## SPHERE 3D CORP. <br> BOARD MANDATE

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\section*{1 General}

The Board of Directors (the "Board") of Sphere 3D Corp. (the "Corporation") approves the overall policies for the Corporation, monitors and evaluates the Corporation's strategic direction, and retains plenary power for those functions not specifically delegated by it to its committees or to management. Accordingly, in addition to the duties of directors of an Ontario corporation as prescribed by statute, the mandate of the Board is to supervise the management of the business and affairs of the Corporation with a view to evaluate, on an ongoing basis, whether the Corporation's resources are being managed in a manner consistent with enhancing shareholder value, ethical considerations and corporate social responsibility.


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## 2 Responsibilities of the Board

### 2.1 Legal

2.1.1 Develop and maintain an understanding of provincial and federal legislation applicable to the Corporation and its operations.
2.1.2 Review policies and procedures to confirm ethical behaviour of the Corporation and its employees, and monitor compliance with applicable laws and regulations.
2.1.3 Monitor adequate implementation of systems to comply with health, safety and environmental policies and compliance with applicable laws and regulations.
2.1.4 Monitor corporate insurance requirements and ensure the Corporation is above the minimum legal standard.
2.1.5 Approve the interim financial statements, annual financial statements, management proxy circulars, takeover bid circulars, directors’ circulars, prospectuses, annual information forms and other disclosure documents required to be approved by the directors of a corporation under applicable corporate and securities laws, regulations and the rules of any applicable stock exchange.

### 2.2 Strategy and Policy

2.2.1 Review and approve the mission of the Corporation.
2.2.2 Approve the strategy and major policy decisions set forth by management.
2.2.3 Approve the periodic capital and operating plans and monitoring corporate performance against those strategic plans.
2.2.4 Review and approve borrowing requirements and borrowing authority relating to the Corporation’s credit facilities.
2.2.5 Approve of a strategic planning process as well as a system of monitoring corporate performance against such plans.
2.2.6 Review and approve material transactions that:
2.2.6.1 are not in the ordinary course of the business,
2.2.6.2 differ significantly from the Corporation’s strategic plan,
2.2.6.3 involve an acquisition or disposition of any asset valued at more than $\$ 250,000$ that is outside of the ordinary course of the Company's business, unless otherwise approved by the Board in the Corporation's annual business plan, or
2.2.6.4 enter into any related party or non-arm's length transaction of whatever nature including without limitation any transaction with or involving the Corporation's directors, officers, shareholders or persons related or connected to them within the meaning of Canadian tax laws, being understood that all such transactions need to be at fair market value.

### 2.3 Accountability

2.3.1 Ensure that it is properly informed, on a timely basis, of all important issues relating to developments involving the Corporation and its business environment.
2.3.2 Adopt and enforce good corporate governance practices and processes.
2.3.3 Assess the performance of the Board and each of its committees.
2.3.4 Assess the performance, independence and financial literacy of each of its Board members.
2.3.5 Select, appoint and evaluate the Chief Executive Officer (or President if no Chief Executive Officer is appointed) and the Chief Financial Officer and, if necessary, terminate the Chief Executive Officer, President and Chief Financial Officer.
2.3.6 Satisfy itself as to the integrity of the Chief Executive Officer, President, Chief Financial Officer and other senior officers of the Corporation and as to the culture of integrity throughout the Corporation.
2.3.7 Implement succession planning, including appointing, counseling and monitoring the performance of executive officers.
2.3.8 Review human resources policies of the Corporation in general, including in particular the approval of the compensation of executive officers.
2.3.9 Adopt and enforce policies and processes to satisfy itself as to the integrity of the Corporation's internal control and management information systems and its financial reporting.
2.3.10 Confirm that an appropriate orientation program is developed for new directors and that continuing education opportunities are available for all directors.
2.3.11 Define the duties and limitations of authority of senior management.

### 2.4 Public Relations

2.4.1 Establish policies and procedures for the disclosure of reliable and timely information to shareholders and other stakeholders.
2.4.2 Establish policies and procedures for the proper communication with shareholders, customers and governments.
2.4.3 Formally call meetings of shareholders and submit to the shareholders any question or matter requiring approval of the shareholders.
2.4.4 Approve the directors for nomination to be elected at shareholders' meetings and filling a vacancy among the directors.
2.4.5 Declare dividends and establish of the dividend policy for the Corporation.

