 compared to the same period in 2022. The interest expense on the Company's senior bonds was higher by \$1.2 million in the first quarter of 2023 compared to the same period in 2022 primarily due to a higher cash interest expense on Real Return Bonds, Series 99-A6 and Series 99-A7 (together, with Real Return Bonds, Series 00-A2, the "RRBs") and Senior Bonds, Series 04-A2 due to a higher consumer price index ("CPI") opening base. The interest expense on the Company's subordinated bonds was higher by \$5.5 million in the first quarter of 2023 compared to the same period in 2022 due to the issuance of \$350.0 million of Subordinated Bonds, Series 22-D1 and \$325.0 million of Subordinated Bonds, Series 22-D2, used in part to refinance \$300.0 million of Subordinated Bonds, Series 17-D1 on September 8, 2022.

#### NON-CASH INFLATION COMPONENT OF INTEREST EXPENSE

In the first quarter of 2023, the non-cash inflation component of the RRBs was favourable by \$9.1 million and the non-cash accretion on Senior Bonds, Series 04-A2 was favourable by \$4.6 million compared to the same period in 2022, in each case, mainly due to a lower increase in the CPI level.

## FAIR VALUE ADJUSTMENT, SENIOR BONDS, SERIES 04-A2

The non-cash fair value adjustment to Senior Bonds, Series 04-A2 was unfavourable by \$6.4 million for the first quarter of 2023 compared to the same period in 2022. The non-cash fair value adjustment recovery of \$9.5 million in the first quarter of 2023 was primarily due to a decrease in the break-even inflation rate ("BEIR") partially offset by decrease in the nominal discount rate ("NDR"). The non-cash fair value adjustment recovery of \$15.9 million in the first quarter of 2022 was primarily due to significant increase in the NDR partially offset by an increase in the BEIR.

#### INTEREST INCOME ON FINANCIAL ASSETS

Interest income from cash balances and investments was higher by \$11.4 million in the first quarter of 2023 compared to the same period in 2022, due to higher interest yields on investments and cash balances and higher average cash balances.

## INTEREST AND OTHER EXPENSES OUTLOOK

With the exception of the non-cash inflation compensation component of interest expense relating to the RRBs and Senior Bonds, Series 04-A2 and the non-cash fair value adjustment on Senior Bonds, Series 04-A2, the Company expects interest and other expenses for 2023 to be higher than 2022 due to additional leverage issued in 2022.

## **INCOME TAXES**

The combined current and deferred effective tax rate was 26.5% in 2023, which was consistent with the prior year.

Current income tax expense was higher compared to 2022 primarily due to higher earnings before taxes. Deferred income tax expense for 2023 was lower compared to 2022 due to lower taxable temporary differences.

With the exception of the non-cash inflation compensation component of interest expense relating to the RRBs and Senior Bonds, Series 04-A2 and the non-cash fair value adjustment on Senior Bonds, Series 04-A2, the Company expects higher income tax expense due to higher earnings before taxes anticipated in 2023.

## **NET INCOME**

During the first quarter of 2023, the Company recorded net income of \$100.1 million representing an increase of \$42.9 million or 75% compared to \$57.2 million in the first quarter of 2022 mainly due to higher revenues resulting from higher traffic volumes, lower interest and other expenses, offset by higher income taxes and higher operating expenses.

#### **EBITDA**

	Three months ended March 31			
	2023	2022	Cha	nge
			\$	%
Net Income	100.1	57.2	42.9	75.0%
Add: Current income tax expense	35.7	19.5	16.2	83.1%
Add: Deferred income tax expense	0.4	1.1	(0.7)	(63.6%)
Add: Interest and other expenses	81.6	92.5	(10.9)	(11.8%)
Add: Depreciation and Amortization	24.5	24.2	0.3	1.2%
EBITDA	242.3	194.5	47.8	24.6%
EBITDA Margin	82.2%	82.2%		

EBITDA<sup>(1)</sup> increased by \$47.8 million to \$242.3 million in the first quarter of 2023 compared to \$194.5 million for the same period in 2022. The increase in EBITDA was a result of higher traffic volumes and revenues. EBITDA margin<sup>(1)</sup> remained consistent with the same period in 2022 at 82.2%.

