



HIGH LINER FOODS

FIRST QUARTER REPORT TO SHAREHOLDERS

Thirteen weeks ended April 1, 2023



HIGH LINER FOODS

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

For the thirteen weeks ended April 1, 2023

(All amounts are in United States dollars unless otherwise stated)

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction	1
Forward-Looking Statements	1
Company Overview	3
Outlook	3
Recent Developments	4
Performance	4
Results by Quarter	8
Business Acquisition, Integration and Other Expense	8
Finance Costs	9
Income Taxes	9
Contingencies	9
Liquidity and Capital Resources	9
Related Party Transactions	14
Non-IFRS Financial Measures	15
Governance	19
Accounting Estimates and Standards	19
Risk Factors	20

INTRODUCTION

This Management's Discussion and Analysis ("MD&A"), dated May 16, 2023, relates to the financial condition and results of operations of High Liner Foods Incorporated for the thirteen weeks ended April 1, 2023, compared to the thirteen weeks ended April 2, 2022. Throughout this discussion, "We", "Us", "Our", "Company" and "High Liner Foods" refer to High Liner Foods Incorporated and its businesses and subsidiaries.

This document should be read in conjunction with the Company's 2022 Annual Consolidated Financial Statements, 2022 Annual MD&A and Unaudited Condensed Interim Consolidated Financial Statements as at and for the thirteen weeks ended April 1, 2023 ("Consolidated Financial Statements"), prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards ("IFRS"). The information contained in this document, including forward-looking statements, is based on information available to Management as of May 16, 2023, except as otherwise noted.

Currency

All amounts in this MD&A are in United States dollars ("USD"), unless otherwise noted. Although the functional currency of High Liner Foods' Canadian company (the "Parent") is the Canadian dollar ("CAD"), management believes the USD presentation better reflects the Company's overall business activities and improves investors' ability to compare the Company's consolidated financial results with other publicly traded businesses in the packaged foods industry (most of which are based in the United States ("U.S.") and report in USD) and should result in less volatility in reported sales and income on the conversion into the presentation currency.

For the purpose of presenting the Consolidated Financial Statements in USD, CAD-denominated assets and liabilities in the Parent's operations are converted using the exchange rate at the reporting date, and revenue and expenses are converted at the average exchange rate of the month in which the transaction occurs. As such, foreign currency fluctuations affect the reported values of individual lines on our balance sheet and income statement. When the USD strengthens (weakening CAD), the reported USD values of the Parent's CAD-denominated items decrease in the Consolidated Financial Statements, and the opposite occurs when the USD weakens (strengthening CAD).

In some parts of this document, balance sheet and operating items of the Parent are discussed in the CAD functional currency (the "domestic currency" of the Parent) to eliminate the effect of fluctuating foreign exchange rates used to translate the Parent's operations to the USD presentation currency.

FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This MD&A contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of securities laws. In particular, these forward-looking statements are based on a variety of factors and assumptions that are discussed throughout this document. In addition, these statements and expectations concerning the performance of the business in general are based on a number of factors and assumptions including, but not limited to: availability, demand and prices of raw materials, energy and supplies; the condition of the Canadian and American economies; product pricing; foreign exchange rates, especially the rate of exchange of the CAD to the USD; the ability to attract and retain customers; operating costs and improvement to operating efficiencies; interest rates; continued access to capital; the competitive environment and related market conditions; and the general assumption that none of the risks identified below or elsewhere in this document will materialize.

Specific forward-looking statements in this document include, but are not limited to: statements with respect to: future growth strategies and their impact on the Company's market share and shareholder value; anticipated financial performance, including earnings trends and growth; achievement, and timing of achievement, of strategic goals and publicly stated financial targets, including to increase our market share, acquire and integrate other businesses and reduce operating and supply chain costs; the ability to develop new and innovative products that result in increased sales and market share; increased demand for the Company's products whether due to the recognition of the health benefits of seafood or otherwise; inflation, changes in costs for seafood and other raw

materials; any proposed disposal of assets and/or operations; increases or decreases in processing costs; the USD/CAD exchange rate; percentage of sales from the Company's brands; expectations with regards to sales volume, earnings, product margins, product innovations, brand development and anticipated financial performance; competitor reaction to Company strategies and actions; impact of price increases or decreases on future profitability; sufficiency of working capital facilities; future income tax rates; the expected amount and timing of integration activities related to acquisitions; expected leverage levels and expected Net Debt to Adjusted EBITDA; statements under the "outlook" heading including expected demand, sales of new product, the efficiency of plant production and U.S. tariffs on certain seafood products imported from China; economic and geopolitical conditions such as Russia's invasion of Ukraine and the implementation and/or expansion of related sanctions; impact of the inflationary environment, expected amount and timing of cost savings related to the optimization of the Company's structure; decreased leverage in the future; estimated capital spending; future inventory trends, valuation and seasonality; market forces and the maintenance of existing customer and supplier relationships; availability of credit facilities; the projection of excess cash flow and minimum repayments under the Company's long-term loan facility; expected decreases in debt-to-capitalization ratio; dividend payments; and the amount and timing of the capital expenditures in excess of normal requirements to allow the movement of production between plants.

Forward-looking statements can generally be identified by the use of the conditional tense, the words "may", "should", "would", "could", "believe", "plan", "expect", "intend", "anticipate", "estimate", "foresee", "objective", "goal", "remain" or "continue" or the negative of these terms or variations of them or words and expressions of similar nature. Actual results could differ materially from the conclusion, forecast or projection stated in such forward-looking information. As a result, we cannot guarantee that any forward-looking statements will materialize. Assumptions, expectations and estimates made in the preparation of forward-looking statements and risks that could cause our actual results to differ materially from our current expectations are discussed in detail in the Company's materials filed with the Canadian securities regulatory authorities from time to time, including the *Risk Factors* section of our 2022 MD&A and the *Risk Factors* section of our 2022 Annual Information Form ("AIF"). The risks and uncertainties that may affect the operations, performance, development and results of High Liner Foods' business include, but are not limited to, the following factors: compliance with food safety laws and regulations; timely identification of and response to events that could lead to a product recall; volatility in the CAD/USD exchange rate; competitive developments including increases in overseas seafood production and industry consolidation; availability and price of seafood raw materials and finished goods and the impact of geopolitical events (and related economic sanctions) on the same; the impact of the U.S. Trade Representative's tariffs on certain seafood products; costs of commodity products, freight, storage and other production inputs, and the ability to pass cost increases on to customers; successful integration of acquired operations; potential increases in maintenance and operating costs; shifts in market demands for seafood; performance of new products launched and existing products in the market place; changes in laws and regulations, including environmental, taxation and regulatory requirements; technology changes with respect to production and other equipment and software programs; enterprise resource planning system risk; adverse impacts of cybersecurity attacks or breach of sensitive information; supplier fulfillment of contractual agreements and obligations; competitor reactions; completion and/or advancement of sustainability initiatives, including, without limitation, initiatives relating to the carbon work plan, waste reduction and/or seafood sustainability and traceability initiatives; High Liner Foods' ability to generate adequate cash flow or to finance its future business requirements through outside sources; credit risk associated with receivables from customers; volatility associated with the funding status of the Company's post-retirement pension benefits; adverse weather conditions and natural disasters; the availability of adequate levels of insurance; management retention and development; economic and geopolitical conditions such as Russia's invasion of Ukraine and the implementation and/or expansion of related sanctions policies; and the potential impact of a pandemic outbreak of a contagious illness, such as COVID-19 pandemic, on general economic and business conditions and therefore the Company's operations and financial performance.

Forward-looking information is based on management's current estimates, expectations and assumptions, which we believe are reasonable as of the current date. You should not place undue importance on forward-looking information and should not rely upon this information as of any other date. Except as required under applicable securities laws, we do not undertake to update these forward-looking statements, whether written or oral, that may

be made from time to time by us or on our behalf, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

COMPANY OVERVIEW

High Liner Foods, through its predecessor companies, has been in business since 1899 and has been a publicly traded Canadian company since 1967, trading under the symbol 'HLF' on the Toronto Stock Exchange ("TSX"). We are a leading North American processor and marketer of value-added (i.e. processed) frozen seafood, producing a wide range of products from breaded and battered items to seafood entrées, that are sold to North American food retailers and foodservice distributors. In addition, we are a major supplier of commodity products in the North American market. The retail channel includes grocery and club stores and our products are sold throughout the U.S. and Canada under the *High Liner*, *Fisher Boy*, *Mirabel*, *Sea Cuisine* and *Catch of the Day* labels. The foodservice channel includes sales of seafood that is usually eaten outside the home and our branded products are sold through distributors to restaurants and institutions under the *High Liner*, *Mirabel*, *Icelandic Seafood*¹ and *FPI* labels. The Company is also a major supplier of private-label value-added frozen premium seafood products to North American food retailers and foodservice distributors.

We own and operate three food-processing plants located in Lunenburg, Nova Scotia ("N.S."), Portsmouth, New Hampshire, and Newport News, Virginia.

Although our roots are in the Atlantic Canadian fishery, we purchase all our seafood raw material and some finished goods from around the world. From our headquarters in Lunenburg, N.S., we have transformed our long and proud heritage into global seafood expertise. We deliver on the expectations of consumers by selling seafood products that respond to their demands for sustainable, convenient, tasty and nutritious seafood, at good value.

Additional information relating to High Liner Foods, including our most recent Annual Information Form ("AIF"), is available on SEDAR at www.sedar.com and in the Investor Center section of the Company's website at www.highlinerfoods.com.

OUTLOOK

Inflationary and economic pressures are increasingly impacting consumer purchasing decisions related to dining outside the home and grocery purchases. While High Liner Foods is not immune to the potential negative impact on the business, the Company is well positioned to navigate evolving market conditions as a result of the diversification of the Company's business, customers, and portfolio.

High Liner Foods remains confident in the outlook of the business, the Company's ability to navigate near-term recessionary challenges and the Company's ability to deliver annual year over year Sales and Adjusted EBITDA growth. The Company is focused on making improvements in working capital, which through the course of the year, will allow us to generate significant cash flow from operations and create value for all stakeholders.

The Company has a strong balance sheet and is well equipped to invest in organic growth, explore opportunities for transformative growth through potential M&A activities to build shareholder value and continue to grow the dividend over time.

¹ In December 2011, as part of the acquisition of the U.S. subsidiary of Icelandic Group h.f, the Company acquired several brands and agreed to a seven year royalty-free licensing agreement with Icelandic Group for the use of the Icelandic Seafood brand in the U.S., Canada and Mexico. In April 2018, the Company executed a seven-year brand license agreement for the continued use of the Icelandic Seafood brand in the U.S. and Canada with royalty payments effective January 2019 (1.5% on net sales of products sold under the Icelandic Seafood brand).