### 2.5 Risk Management

2.5.1 Oversee the management of risks and the implementation of internal controls.
2.5.2 With management, identify the principal risks of the Corporation's business and the systems to be put in place to manage these risks and monitor the adequacy of such systems.
2.5.3 Establish policies and processes to identify the Corporation's principal business risks, including hedging policies for the Corporation, and confirm that systems are in place to mitigate these risks where prudent to do so.

## Responsibilities of Directors

3.1 Develop and maintain a thorough understanding of the Corporation, the markets in which its business is conducted, its financial position, strategic direction and goals.
3.2 Diligently prepare for each meeting, ensuring that all distributed information is reviewed in advance of such meeting.
3.3 Actively and constructively participate in each meeting, ensuring all relevant issues are given consideration.
3.4 Acquire information and clarification from management regarding any relevant aspect of the Corporations affairs as needed.
3.5 Engage in continued directors' education as relevant to their role as a director of the Corporation.

Board Composition

### 4.1 Board Membership Criteria

The Nominating and Governance Committee of the Board is responsible for establishing the competencies and skills that the Board considers to be necessary for the Board as a whole, to possess, the competencies and skills that the Board considers each existing director to possess, and
the competencies and skills each new nominee will bring to the Board. The Nominating and Governance Committee identifies candidates for Board membership based on their character, integrity, judgment and record of achievement and any skills and talents they possess which would add to the Board's decision-making process and enhance the overall management of the business and affairs of the Corporation.

Directors must have sufficient time to carry out their duties and not assume responsibilities that would materially interfere with or be incompatible with Board membership. Directors who change their principal occupation are expected to advise the Nominating and Governance Committee and, if determined appropriate by the Nominating and Governance Committee, resign from the Board.

### 4.2 Director Independence

The Board believes that, except during periods of temporary vacancies, not less than half of its members should be Independent Directors.

In all cases, the determination of whether a director is independent will be made by the Board in accordance with applicable securities laws and stock exchange rules. Generally, an "Independent Director" is a director who has no direct or indirect material relationship with the Corporation. For these purposes, "material relationship" means a relationship which could, in the view of the Board, reasonably interfere with the exercise of a director's independent judgment in carrying out the responsibilities of a director.

In making a determination regarding a director's independence, the Board will consider all relevant facts and circumstances, including the director's commercial, industrial, banking, consulting, legal, accounting, charitable and familial relationships and such other criteria as the Board may determine from time to time.

The Board will review the independence of all directors on an annual basis and will disclose its determinations annually. To facilitate this review, directors will be asked to provide the Board with full information regarding their business and other relationships with the Corporation and its affiliates and with senior management and their affiliates.

Directors have an ongoing obligation to inform the Board of any material changes in their circumstances or relationships which may affect the Board's determination as to their independence.

### 4.3 Board Size

The Corporation will have a minimum of one director and a maximum of ten directors, with the number of directors from time to time within such range being fixed by resolution of the directors, provided that until otherwise so determined by resolution, the number of directors will be seven (7). The Board is of the view that its current size of seven (7) members is conducive to effective decision-making and committee work.

The Nominating and Governance Committee is responsible for evaluating the effectiveness of the Board size on a regular basis and reporting its analysis and recommendations to the Board.
$4.4 \quad$ Term

Each director is elected or appointed at the annual meeting of shareholders of the Corporation to hold office until the close of the annual meeting of shareholders next following such director's election or appointment and until such director's successor is elected or appointed.
4.5 Board Succession

The Nominating and Governance Committee is responsible for maintaining a Board succession plan that is responsive to the Corporation's needs and the interests of its shareholders.

### 4.6 Service on Other Boards and Audit Committees

The Board does not believe that its members should be prohibited from serving on the boards of other public companies so long as these commitments do not materially interfere with and are not incompatible with their ability to fulfill their duties as a member of the Board.