## **SUMMARY OF QUARTERLY RESULTS**

Net Income and Net Income per Share	2023		202	22			2021	
(In \$ Millions, except per share amounts)	Q1	Q4	Q3	Q2	Q1	Q4	Q3	Q2
Revenues	294.9	362.5	392.0	336.1	236.6	308.7	333.1	212.2
Operating Expenses	52.6	58.1	46.4	41.8	42.1	49.0	43.9	32.8
Depreciation and amortization	24.5	26.4	25.6	23.8	24.2	28.0	26.6	23.9
Interest and other expenses	81.6	104.1	129.1	121.3	92.5	124.7	116.8	121.9
Income tax expenses	36.1	46.0	50.8	39.1	20.6	29.6	39.2	8.9
	_							
Net income	100.1	127.9	140.1	110.1	<b>57.2</b>	77.4	106.6	24.7
Net income per share (basic and diluted)	0.129	0.165	0.181	0.142	0.074	0.100	0.138	0.032

Toll and fee revenues are subject to seasonal fluctuations that may materially impact quarter-to-quarter financial results. As a result one quarter's revenues are not necessarily indicative of another quarter's revenues. Seasonal and other trends affecting the Company's revenues include factors such as economic activity, recreational travel, weather conditions, pricing structure, fuel prices, trends related to work-from-home and remote work and traffic volumes on neighbouring infrastructure. In particular, this seasonality generally results in relatively lower revenues during the first and fourth quarter, and relatively higher levels of toll and fee revenues in the remaining quarters. Due to these factors and the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on traffic volumes, the historical quarterly results should not be relied upon to predict future trends. In respect of the second, third and fourth quarters of 2022, the impact of the pandemic was less severe and reflected a steady

<sup>(1)</sup> EBITDA and EBITDA Margin are non-IFRS measures.

recovery of traffic volumes compared to the same periods in 2021. Interest expense on RRBs and Senior Bonds, Series 04-A2 is calculated based on changes in CPI; as such, interest expense in respect of RRBs and Senior Bonds, Series 04-A2 will fluctuate due to the volatility of CPI.

# **STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION ITEMS**

	March 31, 2023	December 31, 2022	Change \$
Total Current Assets	976.1	883.0	93.1
Total Non-Current Assets	4,553.3	4,565.1	(11.8)
Total Current Liabilities	212.4	215.7	(3.3)
Total Non-Current Liabilities	10,624.1	10,639.4	(15.3)
Total Shareholders' Deficit	(5,307.1)	(5,407.0)	99.9

Total current assets are comprised of cash and cash equivalents, restricted cash and investments, trade receivables and other and income tax receivable. The increase in current assets as at March 31, 2023 compared to December 31, 2022 was primarily due to higher cash and cash equivalents due to higher revenues.

Total non-current assets are comprised of restricted cash and investments, other receivables, deferred tax assets, intangible assets and property, plant and equipment. The decrease as at March 31, 2023 compared to December 31, 2022 was primarily due to lower property, plant and equipment and intangibles as a result of amortization.

Total current liabilities are comprised of trade and other payables, contract liabilities, lease obligations, accrued interest on long-term debt and the current portion of long-term debt. The decrease at March 31, 2023 compared to December 31, 2022 was mainly due to a decrease in lease obligations.

Total non-current liabilities are comprised of lease obligations, deferred tax liabilities and long-term debt. The decrease in long-term debt at March 31, 2023 compared to December 31, 2022 was due to a recovery of non-cash fair value adjustment expenses on Senior Bonds, Series 04-A2, a decrease in the non-cash inflation compensation component on the RRBs due to a minor increase in CPI and the reclassification of next repayment of Senior Bonds, Series 99-A3 from non-current liabilities to current liabilities. These decreases were offset by an increase in deferred tax liabilities.

The Company's share capital and contributed surplus remained unchanged at March 31, 2023 at \$775.0 million (775,000,003 common shares issued and outstanding) and \$29.6 million, respectively, compared to December 31, 2022. No dividends were paid to shareholders in the first quarters of 2023 and 2022.

# LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES

	Three months ended March 31		
	2023	2022	Change \$
Cash flows from operating activities	109.6	83.3	26.3
Cash flows used in investing activities	(14.2)	(23.5)	9.3
Cash flows used in financing activities	(6.9)	(6.6)	(0.3)
Increase in cash and cash equivalents	88.5	53.2	35.3
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of period	369.5	307.0	62.5
Cash and cash equivalents, end of period	458.0	360.2	97.8

Cash and cash equivalents consist of cash, government treasury bills and provincial promissory notes with maturities of three months or less and are used for working capital and other general corporate purposes. Cash and cash equivalents as at March 31, 2023 were \$458.0 million, representing an increase of \$97.8 million from March 31, 2022.

The cash increase was mainly due to cash generated from operating activities of \$109.6 million, and a decrease in non-trade receivables of \$4.7 million. These increases were partially offset by an increase in restricted cash and investments of \$10.8 million, purchases of property, plant and equipment and intangibles of \$7.2 million, the partial repayment of long-term debt of \$3.6 million, the payment of obligations under finance leases of \$3.3 million and advance payments to suppliers of \$0.9 million.

#### **CASH FLOWS GENERATED FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES**

Cash flows generated from operating activities increased by \$26.3 million in the first quarter of 2023 compared to the same period in 2022, mainly due to higher cash receipts of \$60.5 million resulting from higher revenues and timing of cash receipts from customers and higher interest income received from investments and cash balances of \$8.7 million due to higher interest yield and higher average cash balances. These cash inflows were partially offset by higher corporate income tax payments of \$23.0 million primarily due to higher earnings before taxes. Interest payments on the Company's bonds were higher by \$10.1 million compared to the prior year primarily due to higher interest payments on Subordinated Bonds issued in the prior year and higher interest payment on Senior Bonds, Series 04-A2 due to higher inflation. Cash payments for operating expenses were higher by \$9.8 million due to higher operating expenses and changes in working capital.

## **CASH FLOWS USED IN INVESTING ACTIVITIES**

Cash flows used in investing activities decreased by \$9.3 million during the first quarter of 2023 compared to the same period in 2022. Additions to property, plant and equipment and intangibles amounted to \$7.2 million during the first quarter of 2023, which was lower compared to \$13.4 million during the same period in 2022, due to the timing of additions. Non-trade receivables decreased by \$4.7 million during the first quarter of 2023 compared to a decrease of \$1.9 million during of the same period in 2022.

Advance payments to suppliers amounted to \$0.9 million during the first quarter of 2023 compared to \$2.4 million during the prior year. The net increase in restricted cash and investments of \$10.8 million was due to contributions to the Company's debt service fund of \$111.6 million and interest income received of \$5.3

million. These increases were offset by interest payments on long-term debt of \$102.5 million and the partial repayment of long-term debt of \$3.6 million.

#### **CASH FLOWS USED IN FINANCING ACTIVITIES**

Cash flows used in financing activities were \$6.9 million in the first quarter of 2023 compared to \$6.6 million in the the same period in 2022. The repayment of long-term debt amounted to \$3.6 million during the first quarter of 2023, comprised of the partial repayment of Senior Bonds, Series 99-A3 compared to the partial repayment of Senior Bonds, Series 99-A3 of \$3.4 million in the same period in 2022. Payments of obligations under finance leases amounted to \$3.3 million the first quarter of 2023 compared to \$3.2 million in the same period in 2022.

## **LIQUIDITY OUTLOOK**

The Company expects to maintain sufficient liquidity and to generate cash from operations to meet all of its ongoing obligations and to pay dividends to its shareholders, as and when determined by the board of directors of the Company. The Company expects to gradually increase debt, while maintaining existing credit ratings on all debt obligations and being in compliance with the terms of the Indenture. The additional debt, when incurred, will be used to fund operating and capital expenditures, to pay interest to debtholders, and to pay income tax while maintaining sufficient debt service coverage ratios.

## **OTHER LIQUIDITY INFORMATION**

Certain Events of Default under the Indenture would allow bondholders to declare the bonds to be immediately payable. These Events of Default are described in the Company's AIF available at <a href="https://www.sedar.com">www.sedar.com</a>.

## **FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS AND OTHER INSTRUMENTS**

The Company has a credit agreement establishing a syndicated credit facility with four Canadian chartered banks (the "Syndicated Credit Facility"). The Syndicated Credit Facility is a sustainability linked loan with three key performance Indicators ("KPIs") (green house gas, board diversity and employee health and safety) and related targets in which to be measured against on an annual basis. Annual favourable or unfavourable pricing adjustments to the drawn and undrawn portion of the Syndicated Credit Facility will be made depending on whether or not the targets for each KPI have been met. The amount available to be drawn under the Syndicated Credit Facility is \$800.0 million.

