



# Annual Information Form



February 13, 2020  
for the Year Ended  
December 31, 2019

**CANADA'S PREMIER NON-BANK LENDER™**

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## CORPORATE STRUCTURE

### NAME, ADDRESS AND PLACE OF INCORPORATION

Atrium Mortgage Investment Corporation (“Atrium”, “we”, “our” or “us”) was incorporated as “DB Mortgage Investment Corporation #1” under the *Business Corporations Act* (Ontario) by articles of incorporation dated July 30, 2001. Our registered and head office is located at 20 Adelaide Street East, Suite 900, Toronto, Ontario, Canada, M5C 2T6.

On March 23, 2012, at the annual general and special meeting of our shareholders, various amendments were made to our articles in anticipation of Atrium becoming a reporting issuer in Canada whose shares would be listed on the TSX. The changes included: (i) the subdivision and split of our outstanding common shares on the basis of 100 new common shares for every common share; (ii) various housekeeping changes to facilitate the transition of Atrium to a reporting issuer, including the deletion of all restrictions on the issue or transfer of our shares, all provisions dealing with the redemption of our common shares and the requirement that the board commence the winding-up of Atrium after December 31, 2015; (iii) the insertion of a restriction on our business activities so that we may not make any investment or conduct any activity that would result in our failing to qualify as a MIC; and (iv) the insertion of a provision that restricts a shareholder from holding, directly or indirectly, either alone or together with a person “related” to the shareholder, more than 25% of any class or series of our issued shares and providing for an automatic repurchase by us of any excess over 24.9% of the issued shares of any class or series of our shares in violation thereof.

### INTER-CORPORATE RELATIONSHIPS

We do not have any subsidiaries which have total assets or revenues that exceeded 10% of our total consolidated assets or revenues as at and for the year ended December 31, 2019.

### GOVERNANCE

Our board of directors is responsible for general oversight of our business and affairs. The Manager and its subsidiaries and affiliates originate and underwrite all mortgage loans on our behalf, service our mortgage portfolio and supervise our day-to-day management and operations.

The Manager and its subsidiaries and affiliates seek out, review and present us with mortgage loan opportunities that are consistent with our investment policies and objectives and service such mortgage loans on our behalf. The Manager has successfully originated, underwritten and serviced mortgage investments on behalf of numerous investor clients and financial institutions since 1994. The underwriting, investment and operating policies adopted by the Manager have proven to be well suited to the market serviced by the Manager and form the basis for our investment policies and objectives.

## GENERAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE BUSINESS

### THREE YEAR HISTORY

We are qualified as a “mortgage investment corporation” within the meaning of Section 130.1(6) of the ITA. Accordingly, we are not taxed on our income provided that our taxable income is paid to our shareholders as dividends within 90 days after December 31 each year. Such dividends are generally treated by shareholders as interest income, so that each shareholder is in the same position as if the mortgage investments made by us had been made directly by the shareholder.

Our common shares, 5.25% 7-year convertible debentures, 5.50% 7-year convertible debentures (2021), 5.30% 7-year convertible debentures, 5.50% 7-year convertible debentures (2025) and 5.60% 6-year convertible debentures are listed on the TSX under the symbols AI, AI.DB, AI.DB.B, AI.DB.C, AI.DB.D and AI.DB.E, respectively. We became a reporting issuer in all provinces of Canada other than Quebec on August 29, 2012 and our common shares became listed and commenced trading on the TSX on September 4, 2012 following filing and receiving a receipt for our non-offering prospectus dated August 24, 2012. Previously, we were a private company. We have issued convertible debentures as follows: In June and July 2013, we completed a public offering of \$32.5 million aggregate principal amount of our 5.25% convertible debentures. In February and March, 2014, we completed a public offering of \$31.8 million aggregate principal amount of our 6.25% convertible debentures (repaid on April 1, 2019). In September and October, 2014, we completed a public offering of \$40.25 million aggregate principal amount of our 5.50% convertible debentures (2021). In June, 2017, we completed a public offering of \$25.3 million aggregate principal amount of our 5.30% convertible debentures. In July, 2018 we completed a public offering of \$34.5 million aggregate principal amount of our 5.50% convertible debentures (2025). In March, 2019 we completed a public offering of \$28.8 million aggregate principal amount of our 5.60% convertible debentures.

In the past three years, we have not made any significant acquisitions or dispositions. Our business has grown organically as our mortgages receivable have increased from \$627 million at December 31, 2017 to \$683 million at December 31, 2018 and \$727 million at December 31, 2019 as reflected in our audited annual consolidated financial statements filed with securities regulators. During these periods, portfolio growth was funded through bank indebtedness, three issuances of common shares and two issuances of convertible debentures.

#### *HIGHLIGHTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2017*

- For the year ended December 31, 2017, our revenues were \$50 million, we earned \$0.95 per share, basic and \$0.94 per share fully diluted, and declared dividends of \$29 million (\$0.92 per share including a special dividend of \$0.04 per share payable on February 28, 2018 to shareholders of record at the close of business on December 31, 2017).
- We paid a regular dividend of \$0.073333 per share every month in 2017, a rate of \$0.88 per year. For 2017, our total dividends paid, including the special dividend of \$0.04 at year-end, aggregated \$0.92 per share. Subsequent to year end, we announced that we were increasing our regular monthly cash dividends, from an annual rate of \$0.88 to \$0.90 per share (or \$0.075 per share monthly), beginning with our January 2018 monthly dividend.
- We had \$627 million of mortgages receivable at December 31, 2017, an increase of 18% from December 31, 2016. During 2017, we funded new mortgages aggregating \$374 million. Six of our mortgages, totaling \$23 million, were in default as at December 31, 2017.
- On January 12, 2017, we extended and increased our operating credit facility with a syndicate of lenders to \$180 million, from \$160 million. The revised operating credit facility was for a two year term.
- We completed public share offerings in February and September 2017 for gross proceeds of \$69 million, including overallotment options that were fully exercised in both issuances, the net proceeds of which were used to repay indebtedness under our operating credit facility, as previously disclosed at the time of the offerings.
- In June 2017, we completed a public offering of \$25.3 million aggregate principal amount of 5.30% convertible debentures, the net proceeds of which were used to repay indebtedness under our operating credit facility, as previously disclosed at the time of the offering.
- On November 28, 2017, we added an additional lender to the syndicate of lenders under our operating credit facility and we extended and increased our operating credit facility to \$210 million, from \$180 million. The revised operating credit facility currently had a two year term ending in January 2020.

#### *HIGHLIGHTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2018*

- For the year ended December 31, 2018, our revenues were \$58 million, we earned \$0.95 per share, basic and \$0.94 per share fully diluted, and declared dividends of \$34 million (\$0.94 per share including a special dividend of \$0.04 per share payable on February 28, 2019 to shareholders of record at the close of business on December 31, 2018).
- We paid a regular dividend of \$0.075 per share every month in 2018, a rate of \$0.90 per year. For 2018, our total dividends paid, including the special dividend of \$0.04 at year-end, aggregated \$0.94 per share. Subsequent to year end, we announced our regular monthly cash dividends would remain at an annual rate of \$0.90 (or \$0.075 per share monthly) for 2019, beginning with our January 2019 monthly dividend.
- We had \$683 million of mortgages receivable at December 31, 2018, an increase of 9% from December 31, 2017. During 2018, we funded new mortgages aggregating \$306 million. Six mortgages, aggregating \$7 million, were in default as at December 31, 2018.
- We completed a public share offering in March and April 2018 for gross proceeds of \$34.5 million, the net proceeds of which were used to fund mortgage loan opportunities and to repay indebtedness under our operating credit facility, as previously disclosed at the time of the offering.
- In July 2018, we completed a public offering of \$34.5 million aggregate principal amount of our 5.50% convertible debentures (2025), the net proceeds of which were used to repay indebtedness under our operating credit facility, as previously disclosed at the time of the offering.

#### *HIGHLIGHTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2019*

- For the year ended December 31, 2019, our revenues were \$66 million, we earned \$0.97 per share, basic and \$0.96 per share fully diluted, and declared dividends of \$38 million (\$0.96 per share including a special dividend of \$0.06 per share payable on February 28, 2020 to shareholders of record at the close of business

on December 31, 2019).