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

Global Supply Chain and Economic Conditions

During Fiscal 2022 the Company was challenged by global supply chain disruptions and experienced shipping delays and raw material supply challenges, port congestion and shutdowns. These challenges improved during the fourth quarter of Fiscal 2022 and into the first quarter of Fiscal 2023, however they have yet to normalize to pre-pandemic levels. To mitigate the impact on its performance and customers the Company increased their investment in working capital in the second half of Fiscal 2022 which has carried over into the first quarter of Fiscal 2023 and supported the strong service levels we deliver to our customers.

The Company continues to navigate the inflationary environment and other macroeconomic factors including rising interest rates which are increasingly impacting consumer confidence and discretionary spending. The Company continued to take inflation-justified pricing actions as needed during the quarter to manage the inflationary operating environment. While the Company's foodservice business continues to remain strong, the inflationary pressures have resulted in the retail business experiencing declines as consumers are becoming more price conscious.

See the risk sections in the 2022 MD&A for further discussion of the impact of the geopolitical environment on the Company's risk assessment.

U.S. Tariffs

In September 2018, the U.S. Trade Representative ("USTR") commenced trade discussions with China that resulted in various actions impacting the Company related to additional tariffs on goods imported to the U.S. During March 2022, the Company received notice of approval of an exclusion extension request submitted to the USTR regarding tariffs on certain goods imported to the U.S. from China. The extension applied to tariffs already incurred, or that would otherwise have been incurred, on specific goods from October 12, 2021 to December 31, 2022. On December 16, 2022 the USTR announced that it will further extend this exclusion which will be applicable from January 1, 2023 to September 30, 2023.

The estimated annual run-rate exposure of the 25% tariff would have been approximately \$8.0 million before the extended exclusion based on current volume and raw material costs; however, the Company has implemented plans, including pricing actions and other supply chain initiatives, to mitigate the impact of these tariffs and reduce the estimated impact to the Company and its customers.

The Company will continue to monitor these developments closely, particularly if further information becomes available regarding potential additional tariffs or exclusions, or how the previously announced tariffs and exclusions will impact the Company.

PERFORMANCE

This discussion and analysis of the Company's financial results focuses on the performance of the consolidated North American operations, the Company's single operating and reporting segment.

Seasonality

Overall, the first quarter of the year is historically the strongest for both sales and profit, and the second quarter is the weakest. Both our retail and foodservice businesses traditionally experience a strong first quarter due to retailers and restaurants promoting seafood during the Lenten period. As such, the timing of Lent can impact our quarterly results.

A significant percentage of advertising and promotional activity is typically done in the first quarter. Customer-specific promotional expenditures such as trade spending, listing allowances and couponing are deducted from

"Sales" and non-customer-specific consumer marketing expenditures are included in selling, general and administrative expenses.

Inventory levels fluctuate throughout the year, most notably increasing to support strong sales periods such as the Lenten period. In addition, the timing of ordering raw materials is earlier than typically required in order to have adequate quantities available during the seasonal closure of plants in Asia during the Lunar New Year period. These events typically result in significantly higher inventories in December, January, February and March than during the rest of the year.

Consolidated Performance

The table below summarizes key consolidated financial information for the relevant periods.

(in \$000s, except sales volume, per share amounts, percentage amounts, and exchange rates)	Thirteen weeks ended				
	April 1, 2023		April 2, 2022		Change
Sales volume (millions of lbs)		77.0		73.4	3.6
Average foreign exchange rate (USD/CAD)	\$	1.3526	\$	1.2661	\$ 0.0865
Sales	\$	329,164	\$	294,735	\$ 34,429
Gross profit	\$	68,405	\$	62,014	\$ 6,391
Gross profit as a percentage of sales		20.8%		21.0%	(0.2%)
Distribution expenses	\$	17,278	\$	17,111	\$ 167
Selling, general and administrative expenses	\$	27,832	\$	22,441	\$ 5,391
Adjusted EBITDA ⁽¹⁾	\$	31,199	\$	28,340	\$ 2,859
Adjusted EBITDA as a percentage of sales		9.5%		9.6%	(0.1%)
Net income	\$	13,888	\$	14,645	\$ (757)
Basic Earnings per Share ("EPS")	\$	0.41	\$	0.43	\$ (0.02)
Diluted EPS	\$	0.40	\$	0.42	\$ (0.02)
Adjusted Net Income ⁽¹⁾	\$	16,437	\$	15,068	\$ 1,369
Adjusted Basic EPS	\$	0.49	\$	0.44	\$ 0.05
Adjusted Diluted EPS ⁽¹⁾	\$	0.48	\$	0.43	\$ 0.05
Total assets	\$	955,281	\$	838,513	\$ 116,768
Total long-term financial liabilities	\$	247,937	\$	259,464	\$ (11,527)
Dividends paid per common share (in CAD)	\$	0.13	\$	0.10	\$ 0.03

⁽¹⁾ See the *Non-IFRS Financial Measures* section starting on page 15 for further explanation of Adjusted EBITDA, Adjusted Net Income and Adjusted Diluted EPS.

Sales

Sales volume in the first quarter of 2023 increased by 3.6 million pounds, or 4.9%, to 77.0 million pounds compared to 73.4 million pounds in the same period in the prior year. In our foodservice business, sales volume was higher due to increased sales in newer product lines, new business, an increase in our contract manufacturing business and improved customer service levels. The Company achieved strong service levels during the first quarter of 2023, as compared to the first quarter of 2022 due to the increased investment in working capital in the latter part of Fiscal 2022 to mitigate the impact of the global supply chain challenges. This was partially offset by lower sales volume in our retail business during the Lenten period primarily due to consumers becoming more price-conscious, resulting in softer demand for protein, including seafood products as consumers switched to lower cost meal solutions.

Sales in the first quarter of 2023 increased by \$34.5 million, or 11.7%, to \$329.2 million compared to \$294.7 million in the same period in the prior year. The increase in sales reflects the higher sales volumes mentioned above and pricing actions implemented during Fiscal 2022 and the first quarter of 2023 to mitigate inflationary increases on input costs.

The weaker Canadian dollar in the first quarter of 2023 compared to the first quarter of 2022 however, decreased the value of reported USD sales from our CAD-denominated operations by approximately \$4.4 million relative to the conversion impact last year.

Gross Profit

Gross profit increased in the first quarter of 2023 by \$6.4 million, or 10.3%, to \$68.4 million compared to \$62.0 million in the same period in the prior year, while gross profit as a percentage of sales decreased by 20 basis points to 20.8%, compared to 21.0%. The increase in gross profit reflects the higher sales volume and pricing actions discussed previously, despite inflationary increases in input costs, as well as some improvement in operating efficiencies at our plants, partially offset by a change in product mix.

The weaker Canadian dollar decreased the value of reported USD gross profit from our Canadian operations in 2023 by approximately \$0.8 million relative to the conversion impact last year.

Distribution Expenses

Distribution expenses, consisting of freight and storage, increased in the first quarter of 2023 by \$0.2 million to \$17.3 million compared to \$17.1 million in the same period in the prior year reflecting higher sales volume and storage costs as a result of higher inventory levels. This increase was partially offset by lower freight costs in the first quarter of 2023 as compared to the first quarter of 2022 during which time, freight costs peaked as a result of the global supply chain challenges. As a percentage of sales, distribution expenses decreased favourably to 5.2% in the first quarter of 2023 compared to 5.8% in the same period in 2022.

Selling, General and Administrative ("SG&A") Expenses

(Amounts in \$000s)	Thirteen weeks ended	
	April 1, 2023	April 2, 2022
SG&A expenses, as reported	\$ 27,832	\$ 22,441
Less:		
Share-based compensation expense ⁽¹⁾	1,907	159
Depreciation and amortization expense ⁽¹⁾	2,631	2,533
SG&A expenses, net	\$ 23,294	\$ 19,749
SG&A expenses, net as a percentage of sales	7.1%	6.7%

⁽¹⁾ Represents share-based compensation expense and depreciation and amortization expense that is allocated to SG&A only. The remaining expense is allocated to cost of sales and distribution expenses.

SG&A expenses increased by \$5.4 million to \$27.8 million in the first quarter of 2023 as compared to \$22.4 million in the same period in the prior year. SG&A expenses included share-based compensation expense of \$1.9 million in the first quarter of 2023 compared to \$0.2 million in the same period in the prior year, primarily due to an increase in the share price performance in the first quarter of 2023 compared to the same period last year for both exercised and outstanding units during and at the end of the quarter, respectively. SG&A expenses also included depreciation and amortization expense of \$2.6 million in the first quarter of 2023 compared to \$2.5 million in the same period in the prior year.

Excluding share-based compensation and depreciation and amortization expenses, SG&A expenses increased in the first quarter of 2023 by \$3.6 million to \$23.3 million compared to \$19.7 million in 2022, due to higher consumer marketing expenses related to supporting our U.S retail brands and higher administrative expenses including higher salaries and benefits, information technology expenses, travel and consulting costs as compared to the same period in the prior year. As a percentage of sales, SG&A excluding share-based compensation and depreciation and amortization expense increased to 7.1% in the first quarter of 2023 compared to 6.7% in 2022.

Adjusted EBITDA

We refer to Adjusted EBITDA throughout this MD&A in discussing our results for the thirteen weeks ended April 1, 2023. See the *Non-IFRS Financial Measures* section on page 15 for further explanation of this non-IFRS measure.

Adjusted EBITDA increased in the first quarter of 2023 by \$2.9 million, or 10.2%, to \$31.2 million compared to \$28.3 million in the same period in the prior year, while as a percentage of sales, Adjusted EBITDA decreased slightly to 9.5% compared to 9.6%. The increase in Adjusted EBITDA is a result of the increase in gross profit partially offset by the increase in distribution and net SG&A expenses, all discussed previously.

In addition, the weaker Canadian dollar decreased the value of reported Adjusted EBITDA in USD from our Canadian operations in 2023 by approximately \$0.1 million relative to the conversion impact last year.

Net Income

We refer to Adjusted Net Income and Adjusted Diluted EPS throughout this MD&A. See the *Non-IFRS Financial Measures* section starting on page 15 for further explanation of these non-IFRS measures.

Net income decreased in the first quarter of 2023 by \$0.7 million, or 4.8%, to \$13.9 million (\$0.40 per diluted share) compared to \$14.6 million (\$0.42 per diluted share) in the same period in the prior year. The decrease in net income reflects the higher finance costs, higher share-based compensation expense, and higher business acquisition, integration and other expense discussed below, partially offset by the increase in Adjusted EBITDA, discussed previously and lower income taxes.