As at March 31, 2023 and December 31, 2022, the Company had not drawn any amounts under the Syndicated Credit Facility.

#### LONG-TERM DEBT

Long-term debt was used to finance the acquisition of Highway 407 ETR from the Province and to finance the construction of Highway 407 ETR extensions, widening projects, deferred interchanges, operating and capital expenditures, interest to bondholders, corporate income tax payments and other general corporate purposes.

#### **DERIVATIVE FINANCIAL INSTRUMENT**

Senior Bonds, Series 04-A2 is a derivative financial instrument and is reported at fair value. The Company is obligated to make semi-annual cash payments to the holders of Senior Bonds, Series 04-A2 (consisting of principal and interest), determined by the product of \$13.0 million and the applicable CPI at the time of payment divided by the applicable CPI at time of issue.

#### **EARNINGS COVERAGE**

Earnings coverage is calculated as income before income tax expenses and interest expense on long-term debt less interest expense on long-term debt. Earnings coverage ratio is income before income tax expenses and interest expense on long-term debt, divided by interest expense on long-term debt. Earnings coverage and earnings coverage ratio are provided pursuant to and in compliance with National Instrument 44-102 Shelf Distributions of the Canadian Securities Administrators.

	Twelve mont	h period e	nded Ma	rch 31
	2023	2022	Chan	ige
			\$	%
Income before income tax expenses and interest expense on long-				
term debt	1121.2	827.1	294.1	35.6%
Interest expense on long-term debt	471.0	462.9	8.1	1.7%
Earnings Coverage	650.2	364.2	286.0	78.5%

The Company's earnings coverage ratios were 2.38 times and 1.79 times for the twelve month periods ended March 31, 2023 and 2022, respectively. The Company's earnings coverage ratio is different from the Company's debt service coverage ratio under the Indenture.

# **OVERVIEW OF CURRENT OPERATIONS**

## **CONSTRUCTION**



The Company continues to improve Highway 407 ETR as needed through construction projects designed to increase capacity and improve traffic flow and customer convenience, including investments in widening bridge structures and adding new lanes. The Company also regularly undertakes various rehabilitation initiatives designed to improve and replace existing elements of Highway 407 ETR infrastructure, such as resurfacing the asphalt pavement, replacing concrete pavement, replacing and relining culverts under and along Highway 407 ETR and rehabilitating various bridge structures in order to continue to provide customers with fast, safe and reliable travel.

The Company also completed the detailed design of the inside widening of Highway 407 ETR between Highway 404 and Markham Road. Construction is expected to commence in first half of 2027.

#### **INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**



The Company continues to maintain and enhance its back-office systems. Formal processes are in place to identify, evaluate and implement potential system enhancements to ensure continued alignment with business strategies. The Company continues to focus on enhancing the core capabilities of capturing and processing vehicle information with continued investments in roadside network equipment, camera technology, and the operation of front-image capture system.

Additional system enhancements include collections processing, business process management, advanced traffic management, asset management, data management and analytics. The Company continues to enhance the security, functionality, and scalability of its self-service (website and interactive voice response) systems.

Work continued in the first quarter of 2023 on a significant project that will ultimately result in the implementation of a new ERP and CRM solution. This initiative will ultimately involve the majority of 407 ETR back-office processes and systems. A phased approach has been undertaken to manage implementation risks and 407 ETR has developed a release strategy that will balance the demands of introducing functionality while assuring quality and stability of business operations. The Company plans to go-live with a select customer group towards the end of 2023.