- We paid a regular dividend of \$0.075 per share every month in 2019, a rate of \$0.90 per year. For 2019, our total dividends paid, including the special dividend of \$0.06 at year-end, aggregated \$0.96 per share. Subsequent to year end, we announced our regular monthly cash dividends would remain at an annual rate of \$0.90 (or \$0.075 per share monthly) for 2020, beginning with our January 2020 monthly dividend.
- We had \$727 million of mortgages receivable at December 31, 2019, an increase of 7% from December 31, 2018. During 2019, we funded new mortgages aggregating \$272 million. Five mortgages, aggregating \$20 million, were in default as at December 31, 2019.
- We completed a public share offering in February 2019. In October 2019 we completed a public share offering and a private share offering. Total gross proceeds of these offerings were \$61.8 million, the net proceeds of which were used to repay indebtedness under our operating credit facility, which was then used to fund mortgage loan opportunities, as previously disclosed at the time of the offerings.
- In March 2019, we completed a public offering of \$28.8 million aggregate principal amount of our 5.60% convertible debentures, the net proceeds of which were used to repay indebtedness under our operating credit facility, as previously disclosed at the time of the offering.
- On March 31, 2019, the 6.25% convertible debentures matured and we repaid the balance of the outstanding 6.25% convertible debenture in full.

#### **SIGNIFICANT ACQUISITIONS**

There were no significant acquisitions completed by us in the most recently completed financial year.

### **DESCRIPTION OF THE BUSINESS**

#### **GENERAL**

We are a mortgage lender that fills the lending gap caused by the limited number of financial institutions operating in Canada. We lend in major urban centres where the stability and liquidity of real estate are at the highest levels. We focus on loans that cannot be placed with financial institutions but that represent an acceptable underwriting risk. Our policy is that the weighted average loan-to-value ratio of our mortgage portfolio, as a whole, at the time of underwriting each loan in our portfolio, may not exceed 75%. A typical loan in our portfolio has an interest rate of 7.75% to 10% per annum, a one or two-year term and monthly interest-only mortgage payments.

Our lending parameters are as follows:

- Mortgages on residential and commercial properties up to a maximum of 75% of appraised value.
- Loans on single family residences up to 75% of appraised value.
- Mortgages on income-producing real estate up to a maximum of 85% of appraised value.
- Construction loans up to a maximum of 90% of cost.
- Loans to condominium corporations.

Mortgage loan amounts are generally \$300,000 to \$30 million. The largest single mortgage in our mortgage portfolio as at December 31, 2019 was \$43.0 million (December 31, 2018 – \$41.1 million). For loan amounts in excess of \$30 million, we generally co-lend with financial institutions or private lenders.

We are qualified as a MIC and our articles restrict us from making any investment or conducting any activity that would result in us failing to qualify as a MIC.

Generally, we fund mortgages secured by all types of residential and commercial real property located in Canada, subject to compliance with our investment policies. The types of properties that we finance include residential houses, small multi-family residential properties comprised of six or fewer units, residential apartment buildings, mixed-use residential apartments and store-front properties, commercial properties, residential and commercial land and development sites. We also finance construction projects and provide short-term bridge financing for residential and commercial real estate. Non-conventional mortgages do not represent a substantial proportion of the portfolio, and are only considered when there are other mitigating factors which reduce the risk profile to acceptable levels.

Our investment objectives are to preserve our shareholders' equity and to provide our shareholders with stable and secure dividends from our investments in mortgage loans within the criteria mandated for a MIC. Working within conservative risk parameters, we endeavour to maximize income and dividends through the sourcing and efficient management of our mortgage investments.

## **INDUSTRY OVERVIEW**

The larger financial institutions in Canada are focused on mortgage loans that comply with the often restrictive lending criteria of Canadian banks. As a result of the focus of large financial institutions on limited types of mortgage loans, opportunities exist in the mortgage finance market due to the general lack of competition. We have profitably taken advantage of these mortgage investment opportunities sourced through the Manager since 2001. The areas in which we focus are set out below.

### *SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL MORTGAGES*

The single family conventional mortgage market in Canada has been dominated by the Schedule I banks that are aggressive in underwriting single family conventional mortgage loans under rigid underwriting criteria. The five largest Schedule I banks are generally less aggressive in pursuing single family conventional mortgage loans where the borrower is self-employed or an investor, the borrower intends to subdivide or redevelop the property, a significant proportion of the property value is land, the borrower intends to substantially renovate the property, the borrower is seeking a loan amount of \$1 million or greater, or the borrower or the loan is otherwise outside the strict lending guidelines of the Schedule I banks. Consequently, borrowers that do not meet the rigid underwriting criteria of the Schedule I banks find it more difficult to obtain financing from traditional financial institutions, regardless of loan-to-value ratios or security offered.

### *MULTI-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL, INVESTMENT PROPERTIES AND COMMERCIAL MORTGAGES*

Mortgage lending in the investment property market is dominated by a few large financial institutions, including the Schedule I banks, life insurance companies and pension funds. These institutions are very conservative and focus on the highest quality of income producing properties with large real estate investors. In addition, many of these institutions only underwrite loans of \$5 million or greater. As a result, we are able to find lending opportunities providing first and second mortgage financing on all other types of income producing properties.

### *DEVELOPER AND BUILDER LOANS*

Builders and developers require loans to acquire land to build low-rise, mid-rise and high-rise developments. The Schedule I banks lend on a limited basis on land, so this is a niche that we can profitably exploit. In addition, the banks tend to overlook construction loans on infill developments because the loan amount is typically below their minimum threshold.

### *MEZZANINE AND SUBORDINATED DEBT FINANCING*

Mezzanine or subordinated debt financing for residential and commercial development projects is highly fragmented. There are virtually no institutional providers of this specialized financing for developers, and the capital providers are typically small private entities with limited access to capital. Given the lack of participation from the larger financial institutions, there is little competition in this market segment, which gives us the opportunity to underwrite well-structured, secure mortgage loans with attractive pricing.

### *DISCOUNTED OR DISTRESSED MORTGAGE DEBT*

Discounted or distressed mortgage debt consists of performing and non-performing mortgages acquired from financial institutions, receivers and liquidators. Investment returns result from the interest rate earned on the mortgage, as well as the difference between our cost for purchasing the mortgage and the amount ultimately repaid.

## **QUALIFICATION AS A MORTGAGE INVESTMENT CORPORATION**

We operate as a MIC. To qualify as a MIC in a taxation year, we must continually meet all of the criteria enumerated in subsection 130.1(6) of the ITA throughout such taxation year, including the following requirements:

- (a) *Canadian Corporation.* We must be a “Canadian corporation”, as defined in the ITA, which generally means a corporation incorporated or resident in Canada;
- (b) *Undertaking.* Our only undertaking was the investing of our funds. We cannot have managed or developed any real or immovable property;
- (c) *Prohibited Foreign Investment.* None of our property consisted of debts owing to us secured on real or immovable property situated outside Canada, debts owing to us by non-resident persons unless such debts were secured on real or immovable property situated in Canada, shares of the capital stock of corporations not resident in Canada, or real or immovable property situated outside of Canada or any leasehold interest in such property;

- (d) *Shareholder Requirements.* We have at least 20 shareholders. In addition, no shareholder (together with Related Persons, as defined below) of Atrium at any time in the year owned, directly or indirectly, more than 25% of the issued shares of any class of Atrium. Special rules apply for the purposes of counting shareholders that are registered pension plans or deferred profit sharing plans;
- (e) *Preferred Shareholders.* Holders of preferred shares (if any) of Atrium had the right, after payment to them of their preferred dividends and payment of dividends in a like amount per share to the holders of our common shares, to participate *pari passu* (equally) with the holders of our common shares in any further payment of dividends;
- (f) *50% Asset Test.* The cost amount for tax purposes to us of our property in the form of or as a combination of money, debts secured on certain specified residential properties, and funds on deposit with a Canada Deposit Insurance Fund or Régie de l'assurance-dépôts du Québec-insured institution or credit union (such debts and deposits referred to as "Required Property") constituted at least 50% of the cost of all property;
- (g) *25% Asset Test.* The cost amount for tax purposes to us of our property in the form of interests in real or immovable property (including leaseholds but excepting real or immovable property acquired by foreclosure after default by the mortgagor) did not exceed 25% of the cost amount to us of all of our property; and
- (h) *Debt to Equity Ratio.* Where at any time in the year the cost amount to us of our money and Required Property represented less than two-thirds of the aggregate cost amount to us of all of our property, our liabilities may not exceed 75% of the cost amount to us of all our property. Where, however, throughout the year the cost amount to us of our money and Required Property represented two-thirds or more of the aggregate cost amount to us of all of our property, our liabilities may not exceed 83.33% of the cost amount to us of all our property.