In the first quarter of 2023 and the same period in the prior year, net income included "business acquisition, integration and other expense" (as explained in the *Business Acquisition, Integration and Other Expense* section on page 8 of this MD&A) related to certain non-routine income and expenses. Excluding the impact of these non-routine items, other non-cash expenses, and share-based compensation, Adjusted Net Income in the first quarter of 2023 increased by \$1.3 million, or 8.6%, to \$16.4 million compared to \$15.1 million in the same period in the prior year.

Adjusted Diluted EPS increased \$0.05 in the first quarter of 2023 to \$0.48 compared to \$0.43 in the same period in the prior year.

RESULTS BY QUARTER

The following table provides summarized financial information for the last nine quarters:

(Amounts in \$000s, except per share amounts)	Q1 2023	Q4 2022	Q3 2022	Q2 2022	Q1 2022	Q4 2021	Q3 2021	Q2 2021	Q1 2021
Sales	\$329,164	\$250,346	\$271,181	\$253,452	\$294,735	\$227,879	\$214,302	\$189,811	\$243,413
Adjusted EBITDA ⁽¹⁾	\$ 31,199	\$ 25,385	\$ 24,809	\$ 25,333	\$ 28,340	\$ 20,600	\$ 22,444	\$ 19,575	\$ 27,803
Net Income	\$ 13,888	\$ 11,131	\$ 9,977	\$ 18,977	\$ 14,645	\$ 7,223	\$ 9,177	\$ 8,021	\$ 17,828
Adjusted Net Income ⁽¹⁾	\$ 16,437	\$ 12,318	\$ 14,292	\$ 10,034	\$ 15,068	\$ 9,079	\$ 11,281	\$ 10,378	\$ 14,060
EPS, based on Net Income									
Basic	\$ 0.41	\$ 0.33	\$ 0.30	\$ 0.56	\$ 0.43	\$ 0.22	\$ 0.27	\$ 0.23	\$ 0.53
Diluted	\$ 0.40	\$ 0.32	\$ 0.28	\$ 0.54	\$ 0.42	\$ 0.20	\$ 0.26	\$ 0.23	\$ 0.51
EPS, based on Adjusted Net Income ⁽¹⁾									
Basic	\$ 0.49	\$ 0.37	\$ 0.42	\$ 0.30	\$ 0.44	\$ 0.27	\$ 0.33	\$ 0.31	\$ 0.41
Diluted ⁽¹⁾	\$ 0.48	\$ 0.35	\$ 0.41	\$ 0.29	\$ 0.43	\$ 0.26	\$ 0.32	\$ 0.30	\$ 0.40
Dividends paid per common share (CAD)									
	\$ 0.13	\$ 0.13	\$ 0.10	\$ 0.10	\$ 0.10	\$ 0.10	\$ 0.07	\$ 0.07	\$ 0.07
Net non-cash working capital ⁽²⁾									
	\$388,476	\$383,988	\$309,660	\$287,974	\$272,482	\$232,832	\$207,582	\$194,410	\$188,063

⁽¹⁾ See the *Non-IFRS Financial Measures* section starting on page 15 for further explanation of Adjusted EBITDA, Adjusted Net Income and Adjusted Diluted EPS.

⁽²⁾ Net non-cash working capital is comprised of accounts receivable, inventories and prepaid expenses, less accounts payable and accrued liabilities, and provisions.

BUSINESS ACQUISITION, INTEGRATION AND OTHER (INCOME) EXPENSE

The Company reports expenses associated with business acquisition and integration activities, and certain other non-routine costs separately in its consolidated statements of income as follows:

(Amounts in \$000s)	Thirteen weeks ended	
	April 1, 2023	April 2, 2022
Business acquisition, integration and other expense	\$ 1,767	\$ 268

Business acquisition, integration and other expense for the thirteen weeks ended April 1, 2023 and April 2, 2022 also included certain non-routine expenses, legal and consulting fees, that are not representative of the Company's ongoing operational activities.

FINANCE COSTS

The following table shows the various components of the Company's finance costs:

(Amounts in \$000s)	Thirteen weeks ended	
	April 1, 2023	April 2, 2022
Interest paid in cash during the period	\$ 5,989	\$ 3,403
Change in cash interest accrued during the period	557	(92)
Total interest to be paid in cash	6,546	3,311
Interest expense on lease liabilities	111	169
Deferred financing cost & net modification loss amortization	387	312
Total finance costs	\$ 7,044	\$ 3,792

Finance costs were \$3.2 million higher in the first quarter of 2023 compared to the same period in the prior year primarily due to increased interest expense on short-term borrowings due to higher balance outstanding and higher interest rates.

INCOME TAXES

The Company's statutory tax rate for the thirteen weeks ended April 1, 2023 was 27.8% (thirteen weeks ended April 2, 2022: 27.9%). The Company's effective income tax rate for the thirteen weeks ended April 1, 2023 was 4.1% (thirteen weeks ended April 2, 2022: 20.4%). The lower effective tax rate for the thirteen weeks ended April 1, 2023 compared to the prior year was primarily attributable to the Company's tax-efficient financing structure.

CONTINGENCIES

The Company has no material outstanding contingencies.

LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES

The Company's balance sheet is affected by foreign currency fluctuations, the effect of which is discussed in the *Introduction* section on page 1 of this MD&A (under the heading "Currency") and in the *Foreign Currency* risk section in the 2022 MD&A.

Our capital management practices are described in Note 27 "Capital management" in the 2022 annual consolidated financial statements.

Working Capital Credit Facility

The Company has a \$200.0 million asset-based working capital credit facility (the "Facility"), with the Royal Bank of Canada as Administrative and Collateral agent, which was amended on October 6, 2022 to increase the borrowing limit from \$150.0 million to \$200.0 million. Additionally, on April 28, 2022 the Facility was amended to extend the term expiry from April 2023 to April 2027. The amendment also included a necessary update from LIBOR to Secured Overnight Financing Rate ("SOFR") based loans.

The rates provided by the working capital credit facility are noted in the following table, based on the "Average Adjusted Aggregate Availability" as defined in the credit agreement. The Company's borrowing rates as of April 1, 2023 are also noted in the following table.

Per Credit Agreement	As at April 1, 2023	
Canadian Prime Rate revolving loans, Canadian Base Rate revolving and U.S. Prime Rate revolving loans, at their respective rates	plus 0.00% to 0.25%	plus 0.25%
Bankers' Acceptances ("BA") revolving loans, at BA rates	plus 1.25% to 1.50%	plus 1.50%
SOFR revolving loans at SOFR rates	plus 1.25% to 1.50%	plus 1.50%
Letters of credit, with fees of	1.25% to 1.50%	1.50%
Standby fees, required to be paid on the unutilized facility, of	0.25%	0.25%

Average short-term borrowings outstanding during the first quarter of 2023 were \$136.5 million compared to \$32.6 million in the same period in the prior year. The \$103.9 million increase in average short-term borrowings reflects higher working capital requirements during the second half of Fiscal 2022 which has carried over into the first quarter of 2023, as compared to the same period in the prior years. This increase is primarily driven by the impact of inflation on raw material and mitigation efforts taken, including an increased investment in inventory most notably during the second half of Fiscal 2022, to offset the impact of the global supply chain challenges.

As at April 1, 2023, the Company had 67.2 million of unused borrowing availability (April 2, 2022: 98.1 million), taking into account the current borrowing base and letters of credit, which reduce the availability under the working capital facility. On April 1, 2023, letters of credit and standby letters of credit were outstanding in the amount of \$8.5 million (April 2, 2022: \$22.5 million) to support raw material purchases and to secure certain contractual obligations, including those related to the Company's Supplemental Executive Retirement Plan ("SERP").

The facility is asset-based and collateralized by the Company's inventories, accounts receivable and other personal property in North America, subject to a first charge on brands, trade names and related intangibles under the Company's term loan facility. A second charge over the Company's property, plant and equipment is also in place. Additional details regarding the Company's working capital credit facility are provided in Note 3 "Bank loans" to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

We expect average short-term borrowings in Fiscal 2023 to be higher than Fiscal 2022, and we believe the asset-based working capital credit facility should be sufficient to fund all of the Company's anticipated cash requirements.

Term Loan Facility

As at April 1, 2023, the Company had a \$300.0 million term loan facility with an interest rate of SOFR plus 3.75% (0.75% SOFR floor), maturing in October 2026.

Quarterly repayments of \$1.9 million are required on the term loan as regularly scheduled repayments. On an annual basis, based on a leverage test, additional prepayments could be required of up to 50% of the previous year's defined excess cash flow ("mandatory prepayments"). Per the loan agreement, mandatory prepayments and voluntary repayments will be applied to future regularly scheduled principal repayments. During the thirteen weeks ended April 1, 2023, regularly scheduled repayments of \$1.9 million were made. There are regularly scheduled repayments of \$7.5 million to be paid in the next 12 months. There are no mandatory prepayments related to excess cash flows in 2022 expected for 2023.

Substantially all tangible and intangible assets (excluding working capital) of the Company are pledged as collateral for the term loan.

During the thirteen weeks ended April 1, 2023, the Company had the following interest rate swaps outstanding to hedge interest rate risk resulting from the term loan facility:

Effective date	Maturity date	Receive floating rate	Pay fixed rate	Notional amount (millions)
Designated in a formal hedging relationship:				
January 6, 2023	July 7, 2023	3-month SOFR (floor 0.75%)	0.4650%	\$ 25.0
January 6, 2023	July 8, 2024	3-month SOFR (floor 0.75%)	0.6840%	\$ 25.0
January 6, 2023	July 6, 2026	3-month SOFR (floor 0.75%)	1.1500%	\$ 35.0
December 30, 2022	December 31, 2025	3-month SOFR (floor 0.75%)	1.0910%	\$ 20.0

As of April 1, 2023, the combined impact of the outstanding interest rate swaps listed above effectively fix the interest rate on \$105.0 million of the \$300.0 million face value of the term loan and the remaining portion of the debt continues to be at variable interest rates. As such, we expect that there will be fluctuations in interest expense due to changes in interest rates when SOFR is higher than the embedded floor of 0.75%.

Additional details regarding the Company's term loan are provided in Note 4 "Long-term debt" to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Net Debt

The Company's Net Debt (as calculated in the *Non-IFRS Financial Measures* section on page 20 of this MD&A) is comprised of the working capital credit and term loan facilities (excluding deferred finance costs and modification gains/losses) and lease liabilities, less cash. Net Debt decreased by \$6.2 million to \$379.3 million at April 1, 2023 compared to \$385.5 million at December 31, 2022, reflecting lower bank loans, lower long-term debt and lower lease liabilities as at April 1, 2023, as compared to December 31, 2022.