#### **CUSTOMER SERVICE**



	Three months ended March 31			
	2023 2022		Chang	ge
			#	%
Inbound Calls (personal and business support)	118,947	97,514	21,433	22.0%
Live chat (including Turbo)	34,925	13,632	21,293	156.2%
Email	14,493	7,052	7,441	105.5%
Interactive Voice Response ("IVR")	168,365	118,198	50,167	42.4%
Total	336,730	236,396	100,334	42.4%

The Company's customer service representatives ("CSRs") service calls while the Digital Support Specialists facilitate live conversations with customers and the general public through the Company's "Chat with an Expert" function. During the first quarter of 2023, the Company launched "Turbo", a first-channel interaction artificial intelligence chatbot. A dedicated business queue was also created to separate business accounts from personal accounts to improve the customer experience and reduce wait times. As a result, the average wait time required for a customer to speak with a CSR was 22 seconds lower compared to the same period in 2022. The Company continues to provide convenient self-service options for payments and updates through its website, IVR or automated telephone attendant and text or email. During the first quarter of 2023 approximately 600 thousand web accounts were transitioned to paperless billing to facilitate better account management.

#### **407 ETR IN THE COMMUNITY**



407 ETR is focused on making life better for customers and surrounding communities. The Company engages with a variety of stakeholders and community organizations through its memberships in industry associations and its support of not-for-profit and charitable organizations.

The Company continues to support biodiversity and announced a three-year sponsorship with the Canadian Wildlife Federation in support of its Rights-of-Way as Habitat Program which aims to enhance monarch butterfly and pollinator habitats along roadsides in the GTA. Through this sponsorship, 407 ETR will support the restoration of 12 hectares along the monarch butterfly migration route that closely follows Highway 407 ETR.

Investing in the health and well-being of communities remains a corporate priority. In the first quarter of 2023, 407 ETR donated \$150,000 to support local hospitals and rehabilitation centres across the GTA.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL AND GOVERNANCE REPORTING**



The Company's approach to Environmental, Social and Governance Reporting ('ESG") practices is driven by its mission, vision and values and is directly linked to its core strategic objectives.

The Company believes that transparency and accountability to its investors and stakeholders regarding ESG commitments is critically important. Starting in 2022, the Company adopted leading ESG reporting frameworks, specifically the Sustainability Accounting Standards Board Standards and the recommendations of the Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures for its annual ESG reporting.

The Company has targeted a 25% reduction in Scope 1 and Scope 2 green house gas ("GHG") emissions by 2030 relative to the 2018 benchmark year. 407 ETR continues to work with the ClimateWise Business Network for York Region to assist with its sustainability efforts, particularly for the measurement, reporting and reduction of GHG emissions.

407 ETR recognizes the effects of the increased frequency and potential impacts of extreme weather events due to climate change, such as heavy rainfall resulting in flooding and more extreme winter conditions. These effects may lead to more frequent or extensive damage to infrastructure or roadside tolling equipment, localized disruption to highway operations and traffic levels. Increasingly severe weather events could lead to additional costs, including those for managing response times, maintaining service levels, and addressing actual or potential impacts to infrastructure or equipment. 407 ETR follows a preventative maintenance plan that takes into account the effects of climate change in the design, rehabilitation and construction of highway infrastructure and roadside tolling equipment.

# **RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES**

The risks and uncertainties and risk management practices of the Company including risks related to toll revenues, operations and maintenance, information technology, debt rating and climate change have not changed in the first quarter of 2023 and are described in the Company's management's discussion and analysis for the year ended December 31, 2022 and the AIF available at <a href="https://www.sedar.com">www.sedar.com</a>.

#### **CREDIT RISK**

Financial assets that are exposed to credit risk consist primarily of cash and cash equivalents, trade receivables and other, and restricted cash and investments.

The Company is exposed to credit loss in the event of non-performance by counterparties to derivative instruments that have a positive fair value, cash and cash equivalents, short-term investments and restricted cash and investments. The Company manages this risk by dealing with reputable organizations having high-quality credit ratings from independent credit rating agencies. The Board sets exposure limits and these are monitored on an ongoing basis.

Concentration of credit risk with respect to trade receivables is minimized due to the millions of accounts comprising the Company's customer base. The amounts disclosed in the statements of financial position are net of the allowance for Lifetime ECL and certain amounts that are billed to customers but excluded from revenues in accordance with the Company's revenue recognition policy for toll and fee revenues. The allowance for Lifetime ECL is estimated based on prior experience, anticipated collection strategies and ultimate recovery of balances for which collection is uncertain.