With respect to the requirement noted above that no shareholder (together with related persons) may own more than 25% of the shares of any class of Atrium, for these purposes "Related Persons" include a corporation and the person or persons that control the corporation, a parent corporation and its subsidiary corporation(s) and corporations that are part of the same corporate group, and an individual and that individual's spouse, common-law partner or child under 18 years of age. The rules in the ITA defining "Related Persons" are complex and holders should consult with their own tax advisors in this regard. For the purposes of the 50% asset test noted above, the requirement is that our investments must comprise the specified minimum amount of debts that are secured by mortgages, hypothecs or in any other manner, on "houses" or on property included within a "housing project", as those terms are defined in the *National Housing Act* (Canada) (in the case of a "housing project", as it read on June 16, 1999). Generally, a "house" includes all or part of a building or moveable structure that is intended for human habitation containing not more than two family housing units, and "housing project" includes a project consisting of one or more houses, one or more multi-family dwellings, housing accommodation of the hostel or dormitory type, one or more condominium units or any combination thereof, together with any public space, recreational facilities, commercial space and other buildings appropriate to the project, but does not include a hotel.

#### **LICENSING AND LEGISLATIVE REGIME**

All provinces throughout Canada have enacted legislation to govern the mortgage broker industry. Under all of these Acts, corporations, partnerships and sole proprietorships that carry on the business of dealing in or trading in mortgages, or carry on business as a mortgage lender, are required to hold a valid brokerage license. A person or entity is a mortgage lender when he, she or it lends money on the security of real property. An individual who deals in mortgages or trades in mortgages is required to be licensed as a mortgage broker or a mortgage agent. A mortgage broker or mortgage agent can only act on behalf of one specified mortgage brokerage and every brokerage must appoint a principal broker who is licensed as a mortgage broker. Corporations, partnerships and sole proprietorships that carry on the business of administering mortgages are required to hold a valid mortgage administrator's license.

As we are not licensed as a mortgage brokerage or administrator and we do not employ any mortgage brokers or agents, we cannot engage directly in the business of lending money on the security of real property or administering mortgages, and must therefore conduct our mortgage lending activities under contract with a licensed mortgage brokerage such as the Manager (and its subsidiaries that are licensed in provinces other than Ontario) and a licensed mortgage administrator such as the Manager's wholly-owned subsidiary, CMSC. A mortgage brokerage and its principal broker must obtain a brokerage and a broker license, respectively, issued by the applicable provincial regulatory body. The Manager (either directly or through one of its wholly-owned subsidiaries, such as CMSC), which performs mortgage brokerage, servicing and administration services on our behalf pursuant to the Management Agreement, currently holds a valid license with each of the applicable provincial regulatory bodies to permit it to carry on the activities contemplated in the Management Agreement and operates in compliance with applicable provincial

legislation. The Manager's (or one of its subsidiaries') license with each applicable provincial regulatory body qualifies it to syndicate mortgage loans. The Manager's wholly-owned subsidiaries, such as CMSC, are also licensed as a mortgage administrator where required.

Each provincial regulatory body with whom the Manager and its subsidiaries are licensed has wide authoritative power over the mortgage brokerage and administrator industry, including the power to grant or renew licenses, the power to revoke licenses, the power to attach conditions to licenses, and the power to investigate complaints made regarding the conduct of registered mortgage brokerages, brokers, agents and administrators. Under each applicable provincial Act, there are several requirements a mortgage brokerage, broker, agent or administrator must meet in order to obtain or renew a license. These Acts also impose a continuing obligation on a registered mortgage broker and/or agent to remain in compliance with applicable legislation, failing which the applicable provincial regulatory body may revoke a license.

Generally, a mortgage brokerage or administrator will not be granted a license or a renewal of a license if, having regard to the financial position of the mortgage brokerage or administrator, it could not reasonably be expected that the mortgage brokerage or administrator would be financially responsible in the conduct of its business. In addition, a license will not be granted or renewed if the past conduct of the applicant is such that it provides reasonable grounds for the applicable provincial regulatory body to believe that the mortgage brokerage or administrator will not conduct business legally and with integrity and honesty. In the case of a corporate mortgage brokerage or administrator, the applicable provincial regulatory body will look to the past conduct of the directors and officers of the corporation.

### **OUR MORTGAGE PORTFOLIO**

We advance mortgages based on an appraisal and an underwriting report prepared by the Manager for each mortgage. Based upon this information, our board assesses the overall risk profile of the mortgage and considers whether the mortgage meets our objectives and investment policies. Our mortgage portfolio has been sourced by the Manager. As at December 31, 2019, our mortgage portfolio consisted of 192 mortgage loans, further details of which are contained in our Management's Discussion and Analysis for the year ended December 31, 2019, which is available at [www.sedar.com](http://www.sedar.com) or on our website at [www.atriummic.com](http://www.atriummic.com).

All properties are evaluated on the basis of location, quality, prospects for capital appreciation, and in the case of mortgages on income producing properties, prospects for income. In addition, the credit of the borrower is also reviewed and, where appropriate, personal or corporate covenants are obtained.

At December 31, 2019, the average loan-to-value ratio of the mortgage portfolio on a weighted average basis was 59.5%. As at December 31, 2019, five of our mortgages were in default, with an amount outstanding of \$20 million. We believe that an adequate provision has been established to cover our estimate of the potential expected credit losses on mortgages in our portfolio at December 31, 2019. We consider a commitment or mortgage receivable to be in default if payments are greater than 90 days past due for single-family residential mortgages or 30 days past due for all other mortgages receivable, or if an event of default has occurred under the terms of the mortgage commitment, including if the borrower fails to fulfill any of the covenants set out therein when required (including covenants relating to, among other things, the provision and maintenance of security and insurance, disposition restrictions on the subject mortgaged property and the provision of financial statements of the borrower and any guarantor(s), environmental site assessment reports and soil tests); in our opinion, a material adverse change occurs in the financial position of the borrower and/or any guarantor(s) and/or the subject mortgaged property given as security; or if any of the representations or warranties made by the borrower in its application for the mortgage, the mortgage documentation or in any document or certificate delivered pursuant to the mortgage documentation is incorrect in a material respect.

Our mortgage portfolio consists of mortgages secured by a range of properties which reflect, among other things, the following characteristics:

- Our mortgage portfolio is diversified by property type and no group of mortgages to a single borrower (including associates of such borrower) represents more than 11.3% of the total of our mortgage receivable at December 31, 2019.
- Payment schedules consist primarily of interest-only, with a few consisting of blended interest and principal.
- Mortgages are generally written for terms of five years or less, with a majority currently being one to two years.
- Our mortgage loans are secured by real property located in Ontario (principally in the Greater Toronto Area), British Columbia (principally in the Greater Vancouver Area and Victoria), and Alberta (Calgary and Edmonton) and are denominated in Canadian dollars.