Net Debt to Rolling Twelve-Month Adjusted EBITDA (see the *Non-IFRS Financial Measures* section on page 15 of this MD&A) was 3.6x at April 1, 2023 compared to 3.7x at December 31, 2022 and 3.2x at April 2, 2022. Net Debt to Rolling Twelve-Months Adjusted EBITDA increased during Fiscal 2022 primarily as a result of increased investment in seasonal working capital in Fiscal 2022 and inflation in raw materials. In the absence of any major acquisitions or unplanned capital expenditures in 2023, we expect this ratio to be in line with the Company's long-term target of 3.0x at the end of Fiscal 2023.

(Amounts in \$000s, except as otherwise noted)	Twelve months ended	
	April 1, 2023	December 31, 2022
Net Debt	\$ 379,317	\$ 385,538
Adjusted EBITDA	\$ 106,726	\$ 103,867
Net Debt to Adjusted EBITDA ratio (times)	3.6x	3.7x

Capital Structure

At April 1, 2023, Net Debt was 50.1% of total capitalization compared to 46.0% at April 2, 2022.

(Amounts in \$000s)	April 1, 2023		December 31, 2022		April 2, 2022
Net Debt	\$	379,317	\$	385,538	\$ 295,174
Shareholders' equity		382,674		373,417	350,537
Unrealized gains on derivative financial instruments included in AOCI		(4,510)		(6,063)	(3,528)
Total capitalization	\$	757,481	\$	752,892	\$ 642,183
Net Debt as percentage of total capitalization		50.1%		51.2%	46.0%

Using our April 1, 2023 market capitalization of \$378.0 million, based on a share price of CAD\$15.33 (USD\$11.33 equivalent), instead of the book value of equity, Net Debt as a percentage of total capitalization remains consistent at 50.1% (April 2, 2022: 46.0%).

Cash Flow

(Amounts in \$000s)	Thirteen weeks ended				
	April 1, 2023		April 2, 2022		Change
Net cash flows provided by (used in) operating activities	\$	12,932	\$	(19,729)	\$ 32,661
Net cash flows (used in) provided by financing activities		(10,139)		20,682	(30,821)
Net cash flows used in investing activities		(2,737)		(1,837)	(900)
Foreign exchange (decrease) increase on cash		(211)		609	(820)
Net change in cash during the period	\$	(155)	\$	(275)	\$ 120

Cash Flows from Operating Activities

Cash flows from operating activities were \$32.7 million higher in the first quarter of 2023 compared to the same period in the prior year. The increase in cash flows in the first quarter of 2023 was due to favourable changes in non-cash working capital balances and higher cash flows provided by operations, partially offset by higher interest paid. The favourable changes in non-cash working capital are due to favourable changes in inventories, accounts receivable, and prepaid expenses, partially offset by unfavorable changes in accounts payable and accrued liabilities.

Cash Flows from Financing Activities

Cash flows from financing activities were \$30.8 million lower in the first quarter of 2023 compared to the same period in the prior year due to repayments of short-term borrowings in the first quarter of 2023 as compared to increased short-term borrowings during the first quarter of 2022 (see the *Liquidity and Capital Resources* on page 9 of this MD&A), higher repayments of long-term debt and higher common share dividends paid in the current year as compared to the same period in the prior year.

Cash Flows from Investing Activities

Cash outflows from investing activities were \$0.9 million higher in the first quarter of 2023 compared to the same period last year due to higher capital expenditures (see the *Capital Expenditures* section beginning on page 13 of this MD&A).

Standardized Free Cash Flow

Standardized Free Cash Flow (see the *Non-IFRS Financial Measures* section on page 18 for further explanation of Standardized Free Cash Flow) for the twelve months ended April 1, 2023 decreased by \$27.1 million to an outflow of \$65.3 million compared to an outflow of \$38.2 million for the twelve months ended April 2, 2022. This decrease reflects unfavorable changes in non-cash working capital as well as higher income taxes and interest paid during the last twelve months, partially offset by higher cash flows provided by operations during the twelve months ended April 1, 2023 as compared to the twelve months ended April 2, 2022.

Net Non-Cash Working Capital

(Amounts in \$000s)	April 1, 2023	December 31, 2022	Change
Accounts receivable	\$ 126,513	\$ 96,531	\$ 29,982
Inventories	402,851	472,311	(69,460)
Prepaid expenses	5,504	6,254	(750)
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	(146,156)	(190,919)	44,763
Provisions	(236)	(189)	(47)
Net non-cash working capital	\$ 388,476	\$ 383,988	\$ 4,488

Net non-cash working capital consists of accounts receivable, inventories and prepaid expenses, less accounts payable and accrued liabilities, and provisions. Net non-cash working capital increased by \$4.5 million to \$388.5 million at April 1, 2023 as compared to \$384.0 million at December 31, 2022, primarily reflecting higher accounts receivable and lower accounts payable and accrued liabilities, partially offset by lower inventories and prepaid expenses.

Our working capital requirements fluctuate during the year, usually peaking between December and March as our inventory is the highest at that time, as described in the *"Seasonality"* section on page 4 of this MD&A. Due to the global supply chain challenges in Fiscal 2022, the Company was proactive in securing inventory supply, most notably in the second half of Fiscal 2022 which has carried over into the first quarter of 2023 as reflected in the higher inventories balances when compared to fiscal years prior to Fiscal 2022. As the global supply chain challenges continue to normalize we expect a decreased investment in inventory supply compared to Fiscal 2022. However, going forward we do expect the trend of inventory peaking between December and March to continue, and we believe we have sufficient availability on our working capital credit facility to finance our working capital requirements throughout the remainder of 2023.

Capital Expenditures

Gross capital expenditures (including computer software) were \$3.0 million for the first quarter of 2023, as compared to capital expenditures of \$1.8 million during the the first quarter of 2022.

Excluding strategic initiatives that may arise, management expects capital expenditures in 2023 will be approximately \$25.0 million and funded by cash generated from operations and short-term borrowings.

Dividends

The Company paid a CAD\$0.13 per share quarterly dividend on March 15, 2023 to common shareholders of record on March 2, 2023.

On May 16, 2023, the Company's Board of Directors declared a quarterly dividend of CAD\$0.13 per share, payable on June 15, 2023 to shareholders of record as of June 1, 2023. These dividends are considered "eligible dividends" for Canadian income tax purposes.

Dividends and Normal Course Issuer Bids ("NCIB"), if applicable, are subject to the following restrictions in our credit agreements:

- Under the working capital credit facility, Average Adjusted Aggregate Availability, as defined in the credit agreement, needs to be \$25.0 million or higher and was \$87.5 million on April 1, 2023, and NCIBs are subject to an annual limit of \$10.0 million with a provision to carry forward unused amounts subject to a maximum of \$20.0 million per annum; and
- Under the term loan facility, dividends cannot exceed \$17.5 million per year. This amount increases to the greater of \$25.0 million per year or 32.5% of EBITDA as defined in the loan agreement when the defined total leverage ratio is below 4.0x. The defined total leverage ratio was 3.6x on April 1, 2023. NCIBs are subject to an annual limit of \$10.0 million under the term loan facility with a provision to carry forward unused amounts subject to a maximum of \$20.0 million per annum.

Contractual Obligations

Contractual obligations relating to our bank loans, long-term debt, lease liabilities, and purchase obligations as at April 1, 2023 were as follows:

(Amounts in \$000s)	Total	Less than 1 year	1–5 Years	Thereafter
Bank loans	\$ 124,311	\$ 124,311	\$ —	\$ —
Long-term debt	314,144	32,467	281,677	—
Lease liabilities	7,359	4,805	2,554	—
Purchase obligations	123,239	96,725	26,514	—
Total contractual obligations	\$ 569,053	\$ 258,308	\$ 310,745	\$ —

Purchase obligations are for the purchase of seafood and other non-seafood inputs, including flour, paper products and frying oils. See the *Procurement* and *Foreign Currency* risk sections in the 2022 MD&A for further details.

Financial Instruments and Risk Management

The Company has exposure to the following risks as a result of its use of financial instruments: foreign currency risk, interest rate risk, credit risk and liquidity risk. The Company enters into interest rate swaps, foreign currency contracts, and insurance contracts to manage these risks that arise from the Company's operations and its sources of financing, in accordance with a written policy that is reviewed and approved by the Audit Committee of the Board of Directors. The policy prohibits the use of derivative financial instruments for trading or speculative purposes.

Readers are directed to Note 9 "*Fair value measurement*" of the Consolidated Financial Statements for a complete description of the Company's use of derivative financial instruments and their impact on the financial results, and to Note 28 "*Financial risk management objectives and policies*" of the 2022 annual consolidated financial statements for further discussion of the Company's financial risks and policies.

Disclosure of Outstanding Share Data

On May 16, 2023, 33,360,699 common shares and 918,820 options were outstanding. The options are exercisable on a one-for-one basis for common shares of the Company.

RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The Company had no related party transactions, excluding key management personnel compensation, for the thirteen weeks ended April 1, 2023 and April 2, 2022.

Refer to Note 24 "*Related party disclosures*" to the 2022 annual consolidated financial statements for a further description of the Company's related party transactions, which are substantially unchanged in 2023.

NON-IFRS FINANCIAL MEASURES

The Company uses the following non-IFRS financial measures and ratios (together, "measures") in this MD&A: Adjusted Earnings before Interest, Taxes, Depreciation and Amortization ("Adjusted EBITDA"); Adjusted EBITDA as a Percentage of Sales; Adjusted Net Income; Adjusted Diluted Earnings per Share ("Adjusted Diluted EPS"); Standardized Free Cash Flow; Net Debt; and Net Debt to Rolling Twelve-Month Adjusted EBITDA. The Company believes these non-IFRS financial measures provide useful information to both management and investors in measuring the financial performance and financial condition of the Company for the reasons outlined below. These measures do not have any standardized meaning as prescribed by IFRS and therefore may not be comparable to similarly titled measures presented by other publicly traded companies, nor should they be construed as an alternative to other financial measures determined in accordance with IFRS.

Adjusted EBITDA and Adjusted EBITDA as Percentage of Sales

Adjusted EBITDA is defined as earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization adjusted for items that are not considered representative of ongoing operational activities of the business. The related margin, Adjusted EBITDA as a Percentage of Sales, is defined as Adjusted EBITDA divided by net sales, where net sales is defined as "Sales" on the consolidated statements of income.