Trade receivables and other are aged as follows:

	March 31, 2023 December 31, 2022
Unbilled	81.4 72
0 to 60 days	70.6
60 to 90 days	15.2
90 to 120 days	9.3
121 to 150 days	7.6
151 + days	52.9 55
Sub-total <sup>1</sup>	237.0 245
Other <sup>2</sup>	17.1
Total	254.1 264

<sup>1.</sup> Amounts are net of allowance for Lifetime ECL and certain amounts that are billed to cutomers, but excluded from revenues in accordance with the revenue recogniton policy for toll and fee revenue.

In accordance with the revenue recognition policy, toll revenues are recognized on the date trips are taken on Highway 407 ETR. Tolls and other charges are recorded in trade receivables as "Unbilled" until invoiced. The provision for Lifetime ECL is based principally on historical collection rates and Management's expectation of success rates for collection of overdue accounts by the Registrar through Licence Plate Denial as well as

<sup>2.</sup> Other consists of salt inventory, prepaids, other non-trade receivables and an advance payment to supplier.

Management's expectation of success rates for collection through collection agencies and legal proceedings. When a licence plate associated with a customer's unpaid 407 ETR account becomes unattached from the vehicle or expired, the Registrar is required to refuse to renew another single vehicle permit issued to the same customer or issue a vehicle permit to that customer. The legislation affording 407 ETR the right to Licence Plate Denial requires that a series of notices be sent to customers with delinquent accounts. This process takes a minimum of 150 days from the date an invoice is sent until a customer is subject to Licence Plate Denial, followed by up to two years before a customer's licence plate is subject to renewal. The Licence Plate Denial process, together with other collection strategies, results in the successful collection of net trade receivables that are more than 151 days past due. The provision for Lifetime ECL could materially change and may result in significant changes to trade receivables balances as Management continues to monitor the collection of outstanding 407 ETR charges.

In addition to the collection of 407 ETR customers' overdue accounts through the Licence Plate Denial process, Management continues to assign certain delinquent accounts to third party collection agencies utilizing various programs, employ internal collections staff and take legal action where necessary. In conducting collections litigation, 407 ETR may from time to time receive judicial decisions that impact its ability to recover delinquent amounts through civil proceedings and could result in a material change to the allowance for Lifetime ECL.

Management continuously monitors the collection of overdue in determining the allowance for Lifetime ECL. The Company considers a number of factors affecting the likelihood of collection. In determining the collectability of customer accounts, the Company does not obtain information about the credit quality of customers whose accounts are not overdue or not impaired.

An increase of 1 percent in the weighted-average provision rate would have increased the provision for Lifetime ECL by approximately \$2.9 million (2022 - \$2.4 million) and decreased net income by approximately \$2.2 million (2022 - \$1.7 million) for the three-month period ended March 31, 2023.

## **LIQUIDTY RISK**

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Company will not be able to meet its financial obligations as they become due. Cash flow projections are prepared by Management and reviewed by the Board to ensure sufficient continuity of funding. The Company manages its liquidity risk by dispersing the contractual maturity dates of its financial liabilities, thereby ensuring the Company is not exposed to excessive refinancing risk during any given year. Further, the Company seeks to maintain an optimal level of liquidity through maximizing cash flows by actively pursuing the collection of its trade receivables and by controlling the level of operating and capital expenditures. Cash and cash equivalents and restricted cash and investments are invested in highly-liquid interest-bearing investments.

The following are the Company's commitments, contractual maturities and related interest obligations as at March 31, 2023:

	Less than 1 year		1 to 2 years	2 to 3 years	3 to 4 years	4 to 5 years	Beyond 5 years
Trade and other payables	\$	51.5	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Contract liabilities		21.3	-	-	-	-	-
Lease obligations		1.6	0.7	0.4	0.2	0.1	0.2
Interest payments on lease obligations		0.1	-	0.1	-	-	_
Long-term debt		21.7	273.0	374.3	721.0	377.3	7,479.2
Derivative financial liability		12.1	12.1	12.1	12.1	12.1	139.3
Interest payments on long-term debt		393.7	388.2	379.5	375.0	350.3	3,945.5
	\$5	02.0	\$674.0	\$766.4	\$1,108.3	\$739.8	\$11,564.2

Interest payments on long-term debt and lease obligations are funded by proceeds from long-term debt and the Company's cash generated from operations.

The Company does not have any scheduled bond maturities until May 2024, when the \$250.0 million Senior Bonds, Series 14-A1, are scheduled to mature. The Company is confident in its ability to refinance this maturity with similar bond instruments.