The following is an overview of our mortgage portfolio as at December 31, 2019 and 2018 as well as the related interest and fees earned for the same years:

(in thousands of Canadian dollars)	<b>December 31 2019</b>	<b>December 31 2018</b>
Mortgage portfolio	\$729,745	\$684,404
Accrued interest receivable	3,780	3,122
Mortgage discount	(224)	(221)
Unamortized origination fees	(586)	(684)
Provision for mortgage losses	(5,390)	(3,900)
Mortgages receivable	<u>\$727,325</u>	<u>\$682,721</u>
Mortgage interest and fees	<u>\$66,095</u>	<u>\$58,316</u>

#### **MANAGEMENT OF THE MORTGAGE PORTFOLIO**

The Manager (either directly or through its wholly-owned subsidiaries) is responsible for originating, underwriting, servicing and syndicating our mortgage investments pursuant to the Management Agreement. The Manager is also responsible for ensuring compliance with our investment policies and, after confirming such compliance, the Manager presents a mortgage investment opportunity to the members of our board.

We have implemented the following controls to limit and manage risk:

- Conservative investment policies, including that the weighted average loan-to-value ratio of our mortgage portfolio as a whole at the time of underwriting each loan in our portfolio, will not exceed 75%.
- Detailed mortgage underwriting analysis that emphasizes realty values, lending exposure and commentary.
- Independent appraisals prepared by qualified appraisers for virtually all mortgage loans.
- Other internal controls such as a pre-funding checklist to ensure that any missing documentation is obtained promptly and that all required procedures have been completed before a loan is funded.
- Approval limits are in place as set out below, see “Investment Policies.”
- When appropriate and subject to our cash position and the underlying investment profile, a syndication strategy whereby the Manager syndicates on our behalf mortgage loans with other investors to diversify and share risks associated with a given mortgage loan. Syndication generally occurs on: (i) larger loans where we wish to participate but require other investors; (ii) loans where the risk profile of the mortgage is beyond an acceptable level for us, and we choose to syndicate the subordinate tranche of the mortgage to reduce our risk profile, or (iii) low risk loans requiring an interest rate below our pricing parameters, where we participate in the loan with an institutional lender.

The Manager monitors the performance of our mortgage portfolio, including tracking of the status of outstanding payments due, grace periods and due dates, and the calculation and assessment of other applicable charges. The Manager makes reasonable efforts to collect all payments called for under the terms and provisions of each mortgage comprising our mortgage portfolio and follows appropriate and prudent collection procedures or procedures the board may otherwise direct.

The Manager monitors any loan that is in default, evaluates whether the causes of the default will be corrected quickly without significant impairment of the value of the mortgaged property, initiates corrective action, inspects the mortgaged property and takes such other actions as are consistent with appropriate and prudent collection procedures. The Manager may initiate enforcement proceedings following default under the terms of a mortgage. The time within which the Manager may make the initial determination of appropriate action, evaluate the appropriate corrective action, if any, develop additional initiatives, or institute foreclosure, power of sale or other enforcement proceedings on behalf of us may vary considerably depending on the particular mortgage loan, the mortgaged property, the borrower, the mortgagor’s circumstances as perceived by the Manager and the presence of an acceptable party to assume the mortgage loan. If a borrower makes a proposal, an assignment or takes any other proceedings under the *Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act* (Canada), the *Companies’ Creditors Arrangement Act* (Canada), the *Winding-Up and Restructuring Act* (Canada) or other insolvency, arrangement or other legislation for the relief of debtors, the Manager may not be permitted to accelerate the maturity of the related mortgage loan, to foreclose the mortgaged property or to exercise power of sale or other mortgage enforcement proceedings for a considerable period of time.

## INVESTMENT OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES

### *INVESTMENT OBJECTIVES*

Our investment objectives are to preserve our shareholders' equity and to provide our shareholders with stable and secure dividends from our investments in mortgage loans within the criteria mandated for a MIC. Working within conservative risk parameters, we endeavour to maximize income and dividends through the sourcing and efficient management of our mortgage investments.

Our investment goal is to make prudent mortgage loans which provide financing for real property situated in Canada and primarily in major urban centres in Ontario, British Columbia, Alberta and Saskatchewan. As at December 31, 2019, 69.8% of our mortgage loans (by amount outstanding) were located in the Greater Toronto Area. We do not invest in real property other than by way of investment in mortgages, subject to certain limited exceptions such as the acquisition of real property through foreclosure of a mortgage. The Manager, on our behalf, reviews and selects mortgage investment opportunities to be approved by the members of our board and manages our mortgage portfolio. In making its mortgage loan selections, the Manager adheres to our investment policies.

We invest in mortgages on all types of residential and commercial real property, provided that, in the case of conventional mortgages, the Manager is satisfied that the fair market value of the real property which provides the security underlying the mortgage loan is acceptable in the circumstances, and provided further that such mortgages comply with our investment policies. The types of properties that we finance include residential houses, small multi-family residential properties comprised of six or fewer units, residential apartment buildings, mixed-use residential apartments and store-front properties, commercial properties and residential and commercial land development sites. We also finance construction projects. The principal types of non-conventional mortgages are mezzanine and subordinated mortgage debt for investment properties, and discounted or distressed mortgage debt purchases from financial institutions for high yield investment purposes. Non-conventional mortgages do not represent a significant proportion of our overall mortgage portfolio.

All properties are evaluated on the basis of location, quality, prospects for capital appreciation and, in the case of mortgages on income producing properties, growth and stability of income. In addition, the credit of the borrower is also reviewed and, where appropriate, corporate or personal covenants are obtained. We may invest in mortgages relating to renovations or improvements of existing real property and may also finance or purchase mortgages. We have engaged the Manager to carry out our investment objectives and goals subject to the ultimate supervision of our board. The board or a certain number of the members of the board must approve all mortgage loans proposed by the Manager.

### *INVESTMENT POLICIES*

The board has established certain restrictions on the investments that we may undertake, as follows:

- (a) We may invest only in residential mortgages, commercial mortgages, commercial mortgage backed securities and related investments.
- (b) All investments must be mortgages on the security of real property situated within Canada, loans to condominium corporations, or certain permitted interim investments.
- (c) Commercial mortgages may not constitute any more than 50% of our total assets at any time.
- (d) The term of the mortgage may generally be no greater than ten years.
- (e) Mortgages are subject to the following geographic limits at the time of funding: Ontario – maximum 80% of total mortgages; Alberta – maximum 15% of total mortgages; British Columbia – maximum of 35% of total mortgages.
- (f) No single borrower may account for more than 15% of our total assets.
- (g) All mortgages will be supported by external appraisals by a qualified appraiser. All mortgages, except mortgages secured against one to six residential units, will be supported by environmental audits.
- (h) The maximum initial loan-to-value ratio of an individual mortgage is 85% including any prior ranking encumbrances, and the weighted average loan-to-value ratio of our mortgage portfolio, as a whole, at the time of underwriting each loan in our portfolio, may not exceed 75%.
- (i) Our ratio of debt to equity may not exceed 1:1.
- (j) We do not typically invest directly in real property, although real property may be acquired through foreclosing on a mortgage.
- (k) A mortgage investment: (i) of \$2,000,000 or more requires approval of the board; (ii) of between \$1,000,000 and \$2,000,000 requires approval of three members of the board, including at least two independent directors; and (iii) of \$1,000,000 or less requires approval of any one member of the board. For loans previously approved, if the mortgage amount exceeds the amount approved by up to \$200,000

and if the loan-to-value ratio increases by less than 5% where the ratio is 75% or less, requires the approval of one member of the board, otherwise the general limits apply. We may invest in interim investments that are guaranteed by the Government of Canada or of a province or territory of Canada or deposits or certificates of deposits, acceptances and other similar instruments issued, endorsed or guaranteed by a Schedule I Bank in any amount without prior board approval.

- (l) We may not make unsecured loans to, nor invest in securities issued by, the Manager or its affiliates, nor make unsecured loans to the directors or officers of the Manager.
- (m) We may not make any investment, or incur any indebtedness, that would result in our not qualifying as a MIC.

Our investment policies as set out above may be changed, or waived in respect of specific mortgage applications, with the approval of our board.

## INVESTMENT STRATEGIES

### *BORROWING STRATEGY*

In order to facilitate the granting of mortgages when it is considered opportune by the Manager and to ensure the efficient operation of our affairs, we may secure an operating line of credit or similar indebtedness, including convertible debentures, of up to 50% of our total assets.