We use Adjusted EBITDA (and Adjusted EBITDA as a percentage of sales) as a performance measure as it approximates cash generated from operations before capital expenditures and changes in working capital, and it excludes the impact of expenses and recoveries associated with certain non-routine items that are not considered representative of the ongoing operational activities, as discussed above, and share-based compensation expense related to the Company's share price. We believe investors and analysts also use Adjusted EBITDA (and Adjusted EBITDA as a percentage of sales) to evaluate the performance of our business. The most directly comparable IFRS measure to Adjusted EBITDA is "Net income" on the consolidated statements of income. Adjusted EBITDA is also useful when comparing to other companies, as it eliminates the differences in earnings that are due to how a company is financed. Also, for the purpose of certain covenants on our credit facilities, "EBITDA" is based on Adjusted EBITDA, with further adjustments as defined in the Company's credit agreements.

The following table reconciles Adjusted EBITDA with measures that are found in our Consolidated Financial Statements, and calculates Adjusted EBITDA as a Percentage of Sales.

(Amounts in \$000s)	Thirteen weeks ended			
		April 1, 2023		April 2, 2022
Net income	\$	13,888	\$	14,645
Add back:				
Depreciation and amortization		6,068		5,671
Finance costs		7,044		3,792
Income tax expense		596		3,757
Standardized EBITDA		27,596		27,865
Add back (deduct):				
Business acquisition, integration and other expense		1,767		268
(Gain) loss on disposal of assets		(71)		41
Share-based compensation expense		1,907		166
Adjusted EBITDA	\$	31,199	\$	28,340
Net Sales	\$	329,164	\$	294,735
Adjusted EBITDA as a Percentage of Sales		9.5%		9.6%

Rolling Twelve-Month Adjusted EBITDA

(Amounts in \$000s)	Rolling twelve months ended			
		April 1, 2023	December 31, 2022	April 2, 2022
Net income	\$	53,973	\$ 54,730	\$ 39,066
Add back (deduct):				
Depreciation and amortization expense		23,975	23,578	23,034
Finance costs		21,513	18,261	14,821
Income tax expense		7,933	11,094	5,650
Standardized EBITDA		107,394	107,663	82,571
Add back (deduct):				
Business acquisition, integration and other expenses (income) ⁽¹⁾		(5,674)	(7,173)	2,772
Impairment of property, plant and equipment		332	332	42
Loss on disposal of assets		51	163	169
Share-based compensation expense		4,623	2,882	5,405
Rolling Twelve-Month Adjusted EBITDA	\$	106,726	\$ 103,867	\$ 90,959

⁽¹⁾ The business acquisition, integration and other (income) expenses for the rolling twelve months ended April 1, 2023 and December 31, 2022, included insurance proceeds of \$10.0 million which was excluded in Adjusted EBITDA

Adjusted Net Income and Adjusted Diluted EPS

Adjusted Net Income is net income adjusted for the after-tax impact of items which are not representative of ongoing operational activities of the business and certain non-cash expenses or income. Adjusted Diluted EPS is Adjusted Net Income divided by the average diluted number of shares outstanding.

We use Adjusted Net Income and Adjusted Diluted EPS to assess the performance of our business without the effects of the above-mentioned items, and we believe our investors and analysts also use these measures. We exclude these items because they affect the comparability of our financial results and could potentially distort the analysis of trends in business performance. The most comparable IFRS financial measures are net income and EPS.

The table below reconciles our Adjusted Net Income with measures that are found in our Consolidated Financial Statements:

	Thirteen weeks ended			
	April 1, 2023		April 2, 2022	
	\$000s	Diluted EPS	\$000s	Diluted EPS
Net income	\$ 13,888	\$ 0.40	\$ 14,645	\$ 0.42
Add back (deduct):				
Business acquisition, integration and other expense	1,767	0.05	268	0.01
Share-based compensation expense	1,907	0.06	166	—
Tax impact of reconciling items	\$ (1,125)	\$ (0.03)	\$ (11)	—
Adjusted Net Income	\$ 16,437	\$ 0.48	\$ 15,068	\$ 0.43
Average shares for the period (000s)		34,537		35,424

Standardized Free Cash Flow

Standardized Free Cash Flow is cash flow provided by operating activities less capital expenditures (net of investment tax credits) as reported in the consolidated statements of cash flows. The capital expenditures related to business acquisitions are not deducted from Standardized Free Cash Flow.

We believe Standardized Free Cash Flow is an important indicator of financial strength and performance of our business because it shows how much cash is available to pay dividends, repay debt (including lease liabilities) and reinvest in the Company. We believe investors and analysts use Standardized Free Cash Flow to value our business and its underlying assets. The most comparable IFRS financial measure is "cash flows provided by operating activities" in the consolidated statements of cash flows.

The table below reconciles our Standardized Free Cash Flow calculated on a rolling twelve-month basis, with measures that are in accordance with IFRS and as reported in the consolidated statements of cash flows.

(Amounts in \$000s)	Twelve months ended		
	April 1, 2023	April 2, 2022	Change
Cash flows provided by operations before changes in non-cash working capital, interest and income taxes paid	\$ 112,143	\$ 89,252	\$ 22,891
Net change in non-cash working capital balances	(129,696)	(87,925)	(41,771)
Interest paid	(17,327)	(13,120)	(4,207)
Income taxes paid	(8,617)	(5,803)	(2,814)
Cash flows provided by operating activities	(43,497)	(17,596)	(25,901)
Less:			
Purchase of property, plant and equipment, net of investment tax credits, and intangible assets	(21,812)	(20,556)	(1,256)
Standardized Free Cash Flow	\$ (65,309)	\$ (38,152)	\$ (27,157)

Net Debt and Net Debt to Rolling Twelve-Month Adjusted EBITDA

Net Debt is calculated as the sum of bank loans, long-term debt (excluding deferred finance costs and modification gains/losses) and lease liabilities, less cash.

We consider Net Debt to be an important indicator of our Company's financial leverage because it represents the amount of debt that is not covered by available cash. We believe investors and analysts use Net Debt to determine the Company's financial leverage. Net Debt has no comparable IFRS financial measure, but rather is calculated using several asset and liability items in the consolidated statements of financial position.

Net Debt to Rolling Twelve-Month Adjusted EBITDA is calculated as Net Debt divided by Rolling Twelve-Month Adjusted EBITDA (see page 15). We consider Net Debt to Rolling Twelve-Month Adjusted EBITDA to be an important indicator of our ability to generate earnings sufficient to service our debt, that enhances understanding of our financial performance and highlights operational trends. This measure is widely used by investors and rating agencies in the valuation, comparison, rating and investment recommendations of companies; however, the calculations of Adjusted EBITDA may not be comparable to those of other companies, which limits their usefulness as comparative measures.

The following table reconciles Net Debt to IFRS measures reported as at the end of the indicated periods in the consolidated statements of financial position and calculates Net Debt to Rolling Twelve-Month Adjusted EBITDA.

(Amounts in \$000s)	April 1, 2023	December 31, 2022	April 2, 2022
Bank loans	\$ 123,770	\$ 127,554	\$ 29,248
Add-back: Deferred finance costs included in bank loans ⁽¹⁾	541	574	132
Total bank loans	124,311	128,128	29,380
Long-term debt	236,632	238,200	243,368
Current portion of long-term debt	7,500	7,500	7,500
Add-back: Deferred finance costs included in long-term debt ⁽²⁾	4,627	4,972	5,529
Less: Net loss on modification of debt ⁽³⁾	(504)	(542)	(641)
Total term loan debt	248,255	250,130	255,756
Long-term portion of lease liabilities	2,325	2,813	5,757
Current portion of lease liabilities	4,426	4,622	4,449
Total lease liabilities	6,751	7,435	10,206
Less: Cash	—	(155)	(168)
Net Debt	\$ 379,317	\$ 385,538	\$ 295,174
Rolling Twelve-Month Adjusted EBITDA	\$ 106,726	\$ 103,867	\$ 90,959
Net Debt to Rolling Twelve-Month Adjusted EBITDA	3.6x	3.7x	3.2x

⁽¹⁾ Represents deferred finance costs that are included in "Bank loans" in the consolidated statements of financial position. See Note 3 to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

⁽²⁾ Represents deferred finance costs that are included in "Long-term debt" in the consolidated statements of financial position. See Note 4 to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

⁽³⁾ The net gain/loss on modification of debt related to the refinancing completed in March 2021 and October 2019, has been excluded from the calculation of Net Debt as it does not represent the expected cash outflows from the term loan facility. See Note 4 to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

GOVERNANCE

In accordance with National Instrument 52-109 "Certification of Disclosure in Issuers' Annual and Interim Filings", our certifying officers have evaluated the design effectiveness of Disclosure Controls and Procedures ("DC&P"), and our Company's Internal Control over Financial Reporting ("ICFR"). There were no changes in the Company's ICFR during the period beginning on January 1, 2023 and ending on April 1, 2023 that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, the Company's ICFR.

ACCOUNTING ESTIMATES AND STANDARDS

Critical Accounting Estimates

Critical accounting judgments and estimates used in preparing our Consolidated Financial Statements are described in the Company's 2022 Annual Consolidated Financial Statements. The preparation of the Company's Consolidated Financial Statements requires management to make critical judgments, estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of sales, expenses, assets and liabilities, and the disclosure of contingent liabilities, at the reporting date. On an ongoing basis, management evaluates its judgments, estimates and assumptions using historical experience and various other factors it believes to be reasonable under the given circumstances. Actual

outcomes may differ from these estimates under different assumptions and conditions that could require a material adjustment to the reported carrying amounts in the future.

Accounting Standards

The accounting policies used in the preparation of the Consolidated Financial Statements are consistent with those followed in the preparation of the Company's audited consolidated financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2022, except for the adoption of the following new amendment that was effective for annual periods beginning on January 1, 2023 and that the Company adopted on January 1, 2023:

IAS 1, Disclosure of Accounting Policies

In February 2021, the IASB issued amendments to IAS 1 and IFRS Practice Statements 2 Making Materiality Judgements, to help entities provide accounting policy disclosures that are more useful by replacing the requirement to disclose "significant" accounting policies with a requirement to disclose "material" accounting policies.

The amendments are effective for annual periods beginning on or after January 1, 2023. The Company has adopted these amendments which are not material to its Consolidated Financial Statements. As a result the changes related to the amendments will be presented in its annual consolidated financial statements for the year ended December 30, 2023.