## Delegation to Management

The Board has delegated financial authority to the Chief Executive Officer (or President, if no Chief Executive Officer has been appointed) (who may sub-delegate such authority to the Chief Financial Officer or such other individuals within the Corporation as appropriate that are approved in advance by the Board) for approval of expenditures, all of which must be made within the framework of the strategic plan of the Corporation approved by the Board.

## Chair

6.1 Appointment

The Board will elect from among its members a Chair.

### 6.2 General

The Chair is principally responsible for overseeing the operations and affairs of the Board.

### 6.3 Specific Roles and Responsibilities

6.3.1 Lead, manage and organize the Board, consistent with the approach to corporate governance adopted by the Board from time to time.
6.3.2 Preside as chair at all meetings of the Board and shareholders.
6.3.3 Approve the agenda of the Board and shareholders' meetings, in consultation with the Corporate Secretary and the Lead Independent Director (if required to be appointed).
6.3.4 Confirm that Board functions are delegated to appropriate committees and that the functions are carried out and the results reported to the Board.
6.3.5 Together with the Lead Independent Director (if required to be appointed), approach potential candidates for Board membership, once candidates have been identified and selected by the Nominating and Governance Committee, to explore their interest in joining the Board.
6.3.6 Confirm that the Board and senior management understand their respective responsibilities and respect the boundary between them.
6.3.7 Chair Board meetings, including providing appropriate briefing materials to be delivered in a timely fashion, stimulating debate, providing adequate time for discussion of issues, facilitating consensus, encouraging full participation and discussion by individual directors and confirming that clarity regarding decisions is reached and accurately recorded.
6.3.8 Ensure that management files and fulfills disclosure requirements to statutory authorities under applicable legislation.
6.3.9 Approve a resource allocation plan to ensure that the Board and its committees have the necessary resources to carry out their responsibilities, in particular, timely and relevant information.
6.3.10 Work with the Lead Independent Director (if required to be appointed), the Chair of the Nominating and Governance Committee, the Corporate Secretary, and senior officers of the Corporation to further the creation of a healthy governance culture within the Corporation.
6.3.11 Represent the Corporation to shareholders and external stakeholders, including local community groups, government, and non-governmental organizations.
6.3.12 Perform additional duties as may be requested by the Board from time to time.

## 7 Lead Independent Director

7.1 Appointment

In each year that the elected Chair is not an Independent Director, the Board will elect from among its Independent Directors a Lead Independent Director.
7.2 General

The Lead Independent Director provides a source of Board leadership complementary to that of the Chair.
7.3 Specific Roles and Responsibilities

### 7.3.1 Enhancing Board Effectiveness

7.3.1.1 Work with the Chair and Corporate Secretary to ensure the Board has adequate resources, especially by way of full, timely and relevant information to support its decision-making requirements.
7.3.1.2 Review and approve that appropriate procedures are in place to allow the Board to work effectively and efficiently and to function independently from management.
7.3.1.3 Provide input to the Chair and Corporate Secretary on the preparation of agendas for Board and committee meetings and the scheduling of Board meetings.
7.3.1.4 Work with the Chair and the Nominating and Governance Committee to ensure there is a process to implement best practices which relate to the responsibilities of the Board.
7.3.1.5 Chair Board meetings when the Chair is unavailable.
7.3.1.6 Maintain a close and collaborative relationship with the Chair.
7.3.1.7 Assist in orienting and integrating new directors to the Board.
7.3.1.8 Represent the Corporation to shareholders and external stakeholders, including local community groups, government, and non-governmental organizations.
7.3.1.9 Perform additional duties as may be requested by the Board from time to time.
7.3.2 Liaison Between Board and Management and Among Directors
7.3.2.1 In association with scheduled Board meetings, chairing meetings of Independent Directors to discuss issues relating to the Corporation's business without the presence of management or the Chair.
7.3.2.2 Communicating with the Chair and the entire Board, as appropriate, the results of private discussions among Independent Directors or the results of meetings of the Independent Directors.
7.3.2.3 Acting as a communication channel among the directors and between directors and the Chair in respect of issues not readily or easily discussed in a formal setting.
7.3.2.4 Ensuring that the Board understands and maintains the boundaries between Board and management responsibilities.