We have an operating facility from Canadian financial institutions with a maximum availability of \$210 million (\$210 million at December 31, 2018), and, as at December 31, 2019, \$132.4 million had been drawn thereunder. At any time during the term, we have the one-time right to increase the operating facility by up to \$30 million (such that the total maximum availability would be \$240 million). On January 2, 2019, we amended our operating facility, extending the term to January 11, 2021. We may repay amounts owing under the operating facility at any time without penalty and, in the event the amount owing under the operating facility exceeds the maximum lending value therein at any time, we must repay the excess within five banking days. We have the option of borrowing under the operating facility using bankers' acceptances. Advances under the operating facility are subject to certain conditions of drawdown, and may be made by way of Canadian prime rate loans, overdraft, bankers' acceptances and letters of credit. All outstanding amounts under the operating facility must be repaid by the earlier of January 11, 2021 and the occurrence of an event of default under the facility. Although the operating facility was originally for a two year term, we may elect to extend or renew it annually. The interest rates payable by us under the facility vary based upon the type of borrowing. The operating facility is secured by a general security agreement over all of our assets and a pledge of our mortgage portfolio and contains certain financial covenants that must be maintained. The financial covenants contained in the operating facility require that we maintain our shareholder equity in excess of \$300 million, the amount of all of our senior debt will not be in excess of 35% of the value of all of our assets as set out in our consolidated statement of financial position, the amount of all of our debt will not be in excess of 50% of the value of all of our assets as set out in our consolidated statement of financial position and the ratio of our earnings before interest expenses and taxes (and less any non-cash deductions and any actual loan loss in excess of balance sheet provisions) for the preceding 12 months to interest expensed for such period not be less than 3:1. To date, we have always complied with these covenants. The Manager's wholly-owned subsidiary, CMSC, has also guaranteed the operating facility with any recourse to CMSC limited to our mortgage portfolio being serviced and administered by CMSC.

### *DEVELOPMENT AND MAINTENANCE OF THE MORTGAGE PORTFOLIO*

We believe that the following are essential to developing and maintaining a successful mortgage portfolio:

- knowledgeable and conservative mortgage underwriting
- ability to source a broad range of mortgage lending opportunities, thereby allowing us to be prudent when selecting mortgage investments
- disciplined monitoring, servicing and collection enforcement methods

Our mortgage investments are all sourced through our Manager. As a result, we have funded mortgage loans that meet our investment criteria, resulting from: (i) existing long-term relationships of the Manager with many real estate developers; (ii) the Manager's lending experience to create various lending and security structures that meet the needs of our borrowers; (iii) the reputation, experience and marketing ability of the Manager; (iv) the timely credit analysis and decision making processes followed by the Manager and by us; and (v) local presence in three offices across central and western Canada.

The Manager's sourcing of our mortgage investments and servicing of our mortgage portfolio provides us with the following benefits:

*Mortgage Investment Opportunity Sources.* Senior management of the Manager has been in the business of sourcing, underwriting, and funding mortgages for over 25 years. Their extensive contacts in the mortgage and real estate industries allow them to identify investment opportunities. In addition, the Manager has periodically acquired discounted or distressed mortgages, and has experience in successfully restructuring debt. We continue to take advantage of the Manager's experience in these types of activities, thereby gaining access to a source of mortgage investments for which there is limited competition.

*Proven Industry Experience.* Three of the senior members of management of the Manager each have over 25 years of mortgage and real estate experience. Each has worked at a senior level in a major bank, trust company or life insurance company and has developed a comprehensive knowledge of the mortgage and real estate businesses.

*Problem Identification and Rectification Experience.* We minimize risks associated with defaulting mortgages through diligent monitoring of the mortgage portfolio, active communication with borrowers and the institution of aggressive enforcement procedures on defaulting mortgages. The Manager has substantial experience in servicing mortgage loans, including the institution of enforcement proceedings, and has a history of a low default rate on the mortgages which it services. The Manager's officers also have experience in servicing high yield mortgage portfolios.

*Focus on Urban Centres.* One of the keys to successful mortgage underwriting is being familiar with and understanding the real estate markets in which the properties are located. Our focus has been the Greater Toronto Area, Calgary, Edmonton, Vancouver and other urban centres that contain a sizeable portion of Canada's population and a well-diversified industry base. We believe the real estate values in these centres are generally more stable and resilient in an economic downturn. We have significantly reduced our exposure in Alberta in light of changing economic conditions in that province, although our approach in Alberta may change if circumstances warrant.

#### *SYNDICATION STRATEGY*

To manage and diversify risk, the Manager may syndicate a mortgage investment in which we participate with one or more lenders. Syndication may be on a *pari-passu* basis, a priority or a subordinated basis. Syndicating mortgages reduces our exposure to any one investment we may have. Generally, we syndicate on a *pari-passu* basis where the mortgage investment is too large for us to fund on our own. We also syndicate both on a priority and subordinated basis. On a priority basis, we syndicate the subordinate tranche to another investor(s) because the risk profile of the overall mortgage is beyond our risk tolerance. Our rights to receive interest payments and repayments of principal will rank in priority to the investor(s). Where a mortgage is syndicated to a financial institution on a subordinated basis, the rights of the financial institution to receive interest payments and the repayment of principal ranks in priority to our rights to receive a share of the interest payments and the repayment of our principal balance; however, in such circumstances the syndicating financial institution would have no recourse to us.

The party listed on the charge in a syndicated mortgage is typically the mortgage administrator of the syndicated mortgage. When a third-party is the mortgage administrator of a syndicated mortgage, that third-party services the mortgage loan and the name on the registered charge is typically that of the third-party mortgage administrator. When CMSC, an affiliate of the Manager, is the mortgage administrator, CMSC services the mortgage loan and the registered charge is typically in the name of CMSC. An interlender or mortgage participation and servicing agreement is typically signed between us and the co-lender(s) outlining the terms of the mortgage, including the party administering the mortgage and the party to be included on the charge.

#### **COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGES**

We believe that the following competitive advantages will enable us to achieve our investment objectives:

##### *EXPERIENCED MANAGEMENT TEAM*

We have been in existence since 2001 as an investment vehicle for institutional and retail investors. The Manager has been in operation since 1994, and three of the mortgage originators of the Manager each have over 25 years of experience. These mortgage originators have all previously worked at very senior levels for large financial institutions where they held positions including Managing Director of real estate lending for Canada, and Head of real estate finance for western Canada. In addition, we have two mortgage originators each with over 12 years of experience in the industry.

The Manager believes that it has a very high quality and experienced team of underwriters with strong local knowledge and excellent contacts in the real estate industry. The Manager's business has been built on the strength of its experience, the depth of its management team, its long standing developer and real estate investor relationships, its well-regarded reputation and its successful track record in the Canadian mortgage lending industry.

The Manager has also assembled a skilled support team that includes two finance and accounting professionals (a chief financial officer and a controller), very experienced staff in the mortgage administration department, and administrative support personnel with extensive experience and industry knowledge.

#### *OFFICES IN ONTARIO, ALBERTA AND BRITISH COLUMBIA*

The Manager has a local presence and strong contacts in its target markets. This local presence gives us an advantage to source and quickly identify the most attractive lending opportunities in these markets.

#### *ACCESS TO REAL PROPERTY TRANSACTIONS*

We believe that we, through the long-term relationships within the real estate community developed by our management team and the board, have very good access to high quality real estate transactions within the Canadian major urban centres. As set out in “Directors and Executive Officers” below, our management team and board have extensive real estate experience and expertise, all of which they bring to bear in ensuring that good mortgage loan opportunities are able to be considered by us and a strong degree of diligence and underwriting standards are applied. These personal and professional relationships provide access to a number of mortgage loan opportunities that many of our competitors are not likely to have an opportunity to consider. Over its history, the Manager has demonstrated its ability to develop and execute sophisticated financing structures that are customized to the unique needs of borrowers to compete effectively with the comparatively inflexible financing structures offered by large financial institutions.