IAS 12, Deferred tax related to Assets and Liabilities arising from a Single Transaction

In May 2021, the IASB issued amendments to IAS 12, *Income Taxes* to require entities to recognize deferred tax on transactions that, on initial recognition, give rise to equal amounts of taxable and deductible temporary differences.

These amendments are effective for annual reporting periods beginning on or after January 1, 2023. The Company has adopted these amendments which had no impact on its Consolidated Financial Statements.

RISK FACTORS

High Liner Foods is exposed to a number of risks in the normal course of business that have the potential to affect operating performance. The Company takes a strategic approach to risk management. To achieve a superior return on investment, we have designed an enterprise-wide approach, overseen by the senior management of the Company and reported to the Board, to identify, prioritize and manage risk effectively and consistently across the organization.

Readers should refer to the 2022 Annual Consolidated Financial Statements, MD&A and AIF for a more detailed description of risk factors applicable to the Company, which are available at www.sedar.com and at www.highlinerfoods.com.



HIGH LINER FOODS

UNAUDITED CONDENSED INTERIM CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**As at and for the thirteen weeks ended April 1, 2023
With comparative figures as at and for the thirteen weeks ended April 2, 2022**

HIGH LINER FOODS INCORPORATED
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION
(unaudited, in thousands of United States dollars)

	Notes	April 1, 2023	December 31, 2022
ASSETS			
Current assets			
Cash		\$ —	\$ 155
Accounts receivable		126,513	96,531
Income taxes receivable		1,679	5,146
Other financial assets	9	4,765	5,662
Inventories		402,851	472,311
Prepaid expenses		5,504	6,254
Total current assets		541,312	586,059
Non-current assets			
Property, plant and equipment		118,983	120,036
Right-of-use assets		6,641	7,190
Deferred income taxes	7	331	—
Other receivables and assets	9	2,933	3,993
Intangible assets		127,943	129,074
Goodwill		157,138	157,134
Total non-current assets		413,969	417,427
Total assets	3, 4	\$ 955,281	\$ 1,003,486
LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY			
Current liabilities			
Bank loans	3	\$ 123,770	\$ 127,554
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities		143,791	187,967
Contract liability		2,365	2,952
Provisions		236	189
Other current financial liabilities	9	583	447
Other current liabilities	6	1,237	4,957
Income taxes payable		64	163
Current portion of long-term debt	4	7,500	7,500
Current portion of lease liabilities		4,426	4,622
Total current liabilities		283,972	336,351
Non-current liabilities			
Long-term debt	4	236,632	238,200
Other long-term financial liabilities	9	59	38
Other long-term liabilities	6	5,735	5,703
Long-term lease liabilities		2,325	2,813
Deferred income taxes	7	34,963	38,112
Future employee benefits		8,921	8,852
Total non-current liabilities		288,635	293,718
Total liabilities		572,607	630,069
Shareholders' equity			
Common shares	5	114,229	113,096
Contributed surplus		16,432	17,491
Retained earnings		275,950	265,294
Accumulated other comprehensive loss		(23,937)	(22,464)
Total shareholders' equity		382,674	373,417
Total liabilities and shareholders' equity		\$ 955,281	\$ 1,003,486

See accompanying notes to the Unaudited Condensed Interim Consolidated Financial Statements

HIGH LINER FOODS INCORPORATED
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME
(unaudited, in thousands of United States dollars, except per share amounts)

	Notes	Thirteen weeks ended April 1, 2023	Thirteen weeks ended April 2, 2022
Sales	8	\$ 329,164	\$ 294,735
Cost of sales		260,759	232,721
Gross profit		68,405	62,014
Distribution expenses		17,278	17,111
Selling, general and administrative expenses		27,832	22,441
Business acquisition, integration and other expense		1,767	268
Results from operating activities		21,528	22,194
Finance costs		7,044	3,792
Income before income taxes		14,484	18,402
Income taxes			
Income tax expense	7	596	3,757
Net income		\$ 13,888	\$ 14,645
Earnings per common share			
Basic		\$ 0.41	\$ 0.43
Diluted		\$ 0.40	\$ 0.42
Weighted average number of shares outstanding			
Basic		33,737,719	33,887,862
Diluted		34,536,679	35,424,183

See accompanying notes to the Unaudited Condensed Interim Consolidated Financial Statements

HIGH LINER FOODS INCORPORATED
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME
(unaudited, in thousands of United States dollars)

	Thirteen weeks ended		Thirteen weeks ended	
	April 1, 2023		April 2, 2022	
Net income	\$	13,888	\$	14,645
Other comprehensive income (loss), net of income tax				
Other comprehensive income (loss) to be reclassified to net income:				
Gain on hedge of net investment in foreign operations		49		3,105
Loss on translation of net investment in foreign operations		(129)		(5,028)
Translation impact on Canadian dollar denominated non-AOCI items		181		3,720
Translation impact on Canadian dollar denominated AOCI items		(21)		(360)
Total exchange gains on translation of foreign operations and Canadian dollar denominated items		80		1,437
Effective portion of changes in fair value of cash flow hedges		(309)		2,191
Net change in fair value of cash flow hedges transferred to carrying amount of hedged item		(412)		(12)
Net change in fair value of cash flow hedges transferred to income		(825)		69
Translation impact on Canadian dollar denominated AOCI items		(7)		132
Total exchange (losses) gains on cash flow hedges		(1,553)		2,380
Net other comprehensive (loss) gain to be reclassified to net income		(1,473)		3,817
Other comprehensive (loss) income not to be reclassified to net income				
Defined benefit plan actuarial (losses) gains		(106)		1,937
Other comprehensive (loss) income, net of income tax		(1,579)		5,754
Total comprehensive income	\$	12,309	\$	20,399

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF ACCUMULATED OTHER COMPREHENSIVE LOSS
(unaudited, in thousands of United States dollars)

	Foreign currency translation differences		Net exchange differences on cash flow hedges		Total accumulated other comprehensive (loss) income	
Balance at December 31, 2022	\$	(28,527)	\$	6,063	\$	(22,464)
Total exchange gains on translation of foreign operations and Canadian dollar denominated items		80		—		80
Total exchange losses on cash flow hedges		—		(1,553)		(1,553)
Balance at April 1, 2023	\$	(28,447)	\$	4,510	\$	(23,937)
Balance at January 1, 2022	\$	(19,524)	\$	1,148	\$	(18,376)
Total exchange gains on translation of foreign operations and Canadian dollar denominated items		1,437		—		1,437
Total exchange gains on cash flow hedges		—		2,380		2,380
Balance at April 2, 2022	\$	(18,087)	\$	3,528	\$	(14,559)

See accompanying notes to the Unaudited Condensed Interim Consolidated Financial Statements

HIGH LINER FOODS INCORPORATED
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CHANGES IN SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY
(unaudited, in thousands of United States dollars)

	Common shares	Contributed surplus	Retained earnings	Accumulated other comprehensive loss	Total
Balance at December 31, 2022	\$ 113,096	\$ 17,491	\$ 265,294	\$ (22,464)	\$ 373,417
Other comprehensive income (loss)	—	—	(106)	(1,473)	(1,579)
Net income	—	—	13,888	—	13,888
Common share dividends	—	—	(3,126)	—	(3,126)
Share-based compensation (Note 5, 6)	1,133	(1,059)	—	—	74
Balance at April 1, 2023	\$ 114,229	\$ 16,432	\$ 275,950	\$ (23,937)	\$ 382,674
Balance at January 1, 2022	\$ 113,458	\$ 17,477	\$ 219,965	\$ (18,376)	\$ 332,524
Other comprehensive income	—	—	1,937	3,817	5,754
Net income	—	—	14,645	—	14,645
Common share dividends	—	—	(2,603)	—	(2,603)
Share-based compensation (Note 5, 6)	40	458	—	—	498
Common shares repurchased for cancellation (Note 5)	(77)	—	(204)	—	(281)
Balance at April 2, 2022	\$ 113,421	\$ 17,935	\$ 233,740	\$ (14,559)	\$ 350,537

See accompanying notes to the Unaudited Condensed Interim Consolidated Financial Statements

HIGH LINER FOODS INCORPORATED
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS
(unaudited, in thousands of United States dollars)

Notes	Thirteen weeks ended April 1, 2023	Thirteen weeks ended April 2, 2022
Cash flows provided by (used in):		
Operating activities		
Net income	\$ 13,888	\$ 14,645
Adjustments to net income not involving cash from operations:		
Depreciation and amortization	6,068	5,671
Share-based compensation expense	6 1,907	166
Loss on asset disposals and impairment	1	47
Future employee benefits contribution, net of expense	(79)	(45)
Finance costs	7,044	3,792
Income tax expense	7 596	3,757
Unrealized foreign exchange loss (gain)	1,175	(945)
Cash flows provided by operations before changes in non-cash working capital, interest and income taxes paid	30,600	27,088
Changes in non-cash working capital balances:		
Accounts receivable	(29,901)	(33,947)
Inventories	69,520	21,513
Prepaid expenses	667	(708)
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	(52,017)	(29,857)
Provisions	47	8
Net change in non-cash working capital balances	(11,684)	(42,991)
Interest paid	(5,989)	(3,403)
Income taxes refunded (paid)	5	(423)
Net cash flows provided by (used in) operating activities	12,932	(19,729)
Financing activities		
(Decrease) increase in bank loans	(3,750)	24,852
Repayment of lease liabilities	(1,388)	(1,287)
Repayment of long-term debt	4 (1,875)	—
Common share dividends paid	(3,126)	(2,603)
Common shares repurchased for cancellation	5 —	(280)
Net cash flows (used in) provided by financing activities	(10,139)	20,682
Investing activities		
Purchase of property, plant and equipment, net of investment tax credits, and intangible assets	(2,979)	(1,837)
Net proceeds on disposal of assets	242	—
Net cash flows used in investing activities	(2,737)	(1,837)
Foreign exchange (decrease) increase on cash	(211)	609
Net change in cash during the period	(155)	(275)
Cash, beginning of period	155	443
Cash, end of period	\$ —	\$ 168

See accompanying notes to the Unaudited Condensed Interim Consolidated Financial Statements

HIGH LINER FOODS INCORPORATED

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

In United States dollars, unless otherwise noted

1. Corporate information

High Liner Foods Incorporated (the "Company" or "High Liner Foods") is a company incorporated and domiciled in Canada. The address of the Company's registered office is 100 Battery Point, P.O. Box 910, Lunenburg, Nova Scotia, B0J 2C0. The Unaudited Condensed Interim Consolidated Financial Statements ("Consolidated Financial Statements") of the Company as at and for the thirteen weeks ended April 1, 2023, comprise High Liner Foods' Canadian company (the "Parent") and its subsidiaries (herein together referred to as the "Company" or "High Liner Foods"). The Company is primarily involved in the processing and marketing of prepared and packaged frozen seafood products.