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## Corporate Secretary

### 8.1 Appointment

The Board will appoint one of its members, its senior officers or its legal counsel to act as the Corporate Secretary.
8.2 General

The Corporate Secretary is responsible for assisting the Chair and the Lead Independent Director (if required to be appointed) in managing the operations and affairs of the Board and for performing additional duties as may be requested by the Chair, Lead Independent Director (if required to be appointed), or the Board or any of its committees from time to time.

### 8.3 Specific Roles and Responsibilities

8.3.1 Oversee the preparation of all materials for shareholders that relate to the election of directors or the matters discussed in these guidelines.
8.3.2 Confirm that all notices and materials are delivered to shareholders and directors in a timely manner.
8.3.3 Confirm that all minutes of meetings of shareholders, the Board and committees are accurately recorded.
8.3.4 Administer the operations of the Board and its committees.
8.3.5 Monitor compliance with the governance policies of the Board, including those regarding frequency and conduct of Board meetings, reporting information and other policies relating to the Board's business.
8.3.6 Perform additional duties as may be requested by the Chair, Lead Independent Director (if required to be appointed), or the Board or any of its committees from time to time.

## 9 Board Committees

9.1 General

The Board carries out its responsibilities directly and through the following committees and such other committees as it may establish from time to time: the Audit Committee, the Nominating and Governance Committee and the Compensation Committee.
9.2 Composition

Each of the committees will be composed of at least three directors. Each of the Audit Committee, the Nominating and Governance Committee and Compensation Committee will be comprised of Independent Directors (unless otherwise required by applicable securities law). Committee members will be selected by the Board on the recommendation of the Nominating and Governance Committee and who meet the requirements with respect to independence and financial literacy, as applicable, set out in applicable securities laws.
9.3 Chair

Each of the committees are chaired by a director who is selected by the Board on the recommendation of the Nominating and Governance Committee. The chair will be responsible for determining the agenda and the frequency and conduct of meetings.

Each committee has its own mandate that sets out its responsibilities and duties, qualifications for membership, procedures for committee member appointment and removal and reporting to the Board.

On a periodic basis (unless required annually or more frequently by applicable securities laws), each committee's mandate is reviewed by both the committee itself and the Nominating and Governance Committee and is also reviewed and approved by the Board.

## Board and Committee Meetings

### 10.1 Scheduling

Board meetings are scheduled in advance at appropriate intervals throughout the year. In addition to regularly scheduled Board meetings, additional Board meetings may be called upon proper notice at any time to address specific needs of the Corporation. The Board may also take action from time to time by unanimous written consent. Any director or the Chief Executive Officer may call a Board meeting.

Each committee meets as often as it determines necessary to fulfill its responsibilities. A meeting of any committee may be called by the chair of such committee, the Chair of the Board, the Chief Executive Officer, the President, the Chief Financial Officer, the Lead Independent Director (if required to be appointed), or any two committee members.

Board meetings are held at a location determined by the Chair on the advice of the Lead Independent Director (if required to be appointed) and meetings of each committee are held at a location determined by the chair of such committee.

### 10.2 Notice

Notice of the time and place of each meeting of the Board or any committee must be given to each director (a) not less than 48 hours before the time when the meeting is to be held if the notice is mailed; or (b) not less than 24 hours before the time the meeting is to be held if the notice is given personally or is delivered or is sent by any means of transmitted or recorded communication or as an electronic document.

Board or committee meetings may be held at any time without notice if all of the directors or committee members have waived or are deemed to have waived notice of the meeting. A director participating in a Board or committee meeting is deemed to have waived notice of the meeting.
10.3 Agenda

In consultation with the Corporate Secretary and the Lead Independent Director (if required to be appointed), the Chair establishes the agenda for each Board meeting. Any director may propose the inclusion of items on the agenda, request the presence of or a report by any member of senior management, or at any Board meeting raise subjects that are not on the agenda for that meeting.

In consultation with the Corporate Secretary, the Lead Independent Director (if required to be appointed), and the Chief Executive Officer (or President if no Chief Executive Officer has been appointed), committee chairs establish the agenda for each committee meeting. Any committee
member may propose the inclusion of items on the agenda, request the presence of or a report by any member of senior management, or at any committee meeting raise subjects that are not on the agenda for the meeting.