#### *ALIGNMENT OF INTERESTS*

The interests of the board are aligned with those of our shareholders as members of our board own approximately 4.0% of our outstanding common shares as at December 31, 2019. We believe that this degree of equity ownership allows our board to be focused on our business strategy of preserving shareholder capital and providing stable and secure dividends on our common shares. It is also important to note that the voting securities held by our insiders, being common shares, are the same class of voting securities held by all other shareholders, and do not contain multiple votes or other features which would place our insiders in a different position than public shareholders.

In addition, the management fee paid to the Manager also aligns the interests of the Manager with those of the shareholders. The Manager currently has one of the lowest fee structures in the MIC industry, and is not entitled to any performance fee from us so that the Manager is not rewarded for seeking high yielding, risky mortgage loans at the potential expense of shareholders. In addition, unlike the case with some other industry participants, the management fee is only charged on mortgage investments: no fee is charged on uninvested cash balances.

#### *PRUDENT GROWTH*

With mortgages receivable of \$727 million at December 31, 2019, we expect to continue to implement our conservative growth strategy. We have grown our mortgage loan assets since 2001 in response to mortgage loan opportunities, rather than opportunistic fundraising, and remain committed to growing in a manner that enhances our ability to achieve our dividend policy. The Manager and the board share the belief that shareholders are best served by limiting the amounts raised under our equity or debenture offerings to amounts which will be deployed almost immediately. This is in part to preclude a situation in which the Manager may feel pressure to place a large amount of new mortgages rapidly and thereby compromising the overall quality of the loan portfolio. The Manager actively acquires mortgages on our behalf using funds drawn on the operating facility, and we then conduct a common share or debenture offering and use all or a portion of the net proceeds to repay amounts owing under the facility. In so doing, we believe that we minimize the impact of offerings on our ability to maintain a stable dividend, while at the same time maintaining a high degree of credit quality.

#### *HIGH QUALITY PORTFOLIO*

Each of our mortgage loans is evaluated by the Manager based on its individual attributes, as well as its contribution to our overall portfolio of mortgage loans. For mortgage loans that are approved to be made by us in accordance with our policies, the Manager has applied a disciplined due diligence process and detailed mortgage underwriting analysis that it has developed through years of experience managing similar assets. Other than in exceptional situations, each of our mortgage loans includes an independent appraisal prepared by a qualified appraiser. Each of our mortgage loans must also be approved by our board, or certain members of the board, to ensure a consistently high quality mortgage portfolio. Furthermore, the Manager actively monitors our mortgage portfolio in all material respects, and reports on each mortgage loan (except single family house mortgages) to the board on a quarterly basis.

### *CONSERVATIVE CAPITAL MANAGEMENT*

In line with our investment objectives, the Manager has executed our investment strategy since 2001 in such a fashion as to provide a stable book value per common share that is relatively uncorrelated to the volatility experienced in other asset classes.

### **RISK FACTORS**

The risks and uncertainties described below are those that we currently believe to be material, but they are not the only ones that we face. If any of the following risks, or any other risks and uncertainties actually occur or become material risks, our business, financial condition, results of operations and cash flows and consequently the price of our securities could be materially and adversely affected.

### *RISKS RELATING TO OUR BUSINESS*

#### Nature of the Investments

Investments in mortgages are affected by general economic conditions, including the recent reductions in the price of commodities in general and petroleum and petroleum products in particular, local real estate markets, demand for leased premises, new supply, occupancy rates, operating expenses, prevailing interest rates and various other factors. The value of a real estate property may ultimately depend on the credit and financial stability of the tenants. Investments in mortgages are relatively illiquid. Such lack of liquidity will tend to limit our ability to vary our mortgage portfolio promptly in response to changing economic or investment conditions.

Investments in mortgages relating to development or renovations may be riskier than investments in mortgages relating to property purchases or mortgage receivables. Land mortgages pose a risk in the event of default in that the asset has no capacity to generate cash flow. We may occasionally invest in mortgages at more than 75% of value, which exceeds the investment limit for conventional mortgage lending. Our mortgages are not insured in whole or in part. As well, there are certain inherent risks in the real estate industry, some of which we may not be able to insure against or for which we may elect not to insure due to the cost of such insurance. The effect of these factors cannot be accurately predicted.

#### Sensitivity to Interest Rates

The market price for our securities and the value of our mortgage portfolio at any given time may be affected by the level of interest rates prevailing at such time. Our income consists primarily of interest payments on the mortgages comprising our mortgage portfolio. If there is a decline in interest rates (as measured by the indices upon which the interest rates of our mortgages are based), we may find it difficult to make additional mortgages bearing rates sufficient to achieve the targeted payment of dividends on our common shares. There can be no assurance that an interest rate environment in which there is a significant decline in interest rates would not adversely affect our ability to maintain dividends on our common shares at a consistent level. As well, if interest rates increase, the value of our mortgage portfolio may be negatively impacted because our cash flows receivable on those mortgages with fixed interest rates are fixed for the initial term of those mortgages.

#### Changes in Real Estate Values

Our mortgage loans are secured by real estate, the value of which will fluctuate. The value of real estate is affected by general economic conditions, local real estate markets, the attractiveness of the property to tenants where applicable, competition from other available properties, fluctuations in occupancy rates, operating expenses and other factors including adverse weather, flooding and similar events. The value of income-producing real property may also depend on the credit worthiness and financial stability of the borrowers and/or the tenants. Changes in market conditions may decrease the value of the secured property and reduce the cash flow from the property, thereby impacting the ability of the borrower to service the debt and/or repay the loan based on the property income.

A substantial decline in value of real property provided as security for a mortgage loan may cause the value of the property to be less than the outstanding principal amount of the mortgage loan. Foreclosure by us on any such mortgage loan might not provide us with proceeds sufficient to satisfy the outstanding principal amount of the mortgage loan.

While independent appraisals are required before we make any mortgage loans, the appraised values provided, even where reported on an "as is" basis, are not necessarily indicative of the market value of the underlying real property, which fluctuates. In addition, the appraised values reported in independent appraisals may be subject to certain conditions, including the completion of construction, rehabilitation, remediation or leasehold improvements on the real property providing security for the loan. There can be no assurance that these conditions will be satisfied

and if they are not satisfied the appraised value may not be achieved. Even if such conditions are satisfied, the appraised value may not necessarily reflect the market value of the real property at the time the conditions are satisfied.

#### Risks Related to Mortgage Defaults

If a borrower under a mortgage loan subsequently defaults under any terms of the loan, the Manager, on our behalf, has the ability to exercise our mortgage enforcement remedies in respect of the mortgage loan. Exercising mortgage enforcement remedies is a process that requires a significant amount of time to complete, which could adversely impact our cash flow. In addition, as a result of potential declines in real estate values, there is no assurance that we will be able to recover all or substantially all of the outstanding principal and interest owed to us in respect of such mortgages by exercising our mortgage enforcement remedies. Should we be unable to recover all or substantially all of the principal and interest owed to us in respect of such mortgage loans, the returns, financial condition and results of our operations could be adversely impacted.

#### Foreclosure and Related Costs

One or more borrowers could fail to make payments according to the terms of their mortgage loan, and we could therefore be forced to exercise our rights as mortgagee. The recovery of a portion of our assets may not be possible for an extended period of time during this process and there are circumstances where there may be complications in the enforcement of our rights as mortgagee. Legal fees and expenses and other costs incurred by us in enforcing our rights as mortgagee against a defaulting borrower are usually recoverable from the borrower directly or through the sale of the mortgaged property by power of sale or otherwise, but there is no assurance that they will actually be recovered. We will incur these expenses if we cannot recover them from the borrower.

Furthermore, certain significant expenditures, including property taxes, capital repair and replacement costs, maintenance costs, mortgage payments, insurance costs and related charges must be made throughout the period that the real property is owned regardless whether the property is producing income or whether mortgage payments are being made, and certain additional significant expenditures may be required to be made depending on the nature of the real property, including costs to finish the construction of uncompleted developments or renovations. We may therefore be required to incur such expenditures to protect our investment, even if the borrower is not honouring its contractual obligations.