These Consolidated Financial Statements were authorized for issue in accordance with a resolution of the Company's Board of Directors on May 16, 2023.

2. Basis of preparation

(a) Statement of compliance

These Consolidated Financial Statements are in compliance with International Accounting Standard ("IAS") 34, *Interim Financial Reporting*. Accordingly, certain information and footnote disclosures normally included in annual financial statements prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards ("IFRS"), as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board ("IASB"), have been omitted or condensed. These Consolidated Financial Statements should be read in conjunction with the Company's audited consolidated financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2022, available at www.highlinerfoods.com.

(b) Functional and presentation currency

The Company determines its functional currency based on the currency of the primary economic environment in which it operates. The Parent's functional currency is the Canadian dollar ("CAD"), while the functional currencies of its subsidiaries is the CAD and the United States dollar ("U.S. dollar" or "USD"). The Company has chosen a USD presentation currency for its financial statements because the USD better reflects the Company's overall business activities and improves investors' ability to compare the Company's consolidated financial results with other publicly traded businesses in the packaged foods industry (most of which are based in the United States ("U.S.") and report in USD) and should result in less volatility in reported sales and income on the conversion to the presentation currency.

(c) Seasonality of operations

The Company's operating results are affected by the timing of holidays. Inventory levels fluctuate throughout the year, and are at their highest in the first quarter to support strong sales during the Lenten period. In addition, the timing of ordering raw materials is earlier than typically required in order to have adequate quantities available during the seasonal closure of plants in Asia during the Lunar New Year period. In the normal course of operations, these events typically result in significantly higher inventories in December, January, February and March than during the rest of the year.

(d) New standards, interpretations and amendments thereof, adopted by the Company

The accounting policies used in the preparation of the Consolidated Financial Statements are consistent with those followed in the preparation of the Company's audited consolidated financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2022, except for the adoption of the following new amendment that was effective for annual periods beginning on January 1, 2023 and that the Company has adopted on January 1, 2023:

IAS 1, *Disclosure of Accounting Policies*

In February 2021, the IASB issued amendments to IAS 1 and IFRS Practice Statements 2 Making Materiality Judgements, to help entities provide accounting policy disclosures that are more useful by replacing the requirement to disclose "significant" accounting policies with a requirement to disclose "material" accounting policies.

The amendments are effective for annual periods beginning on or after January 1, 2023. The Company has adopted these amendments which are not material to its Consolidated Financial Statements. As a result the changes related to the amendments will be presented in its annual consolidated financial statements for the year ended December 30, 2023.

HIGH LINER FOODS INCORPORATED

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

In United States dollars, unless otherwise noted

IAS 12, *Deferred tax related to Assets and Liabilities arising from a Single Transaction*

In May 2021, the IASB issued amendments to IAS 12, *Income Taxes* to require entities to recognize deferred tax on transactions that, on initial recognition, give rise to equal amounts of taxable and deductible temporary differences.

These amendments are effective for annual reporting periods beginning on or after January 1, 2023. The Company has adopted these amendments which had no impact on its Consolidated Financial Statements.

3. Bank loans

<i>(Amounts in \$000s)</i>	April 1, 2023	December 31, 2022
Bank loans, denominated in CAD (average variable rate of 6.70%; December 31, 2022: 6.45%)	\$ 686	\$ 157
Bank loans, denominated in USD (average variable rate of 6.35%; December 31, 2022: 5.80%)	123,625	127,971
	124,311	128,128
Less: deferred finance costs	(541)	(574)
	\$ 123,770	\$ 127,554

The Company has a \$200.0 million working capital facility (the "Facility"), with the Royal Bank of Canada as Administrative Agent, which expires on April 2027. The Facility is asset-based and collateralized by the Company's inventories, accounts receivable and other personal property in North America, subject to a first charge on brands, trade names and related intangibles under the Company's term loan facility (see Note 4). A second charge over the Company's property, plant and equipment is also in place. Taking into account the current borrowing base and letters of credit as at April 1, 2023, the Company had \$67.2 million of borrowing availability (December 31, 2022: \$61.0 million).

As at April 1, 2023 and December 31, 2022, the Facility allowed the Company to borrow:

Canadian Prime Rate revolving loans, Canadian Base Rate revolving and U.S. Prime Rate revolving loans, at their respective rates	plus 0.00% to 0.25%
Bankers' Acceptances ("BA") revolving loans, at BA rates	plus 1.25% to 1.50%
SOFR revolving loans at SOFR rates	plus 1.25% to 1.50%
Letters of credit, with fees of	1.25% to 1.50%
Standby fees, required to be paid on the unutilized facility, of	0.25%

4. Long-term debt

<i>(Amounts in \$000s)</i>	April 1, 2023	December 31, 2022
Term loan	\$ 248,759	\$ 250,672
Less: current portion	(7,500)	(7,500)
	241,259	243,172
Less: deferred finance costs	(4,627)	(4,972)
	\$ 236,632	\$ 238,200

As at April 1, 2023, the Company had a \$300.0 million term facility with an interest rate of SOFR plus 3.75% (0.75% SOFR floor), (as at December 31, 2022: \$300.0 million term facility with an interest rate of SOFR plus 3.75% (0.75% SOFR floor)), maturing in October 2026.

HIGH LINER FOODS INCORPORATED

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

In United States dollars, unless otherwise noted

Quarterly principal repayments of \$1.9 million are required on the term loan as regularly scheduled repayments. During the thirteen weeks ended April 1, 2023, regularly scheduled repayments of \$1.9 million were made. There are regularly scheduled repayments of \$7.5 million to be paid in the next 12 months. There are no mandatory prepayments related to excess cash flows in 2022 expected for 2023.

Substantially all tangible and intangible assets (excluding working capital) of the Company are pledged as collateral for the term loan facility.

5. Share capital

Purchase of shares for cancellation

In June 2022, the Company announced that the Toronto Stock Exchange approved a Normal Course Issued Bid to repurchase up to 200,000 common shares. Purchases could commence on on June 7, 2022 and will terminate no later than June 6, 2023. During the thirteen weeks ended April 1, 2023, the Company did not purchase any common shares under this plan. During the fifty-two weeks ended December 31, 2022, the Company purchased 135,568 common shares under this plan at an average price of \$9.51 (CAD\$12.32) per share for total cash consideration of \$1.3 million (CAD\$1.7 million). The excess of the purchase price over the book value of the shares in the amount of \$0.9 million was charged to retained earnings.

In June 2021, the Company announced that the Toronto Stock Exchange approved a Normal Course Issuer Bid to repurchase up to 150,000 common shares. Purchases commenced on June 23, 2021 and were terminated early on June 7, 2022. During the thirteen weeks ended April 2, 2022, the Company purchased the remaining 27,900 common shares under this plan at an average price of \$10.04 (CAD\$12.71) per share for total cash consideration of \$0.3 million (CAD\$0.4 million). The excess of the purchase price over the book value of the shares in the amount of \$0.2 million was charged to retained earnings.

A summary of the Company's common share transactions is as follows:

	Thirteen weeks ended		Thirteen weeks ended	
	April 1, 2023		April 2, 2022	
	Shares	(\$000s)	Shares	(\$000s)
Common shares:				
Balance, beginning of period	33,179,282	\$ 113,096	33,329,710	\$ 113,458
Options exercised for shares via cashless exercise method (Note 6) ¹	181,417	1,133	10,904	40
Shares repurchased for cancellation	—	—	(27,900)	(77)
Balance, end of period	33,360,699	\$ 114,229	33,312,714	\$ 113,421

⁽¹⁾ For the thirteen weeks ended April 1, 2023, 181,417 shares were issued related to options exercised via the cashless method. The issuance of shares was authorized on March 31, 2023 and settled on April 4, 2023.

During the thirteen weeks ended April 1, 2023, the Company distributed dividends per share of CAD\$0.13 (thirteen weeks ended April 2, 2022: CAD\$0.10).

On May 16, 2023, the Company's Board of Directors declared a quarterly dividend of CAD\$0.13 per share, payable on June 15, 2023 to shareholders of record as of June 1, 2023.

6. Share-based compensation

The Company has a Share Option Plan (the "Option Plan") for designated directors, officers and certain managers of the Company, a Performance Share Unit ("PSU") Plan for eligible employees which includes the potential issuances of restricted share units ("RSU"), and a Deferred Share Unit ("DSU") Plan for directors of the Company.

HIGH LINER FOODS INCORPORATED
Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements
In United States dollars, unless otherwise noted

Issuances of options, RSUs and PSUs may not result in the following limitations being exceeded: (a) the aggregate number of shares issuable to insiders pursuant to the PSU Plan, the Option Plan or any other share-based compensation arrangement of the Company exceeding 10% of the aggregate of the issued and outstanding shares at any time; and (b) the issuance from treasury to insiders, within a twelve-month period, of an aggregate number of shares under the PSU Plan, the Option Plan and any other share-based compensation arrangement of the Company exceeding 10% of the aggregate of the issued and outstanding shares.

The carrying amount of cash-settled share-based compensation arrangements recognized in other current liabilities and other long-term liabilities on the consolidated statements of financial position was \$1.2 million and \$5.7 million, respectively, as at April 1, 2023 (December 31, 2022: \$5.0 million and \$5.7 million, respectively).

Share-based compensation expense) is recognized in the consolidated statements of income as follows:

<i>(Amounts in \$000s)</i>	Thirteen weeks ended		Thirteen weeks ended	
	April 1,		April 2,	
	2023		2022	
Cost of sales resulting from:				
Equity-settled awards ⁽¹⁾	\$	—	\$	7
Selling, general and administrative expenses resulting from:				
Cash-settled awards ⁽¹⁾		1,819		42
Equity-settled awards ⁽¹⁾		88		117
Share-based compensation expense	\$	1,907	\$	166

⁽¹⁾ Cash-settled awards may include PSUs, RSUs and DSUs. Equity-settled awards include options.