#### INTEREST RATE RISK

As at March 31, 2023, all long-term debt is fixed rate debt (except for the inflation-linked bonds as described below); therefore, changes in interest rates do not impact interest payments on its current bonds but may impact the fair value of such long-term debt.

The Company also manages this risk by investing its cash and cash equivalents and restricted cash and investments in debt instruments with credit ratings equal to or higher than those required by the Indenture. A decrease of 25 basis points in interest rates would have decreased interest income by approximately \$0.7 million (2022 - \$0.7 million) and net income by approximately \$0.5 million (2022 - \$0.5 million) for the first quarter of 2023.

#### INFLATION RISK

The Company is exposed to inflation risk as interest expense and debt service payments relating to RRBs and Senior Bonds, Series 04-A2 are linked to the CPI. An increase of 50 basis points in the CPI would have increased interest expense by approximately \$7.5 million (2022 - \$7.0 million), decreased net income by approximately \$5.5 million (2022 - \$5.1 million) and increased debt service payments by approximately \$0.1 million (2022 - \$0.2 million) for the first quarter of 2023. BEIR is highly volatile and may lead to significant changes in the fair value of Senior Bonds, Series 04-A2 that may not be representative of actual inflation paid or to be paid to the Senior Bonds, Series 04-A2 bondholders. An increase of 10 basis points in the BEIR would have increased interest expense by approximately \$3.8 million (2022 - \$4.4 million) and decreased net income by approximately \$2.8 million (2022 - \$3.2 million). A decrease of 10 basis points in the BEIR would have reduced interest expense by approximately \$3.7 million (2022 - \$4.4 million) and increased net income by approximately \$2.7 million (2022 - \$3.2 million) for the first quarter of 2023.

# **ACCOUNTING MATTERS**

#### **ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

The Financial Statements are prepared in accordance with IFRS. The Company has identified the accounting policies and estimates that are critical to the understanding of the Company's operations and financial results, which have been disclosed in the Financial Statements.

## **FUTURE CHANGES IN ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

The following amendment is effective for annual reporting periods beginning on or after January 1, 2024. The Company has assessed the impacts of the amendments and concluded no material impact on the Financial Statements.

## IAS 1 Presentation of Financial Statements - Non-current Liabilities with Covenants ("IAS 1"):

IAS 1 requires a company to classify debt as non-current only if the company can avoid settling the debt in the 12 months after the reporting date. However, a company's ability to do so is often subject to complying with covenants. For example, a company might have long-term debt that could become repayable within 12 months if the company fails to comply with covenants in that 12-month period.

The amendments to IAS 1 specify that covenants to be complied with after the reporting date do not affect the classification of debt as current or non-current at the reporting date. Instead, the amendments require a company to disclose information about these covenants in the notes to the financial statements.

## **CRITICAL ACCOUNTING ESTIMATES**

The preparation of the Financial Statements in conformity with IFRS requires Management to make certain judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the application of accounting policies and the reported amounts of assets and liabilities as at the date of the Financial Statements, the reported amounts of revenues and expenses of the reporting period, as well as disclosures made in the notes accompanying the Financial Statements. Judgement is commonly used in determining whether a balance or transaction should be recognized in the Financial Statements, and estimates and assumptions are more commonly used in determining the measurement of recognized transactions and balances. However, judgements and estimates are often interrelated. These estimates and associated assumptions are based on past experience and other factors that are considered relevant. Actual results could differ materially from these estimates.

# **RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**

Transactions with related parties are measured at their exchange amounts, which is the consideration agreed to by the parties. For the three months ended March 31, 2023 and 2022 the Company paid \$0.1 (2022 - \$0.2) for administration costs included in operating expenses to the subsidiary of its shareholder, Cintra. Amounts owed to Cintra included in current liabilities as at March 31, 2023 are \$0.4 (December 31, 2022 - \$0.3).

# **OVERALL OUTLOOK**

The outlook for 2023 is positive with revenue growth driven by higher traffic volumes. The Company is focused on driving traffic growth while managing expenses, maintaining a high level of customer satisfaction and achieving efficiencies throughout the organization. As a result, 2023 earnings before income tax expense and interest expense are expected to be higher than 2022.