#### Reliance on the Manager

Because our day-to-day activities are managed and administered exclusively by the Manager, we are exposed to adverse developments in the business and affairs of the Manager, to the Manager's management and financial strength, to the Manager's ability to operate its businesses profitably and to the ability of the Manager or its subsidiaries to retain any mortgage brokerage/administrator license issued to it. The termination of the Management Agreement could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

Although the employees of the Manager who are primarily responsible for our performance have extensive experience, there is no certainty that such individuals will continue to be employees of the Manager in the future. The loss of the services of one or more of those individuals could have a material adverse effect on us. In addition, the Management Agreement may be terminated in certain circumstances. There is no assurance that the Manager will continue to provide services to us.

There is no certainty that the persons who are currently officers and directors of the Manager will continue to act in such capacity. Shareholders are required to depend upon the good faith, expertise and judgement of the individuals comprising the management of the Manager from time to time. Shareholders do not have the right to direct or influence in any manner the business or affairs of the Manager.

#### Environmental Matters

We may from time to time take possession, through enforcement proceedings, of properties that secured defaulted mortgage loans to recover our investment in such mortgage loans. Prior to taking possession of properties which secure a mortgage investment, we assess the potential environmental liability associated with it and determine whether it is significant. If we subsequently determine to take possession of the property, we could be subject to environmental liabilities in connection with the property, which could exceed its value. As part of the due diligence performed in respect of our mortgage investments, we obtain a Phase I environmental audit on the underlying real property provided as security for a mortgage, unless the Manager has determined that a Phase I environmental audit is not necessary. However, there can be no assurance that such Phase I environmental audits will reveal all existing or potential environmental liabilities. If hazardous substances are discovered on a property on which we have taken possession,

we may be required to remove such substances and clean up the property. We may also be liable to tenants and other users of neighbouring properties and may find it difficult to resell the property prior to or following such clean-up.

#### Availability of Investments

Our ability to make investments in accordance with our objectives and policies depend upon the availability of suitable investments and the amount of funds available. There can be no assurance that the yields on the mortgages in our mortgage portfolio will be representative of yields to be obtained on our future mortgage investments. We may not be able to source suitable mortgages in which to reinvest our funds as mortgages are repaid, in which case the funds will be invested in interim investments. The rates of return on interim investments will be lower than the rates of return on our mortgages. An inability to find suitable investments may have an adverse effect on our ability to sustain the level of dividends paid. We compete with individuals, corporations and institutions for investment opportunities in the financing of real property. Certain of these competitors have greater resources than do we and may therefore operate with greater flexibility.

#### Potential Conflicts of Interest

We are subject to various potential conflicts of interest because the Manager is controlled by insiders of Atrium. We rely upon the Manager to manage our business. The Management Agreement contains certain non-competition arrangements with Robert G. Goodall, which addresses certain conflicts of interest (see below). The directors and officers of the Manager may have a conflict of interest in allocating their time between the respective businesses and interests of the Manager and us, and other businesses or projects in which they may be involved.

The members of our board may from time to time deal with parties with whom we are dealing, or may be seeking investments similar to those desired by us. We have conflict of interest policies requiring members of the board to disclose material interests in material contracts and transactions and to refrain from voting thereon.

#### Borrowing

We may incur indebtedness secured by our assets to purchase mortgages or for ongoing mortgage investments. Such indebtedness may not exceed 50% of our total assets. There can be no assurance that such a strategy will enhance returns and it is possible the strategy may reduce returns. The security which we are required to furnish may include an assignment of our mortgages to a third party lender. If we are unable to service our debt to such lender, a loss could result if the lender exercises its rights of foreclosure and sale.

#### Limited Sources of Borrowing

The Canadian financial marketplace has a limited number of financial institutions that provide credit to entities such as us. We limit exposure to potential scarcity of funds by seeking out new sources of credit and have entered into an operating facility. If we are unable to find sources of credit to fund our investments or repay our indebtedness when due, there would be an adverse effect on our ability to pay dividends and there could also be a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operation.

#### Replacement or Renewal of Mortgages Comprising the Mortgage Portfolio

There can be no assurances that any of the mortgages comprising our mortgage portfolio can or will be replaced or renewed at the same interest rates and terms, or in the same amounts as are currently in effect. The mortgagor, the mortgagee or both, may elect to not renew any mortgage and there is no assurance that there will be sufficient lending opportunities at that time to replace such mortgage. If mortgages are replaced or renewed, the principal balance, the interest rates and the other terms and conditions will be subject to negotiations between the mortgagors and the mortgagees at the applicable time.

#### Composition of the Mortgage Portfolio

The composition of our mortgage portfolio may vary widely from time to time and may be concentrated by type of security, industry or geography, resulting in it being less diversified than at other times. A lack of diversification may result in us being exposed to economic downturns or other events that have an adverse and disproportionate effect on particular types of security, industry or geography.

### Subordinated and Subsequent Debt Financing

Secondary financing which may be carried on by us is generally considered to be riskier than primary financing because we would not have a first-ranking charge on the underlying property. When a charge on a real property is in a position other than first-ranking, it is possible for the holder of a prior charge on the property, if the borrower is in default under the terms of its obligations to such holder, to take a number of actions against the borrower and ultimately against the real property to realize on the security given for the loan. Such actions may include a foreclosure action, the exercising of a giving-in-payment clause or an action forcing the real property to be sold. A foreclosure action or the exercise of a giving-in-payment clause may have the ultimate effect of depriving any person having other than a first-ranking charge on the real property of the security of the real property. If an action is taken to sell the real property and sufficient proceeds are not realized from such sale to pay off creditors who have prior charges on the property, the holder of a subsequent charge may lose its investment or part thereof.

### Reliance on Borrowers

After funding an investment, although we may monitor it, we rely upon borrowers to maintain the property as required, maintain adequate insurance, remit municipal taxes, and comply with environmental regulations.

### No Guarantees or Insurance

There can be no assurance that our mortgage loans will result in a guaranteed rate of return or any return to shareholders, or that losses will not be suffered on one or more mortgage loans. Moreover, at any time, the interest rates being charged for mortgages are reflective of the general level of interest rates and, as interest rates fluctuate, it may be expected that the aggregate yield on mortgage investments will also change.

The obligations of a mortgage borrower to us or any other person are not guaranteed by the Government of Canada, the government of any province or any agency thereof nor are they insured under the *National Housing Act* (Canada). In the event that additional security is given by the borrower or a third party or that a private guarantor guarantees the mortgage borrower's obligations, there is no assurance that such additional security or guarantee will be sufficient to make us whole. Our securities are not "deposits" within the meaning of the *Canadian Deposit Insurance Corporation Act* (Canada) and are not insured under the provisions of that Act or any other legislation.

### Litigation Risks

We may, from time to time, become involved in legal proceedings in the course of our business. The costs of litigation and settlement can be substantial and there is no assurance that such costs will be recovered in whole or at all. During litigation, we might not receive payments of interest or principal on a mortgage loan that is the subject of litigation, which would affect our cash flows. An unfavourable resolution of any legal proceedings could have a material adverse effect on us, our financial position and results of operations.

### Ability to Manage Growth

We intend to grow our mortgage portfolio. In order to effectively deploy our capital and monitor our loans and investments in the future, we and/or the Manager will need to retain additional personnel and may be required to augment, improve or replace existing systems and controls, each of which can divert the attention of management from their other responsibilities and present numerous challenges. As a result, there can be no assurance that we would be able to effectively manage our growth and, if unable to do so, our mortgage portfolio, and the market price of our securities, may be materially adversely affected.

### Change in Legislation

There can be no assurance that certain laws applicable to us, including Canadian federal and provincial income tax legislation, commodity and sales tax legislation, tax proposals, other governmental policies or regulations and governmental, administrative or judicial interpretation thereof, will not change in a manner that will adversely affect us or fundamentally alter the tax consequences to shareholders acquiring, holding or disposing of our securities.

### Cyber Risk

We collect and store confidential and personal information. Unauthorized access to our computer systems could result in the theft or publication of confidential information or the deletion or modification of records or could otherwise cause interruptions in our operations. In addition, despite implementation of security measures, our systems are vulnerable to damages from computer viruses, natural disasters, unauthorized access, cyber-attack and other similar disruptions. Any such system failure, accident or security breach could disrupt our business and make our applications unavailable. If a person penetrates our network security or otherwise misappropriates sensitive data, we could be

subject to liability or our business could be interrupted, and any of these developments could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition.