The following table illustrates the number ("No.") and weighted average exercise prices ("WAEP") of, and movements in, options during the period:

	Thirteen weeks ended		Thirteen weeks ended	
	April 1, 2023		April 2, 2022	
	No.	WAEP (CAD)	No.	WAEP (CAD)
Outstanding, beginning of period	1,479,833	\$ 10.19	1,447,096	\$ 10.18
Granted	119,860	15.14	151,325	12.70
Exercised for shares via cashless method ⁽¹⁾	(680,873)	11.03	(26,618)	7.49
Expired	—	—	(35,483)	20.61
Outstanding, end of period	918,820	\$ 10.22	1,536,320	\$ 10.24
Exercisable, end of period	597,244	\$ 8.31	1,184,066	\$ 9.79

⁽¹⁾ For the thirteen weeks ended April 1, 2023, 181,417 shares were issued related to options exercised via the cashless method (thirteen weeks ended April 2, 2022: 10,904). The weighted average share price at the date of exercise for these options was CAD\$14.85 for the thirteen weeks ended April 1, 2023 (thirteen weeks ended April 2, 2022: CAD\$12.68).

HIGH LINER FOODS INCORPORATED

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

In United States dollars, unless otherwise noted

Set forth below is a summary of the outstanding options to purchase common shares as at April 1, 2023:

Option price (CAD)	Options outstanding			Options exercisable	
	Number outstanding	Weighted average exercise price	Average life (years)	Number exercisable	Weighted average exercise price
\$ 7.25–10.00	514,243	\$ 7.48	1.39	514,243	\$ 7.48
\$ 10.01–15.00	284,717	13.09	5.54	83,001	13.44
\$ 15.01–20.00	119,860	15.14	7.00	—	—
	918,820			597,244	

The fair value of options granted during the thirteen weeks ended April 1, 2023 and thirteen weeks ended April 2, 2022 was estimated on the date of grant using the Black-Scholes pricing model with the following weighted average inputs and assumptions:

	April 1, 2023	April 2, 2022
Dividend yield (%)	3.43	3.15
Expected volatility (%)	40.23	41.58
Risk-free interest rate (%)	3.44	1.43
Expected life (years)	7.00	7.00
Weighted average share price (CAD)	\$ 15.14	\$ 12.70
Weighted average fair value (CAD)	\$ 4.80	\$ 3.93

The expected life of the options is based on historical data and current expectations and is not necessarily indicative of exercise patterns that may occur. The expected volatility reflects the assumption that the historical volatility over a period similar to the life of the options is indicative of future trends, which may also not necessarily be the actual outcome.

The following table illustrates the movements in the number of PSUs during the period:

	Thirteen weeks ended April 1, 2023	Thirteen weeks ended April 2, 2022
Outstanding, beginning of period	566,363	628,844
Granted	196,886	181,725
Reinvested dividends	4,642	4,719
Released and paid in cash	(242,011)	(217,015)
Forfeited	(1,724)	(6,142)
Outstanding, end of period	524,156	592,131

The expected performance multiplier used in determining the fair value of the liability and related share-based compensation expense for PSUs for the thirteen weeks ended April 1, 2023 was 47% (thirteen weeks ended April 2, 2022: 92%).

HIGH LINER FOODS INCORPORATED
Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements
In United States dollars, unless otherwise noted

The following table illustrates the movements in the number of RSUs during the period:

	Thirteen weeks ended	Thirteen weeks ended
	April 1, 2023	April 2, 2022
Outstanding, beginning of period	452,978	479,880
Granted	158,885	134,901
Reinvested dividends	3,933	3,704
Released and paid in cash	(170,026)	(148,533)
Forfeited	(1,724)	(3,835)
Outstanding, end of period	444,046	466,117

The share price at the reporting date was CAD\$15.33 (April 2, 2022: CAD\$13.17). PSUs will vest at the end of a three-year period, if agreed-upon performance measures are met, and the RSUs will vest in accordance with the terms of the agreement.

The following table illustrates the movements in the number of DSUs during the period:

	Thirteen weeks ended	Thirteen weeks ended
	April 1, 2023	April 2, 2022
Outstanding, beginning of period	400,444	317,103
Granted	2,937	4,650
Reinvested dividends	3,575	2,582
Outstanding, end of period	406,956	324,335

7. Income tax expense

The Company's statutory tax rate for the thirteen weeks ended April 1, 2023 was 27.8% (thirteen weeks ended April 2, 2022: 27.9%). The Company's effective income tax rate for the thirteen weeks ended April 1, 2023 was 4.1% (thirteen weeks ended April 2, 2022: 20.4%). The lower effective tax rate for the thirteen weeks ended April 1, 2023, was primarily attributable to the Company's tax-efficient financing structure.

8. Geographic information

Sales earned outside of Canada for the thirteen weeks ended April 1, 2023 were \$265.1 million (April 2, 2022: \$230.9 million). Sales by geographic area are determined based on the shipping location. The Company disaggregates revenue from contracts with customers based on its single operating segment, North America.

The non-current assets outside of Canada are as follows:

(Amounts in \$000s)	April 1, 2023	December 31, 2022
Property, plant and equipment	\$ 90,640	\$ 90,976
Right-of-use assets	4,174	4,948
Intangible assets	113,423	115,057
Goodwill	147,916	147,916
	\$ 356,153	\$ 358,897

HIGH LINER FOODS INCORPORATED

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

In United States dollars, unless otherwise noted

9. Fair value measurement

Fair value of financial instruments

The Company uses a fair value hierarchy, based on the relative objectivity of the inputs used to measure the fair value of financial instruments, with Level 1 representing inputs with the highest level of objectivity and Level 3 representing inputs with the lowest level of objectivity. The following table sets out the Company's financial assets and liabilities by level within the fair value hierarchy:

<i>(Amounts in \$000s)</i>	April 1, 2023		December 31, 2022	
	Level 2	Level 3	Level 2	Level 3
Fair value of financial assets				
Interest rate swaps	\$ 6,457	\$ —	\$ 7,553	\$ —
Foreign exchange contracts	1,241	—	2,102	—
Fair value of financial liabilities				
Foreign exchange contracts	642	—	485	—
Long-term debt	—	247,830	—	245,379

The Company's Level 2 derivatives are valued using valuation techniques such as forward pricing and swap models. These models incorporate various market-observable inputs including foreign exchange spot and forward rates, and interest rate curves.

The fair values of long-term debt instruments, classified as Level 3 in the fair value hierarchy, are estimated based on unobservable inputs, including discounted cash flows using current rates for similar financial instruments subject to similar risks and maturities, adjusted to reflect the Company's credit risk.

The Company uses the date of the event or change in circumstances to recognize transfers between Level 1, Level 2 and Level 3 fair value measurements. During the thirteen weeks ended April 1, 2023, no such transfers occurred.

The financial liabilities not measured at fair value on the consolidated statements of financial position consist of long-term debt (including current portion). The carrying amount of these instruments was \$244.1 million as at April 1, 2023 (December 31, 2022: \$245.7 million).

HIGH LINER FOODS INCORPORATED

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

In United States dollars, unless otherwise noted

Hedging activities

Interest rate swaps

During the thirteen weeks ended April 1, 2023, the Company had the following interest rate swaps outstanding to hedge interest rate risk resulting from the term loan facility (see Note 4):

Effective date	Maturity date	Receive floating rate	Pay fixed rate	Notional amount (millions)
Designated in a formal hedging relationship:				
January 6, 2023	July 7, 2023	3-month SOFR (floor 0.75%)	0.4650 %	\$ 25.0
January 6, 2023	July 8, 2024	3-month SOFR (floor 0.75%)	0.6840 %	\$ 25.0
January 6, 2023	July 6, 2026	3-month SOFR (floor 0.75%)	1.1500 %	\$ 35.0
December 30, 2022	December 31, 2025	3-month SOFR (floor 0.75%)	1.0910 %	\$ 20.0

The cash flow hedge of interest expense variability was assessed to be effective for the thirteen weeks ended April 1, 2023 and April 2, 2022, and therefore the change in fair value for those interest rate swaps designated in a hedging relationship was included in OCI as after-tax net losses of \$0.2 million and after-tax net gains of \$2.6 million, respectively.

The Company did not hold any interest rate swaps that were not designated in a formal hedging relationship during the thirteen weeks ended April 1, 2023 and April 2, 2022. There were \$nil amounts recognized in the consolidated statements of income resulting from hedge ineffectiveness during the thirteen weeks ended April 1, 2023 (thirteen weeks ended April 2, 2022: \$nil).

Foreign currency contracts

Foreign currency forward contracts are used to hedge foreign currency risk resulting from expected future purchases denominated in USD, which the Company has qualified as highly probable forecasted transactions, and to hedge foreign currency risk resulting from USD monetary assets and liabilities, which are not covered by natural hedges.

As at April 1, 2023, the Company had outstanding notional amounts of \$44.2 million (April 2, 2022: \$47.6 million) in foreign currency average-rate forward contracts that were formally designated as a hedge and \$1.1 million in foreign currency single-rate forward contracts that were formally designated as a hedge (April 2, 2022: \$2.4 million). With the exception of \$1.5 million (April 2, 2022: \$0.9 million) average-rate forward contracts with maturities ranging from April 2024 to September 2024, all foreign currency forward contracts have maturities that are less than one year.

The cash flow hedges of the expected future purchases were assessed to be effective for the thirteen weeks ended April 1, 2023 and April 2, 2022, and therefore the change in fair value was recorded in OCI as after-tax net losses of \$0.1 million and \$0.4 million, respectively. There were after-tax net gains of \$0.2 million and nominal amounts recognized in the consolidated statements of income resulting from hedge ineffectiveness during the thirteen weeks ended April 1, 2023 and April 2, 2022.

As at April 1, 2023, the Company had \$10.0 million (April 2, 2022: \$14.0 million) of foreign currency single-rate forward contracts to hedge foreign currency exchange risk on USD monetary assets and liabilities that were not formally designated as a hedge. The change in fair value related to hedging foreign currency exchange risk on USD monetary assets and liabilities, recognized in the consolidated statements of income for the thirteen weeks ended April 1, 2023 were net losses of \$0.2 million, (thirteen weeks ended April 2, 2022: net losses of \$0.4 million).

Hedge of net investment in foreign operations

As at April 1, 2023, a total borrowing of \$313.6 million (\$20.0 million included in accounts payable, \$49.5 million included in bank loans, \$7.5 million included in the current portion of long-term debt and \$236.6 million included in long-term debt (December 31, 2022: a total borrowing of \$295.1 million (\$20.0 million included in accounts payable, \$29.4 million included in bank loans, \$7.5 million included in the current portion of long-term debt and \$238.2 million included in long-term debt)) has been designated as a hedge of the net investment in the U.S. subsidiary and is being used to hedge the Company's exposure to foreign exchange risk on this net investment. Gains or losses on the re-translation of this borrowing are transferred to OCI to offset any gains or losses on translation of the net investment in the U.S. subsidiary. There was no hedge ineffectiveness recognized during the thirteen weeks ended April 1, 2023 and April 2, 2022.