The Corporate Secretary distributes an agenda and meeting material in advance of each Board or committee meeting to allow Board or committee members, as the case may be, sufficient time to review and consider the matters to be discussed.

### 10.4 Independent Director Sessions

Independent Directors shall periodically meet separately without management present. The Lead Independent Director (if required to be appointed) informs management of the substance of these meetings to the extent that action is required by them.

### 10.5 Distribution of Information

The Board regularly receives reports on the financial results and operating activities of the Corporation, as well as periodic reports on certain non-operational matters, including, corporate governance, insurance, pensions and treasury matters and safety, health and environmental matters.
10.6 Attendance and Participation

Each director is expected to attend all meetings of the Board and any committee of which he or she is a member. A director who is unable to attend a Board or committee meeting in person may participate by telephone or teleconference.
10.7 Quorum

A quorum for any Board meeting is a majority of directors.
A quorum for any committee meeting is a majority of its members.
10.8 Voting and Approval

At Board or committee meetings, each director or member, as applicable, is entitled to one vote and questions are decided by a majority of votes. In case of an equality of votes, the chair of the meeting does not have a second or casting vote and the motion fails.
10.9 Procedures

The Chair determines procedures for Board meetings unless otherwise determined by the by-laws of the Corporation or a resolution of the Board.

The chair of the committee determines procedures for committee meetings unless otherwise determined by the by-laws of the Corporation or a resolution of the committee or the Board.

Unless otherwise determined by the Board, the Corporate Secretary acts as secretary to the Board and each of its committees. In the absence of the Corporate Secretary, the Board or a committee may appoint any other person to act as secretary.
10.11 Minutes of Meetings

Unless otherwise determined by the Board, the Corporate Secretary keeps minutes of the proceedings of the Board and each of its committees and circulates copies of the minutes to each Board or committee member, as the case may be, on a timely basis.

## 11 <br> Director Compensation

The Board believes that compensation for directors should be commensurate with the compensation paid to directors of comparable companies.

Directors who are employees of the Corporation or any of its affiliates do not receive any compensation for service as directors.

During the early stage of development of the Corporation, compensation for serving on the Board and its various subcommittees (including the Audit Committee and the Nominating and Governance Committee), as well as Chair of the Board (if the Chair is a non-employee) and any subcommittee thereof, and any meeting fees relating thereto shall be paid to outside directors by way of grant of options.

The Board may amend such compensation arrangements from time to time upon recommendation by the Chair of the Nominating and Governance Committee and approval of the Board, consistent with industry practice.

Directors are reimbursed by the Corporation for reasonable travel expenses (outside of the Greater Toronto Area) that are incurred in connection with their duties as directors.

## 12 Director Orientation and Continuing Education

New directors receive orientation materials describing the Corporation's business and its corporate governance policies and procedures. New directors also have meetings with the Chair, Lead Independent Director (if required to be appointed), Chief Executive Officer, President, and Chief Financial Officer.

The Nominating and Governance Committee is responsible for reasonably confirming that procedures are in place and resources are made available to provide directors with appropriate continuing education opportunities.

## 13 <br> Board Access to Management and Advisors

Directors have access to members of management and are encouraged to raise any questions or concerns directly with management. The Board and its committees may invite any member of management, outside advisor or other persons to attend any of their meetings.

The Board and any of its committees may reasonably retain an outside advisor at the expense of the Corporation at any time and have the authority to determine the advisor's fees and other retention terms.

Individual directors may retain an outside advisor at the expense of the Corporation with the approval of the Nominating and Governance Committee.

## Performance Assessment of the Board and its Committees

The Nominating and Governance Committee should annually review the effectiveness of the Board in fulfilling its responsibilities and duties as set out in these guidelines.

In addition, the Nominating and Governance Committee should annually review the effectiveness of all Board committees in fulfilling their responsibilities and duties as set out in their charter and in a manner consistent with these guidelines.

The Nominating and Governance Committee should evaluate individual directors to assess their suitability for nomination for re-election.

## 15 Codes of Ethics

The Board expects all directors, officers and employees of the Corporation to conduct themselves in accordance with the highest ethical standards.

The Board should adopt and approve a Code of Business Conduct and Ethics (the "Code") for employees which addresses, among other things, avoidance of conflicts of interest, protection of confidential information, compliance with applicable laws, rules and regulations, adherence to good disclosure practices and procedures for employees and third parties to report concerns with respect to accounting and auditing matters. As set out in the Code, an employee who, in good faith, reports a concern regarding accounting matters or a suspected breach of the Code is protected from retaliation, such as discharge, demotion, suspension, threats, harassment or discrimination.

The Board should also adopt and approve a Code of Ethics for directors that set out the ethical standards that apply to directors in the exercise of their duties.

Both Codes should be available in print to any shareholder who requests a copy.

## 16 Indemnification and Insurance

In accordance with the by-laws of the Corporation, directors and officers are each indemnified by the Corporation against all liability and costs arising out of any action or suit against them from the execution of their duties, provided that they have carried out their duties honestly and in good faith with a view to the best interests of the Corporation and have otherwise complied with the provisions of applicable corporate law.

The Corporation maintains insurance for the benefit of its directors and officers against any liability incurred by them for which they would be indemnified. The amount and terms of the insurance coverage are dependent upon prevailing market conditions and practices with the objective of adequately protecting directors and officers from such liability.

## Conflicts of Interest

Each director is required to inform the Nominating and Governance Committee of any conflict of interest he or she may have with the Corporation. If a director has a personal interest in a matter before the Board or a committee, he or she must not participate in any vote on the matter except where the Board or the committee has expressly determined that it is appropriate for him or her to do so in accordance with applicable law.

## Contact Board and Committees

The Board welcomes input and comments from shareholders of the Corporation. You may contact one or more members of the Board or its committees, by writing to the Corporate Secretary at:

Board of Directors of Sphere 3D Corporation<br>c/o Corporate Secretary<br>Sphere 3D Corporation<br>125 S. Market Street, Suite 1300<br>San Jose, CA 95113

## Definitions

Legal terms used in this Mandate have the meanings attributed to them below. Terms not otherwise defined herein have the meanings attributed to them in Multilateral Instrument 52-110, as amended from time to time.
"financially literate" means the ability to read and understand a set of financial statements that present a breadth and level of complexity of accounting issues that are generally comparable to the breadth and complexity of the issues that can reasonably be expected to be raised by the Corporation's financial statements.
"Independent Director" means a director who has no direct or indirect material relationship with the Corporation. For this purpose, a material relationship means a relationship which could, in the view of the Board, reasonably interfere with the exercise of a director's independent judgment in carrying out the responsibilities of a director. Despite the foregoing, the following individuals are considered to have a material relationship with the Corporation:

- An individual who is, or has been, an employee or executive officer of the Corporation, unless three years have elapsed since the end of the service or employment.
- An individual whose immediate family member is, or has been, an executive officer of the Corporation unless three years have elapsed since the end of the service or employment.
- An individual who is, or has been, an affiliated entity of, a partner of, or employed by, a current or former internal or external auditor of the Corporation unless three years have elapsed since the person's relationship with the internal or external auditor, or the auditing relationship, has ended.
- An individual whose immediate family member is, or has been, an affiliated entity of, or employed in a professional capacity by, a current or former internal or external auditor of the Corporation unless three years have elapsed since the person's relationship with the internal or external auditor, or the auditing relationship, has ended.
- An individual who is, or has been, or whose immediate family member is or has been, an executive officer of an entity if any of the Corporation's current executive officers serve on the entity's compensation committee unless three years have elapsed since the end of the service or employment.
- An individual who:
o has a relationship with the Corporation pursuant to which the individual may accept, directly or indirectly, any consulting, advisory or other compensatory fee from the Corporation or any subsidiary entity of the Corporation, other than as remuneration for acting in his or her capacity as a member of the Board or any Board committee, or as a part-time chair or vice-chair of the Board or any Board committee; or
o receives, or whose immediate family member receives, more than \$75,000 in any twelve consecutive month-period in compensation from the Corporation, other than as remuneration for acting in his or her capacity as a member of the Board or any Board committee or as benefits under a tax-qualified retirement plan or non-discretionary compensation, unless three years have elapsed since he or she ceased to receive more than $\$ 75,000$ of compensation in a twelvemonth period.
- An individual who is an affiliated entity of the Corporation or any of its subsidiary entities.