#### Qualification as a Mortgage Investment Corporation

Although we intend to qualify at all times as a MIC, no assurance can be provided in this regard. If for any reason we do not maintain our qualification as a MIC under the ITA, taxable dividends and capital gains dividends paid by us on our common shares will cease to be fully or partly deductible by us in computing income for tax purposes and such dividends will no longer be deemed by the rules in the ITA that apply to MICs to have been received by shareholders as bond interest or a capital gain, as the case may be. As a consequence, the rules in the ITA regarding the taxation of public corporations and their shareholders would apply, with the result that the combined rate of corporate and shareholder tax would be significantly greater.

#### *RISKS RELATING TO OUR COMMON SHARES*

##### Unpredictability and Volatility of Market Price

The market price for our common shares may be volatile and subject to wide fluctuations in response to numerous factors, many of which are beyond our control, including the following:

- actual or anticipated fluctuations in our annual or quarterly results of operations;
- changes in estimates of future results of operations by us or by securities research analysts;
- changes in the economic performance or market valuations of other companies, including other MICs, that investors deem comparable to us;
- the addition or departure of executive officers or key personnel of the Manager;
- the transfer restrictions on outstanding common shares as result of our being a MIC;
- the sale or purchase or attempted sale or purchase by a shareholder or prospective shareholder of a sizable quantity of shares;
- issuances or expected issuances of additional common shares or other forms of our securities;
- changes in applicable laws and regulations, including tax laws, or changes in the manner in which those laws are applied;
- significant acquisitions or business combinations, strategic partnerships, joint ventures or capital commitments by or involving us or our competitors; and
- news reports relating to the conditions in the economy in general and/or trends, concerns or competitive developments, regulatory changes and other related issues in our industry or target markets.

Financial markets have, at times, experienced significant price and volume fluctuations that have particularly affected the market prices of equity securities of companies and that have, in many cases, been unrelated to the operating performance, underlying asset values or prospects of such companies. Accordingly, the market price of our common shares may decline even if our operating results, underlying asset values or prospects have not changed. Additionally, these factors, as well as other related factors, may cause decreases in asset values that are deemed to be other than temporary, which may result in impairment losses. As well, certain institutional investors may base their investment decisions on consideration of our environmental, governance and social practices and performance against such institutions' respective investment guidelines and criteria, and failure to meet such criteria may result in limited or no investment in our common shares by those institutions, which could adversely affect the trading price of our common shares. There can be no assurance that fluctuations in price and volume will not occur. If such increased levels of volatility and market turmoil occur, our operations could be adversely impacted and the trading price of our common shares may be adversely affected.

##### Dividends

Although we intend to make distributions of our available cash to shareholders in accordance with our dividend policy, these cash distributions are not assured. The actual amount distributed to shareholders will depend on numerous factors, including but not limited to our financial performance, debt covenants and obligations, working capital requirements, the composition of our mortgage portfolio, the availability of mortgage loans and fluctuations in interest rates that affect the yield on our mortgage loans. The market value of our common shares may deteriorate if we are unable to meet our cash distribution targets in the future, and that deterioration may be material.

### Potential Dilution

We are authorized to issue an unlimited number of common shares for consideration and terms as established by our board, in many cases without any requirement for explicit shareholder approval. We may issue additional common shares in subsequent offerings (including through the sale of securities convertible into or exchangeable for common shares) and on the vesting of deferred share units, income deferred share units or other securities exchangeable or exercisable for common shares. We cannot predict the size of future issuances of common shares or the effect that future issuances and sales of common shares will have on the market price of the common shares. Issuances of a substantial number of additional common shares, or the perception that such issuances could occur, may adversely affect prevailing market prices for the common shares. With any additional issuance of common shares, investors will suffer dilution to their voting power and we may experience dilution in our earnings per share.

### Limitations on Ownership and Repurchases of Shares

In order to maintain our status as a MIC, our articles provide that no shareholder is permitted to hold at any time, directly or indirectly, either alone or together with a person “related” to the shareholder (within the meaning of the ITA, a “Related Person”), more than 25% of any class or series of our issued shares. Although the Manager will monitor the foregoing limitation on ownership and advise the board of any potential circumstances in which this limitation may be exceeded, there is no assurance that we will be able to identify each particular circumstance prior to the limitation on ownership being exceeded. In the event that, as determined by the board in its sole discretion, any transaction affecting our shares, if completed, would cause any shareholder, either alone or together with Related Persons, to hold more than 25% of any class or series of our issued shares, that portion of the shares held which constitutes in excess of 24.9% of the issued shares of any class or series of shares will, immediately prior to the completion of the subject transaction, automatically be repurchased and cancelled by us without any further action by us or the subject shareholder. Our failure to maintain our status as a MIC would have a material adverse effect on our business, operations, financial condition and general business prospects. In addition, such repurchases of common shares by us could be significant and, if so, we may be required to sell mortgages in order to satisfy purchase payment obligations, and may not be able to complete such mortgage sales on favourable terms or at all.

### Tax Amendments

Changes from time to time in the interpretation of, amendments to, or guidance relating to, existing tax laws, or the introduction of new tax legislation may have a material adverse effect on us and on the value of our common shares or other securities. The tax treatment to holders of our common shares or other securities of investment income such as dividends and capital gains may be changed as a result of amendments to the ITA.

### *RISKS RELATING TO OUR CONVERTIBLE DEBENTURES*

Risks relating to the ownership of our convertible debentures are set out in the section entitled “Risk Factors – Risks Relating to the Debentures” contained in each of our final prospectuses or prospectus supplements dated June 11, 2013, September 15, 2014, June 5, 2017, July 11, 2018 and March 22, 2019 qualifying the distribution of the 5.25% convertible debentures, 5.50% convertible debentures (2021), 5.30% convertible debentures, 5.50% convertible debentures (2025) and 5.60% convertible debentures respectively, which sections are incorporated herein by reference and available on SEDAR at [www.sedar.com](http://www.sedar.com).

## **MANAGEMENT**

### *GENERAL*

Our investment policies and objectives are subject to the control and direction of the board, a majority of whom must be independent directors. The board is responsible for general oversight of our business and affairs. The Manager originates and underwrites all mortgage investments on our behalf, services our mortgage portfolio and supervises our day-to-day management and operations.

### *THE MANAGER*

Pursuant to the terms of the Management Agreement, the Manager acts as our exclusive manager and arranges and services our mortgage loans and otherwise directs our affairs and manages our business. The Manager is a corporation

incorporated under the laws of the Province of Ontario on August 8, 1994. The Manager carries on business at 20 Adelaide Street East, Suite 900, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5C 2T6.

The Manager (including its wholly-owned subsidiaries) has been in the business of originating and underwriting mortgage loans since 1994, and servicing mortgage loans since 2000. The Manager and/or its subsidiaries are licensed under applicable mortgage broker legislation in Ontario, British Columbia, Alberta and Saskatchewan.

Since we are not licensed under applicable mortgage broker legislation, we cannot carry on the business of lending money on the security of real estate or dealing in or administering mortgages. We must therefore conduct our mortgage investment and administration activities under contract with a licensed mortgage brokerage/administrator such as the Manager and its subsidiaries.

Subject to the provisions described below, the Management Agreement does not limit or restrict the Manager, its affiliates, or any of the directors, officers, shareholders or employees of the Manager or its affiliates, from carrying on business ventures for its own account and for the account of others, including acting as a mortgage broker for, or manager of, any other person or entity. However, it is the policy of the Manager that we have the first opportunity to accept mortgage loans being originated by the Manager that fit within our investment objectives, policies, risk parameters and lending guidelines. The Manager may offer a mortgage loan to other lenders only if we elect not to pursue that mortgage loan (the board or the requisite number of directors failing to approve the loan in accordance with our investment policies) or if the mortgage loan is outside our investment objectives, policies, risk parameters and lending guidelines. Mortgage loans arranged by the Manager for other lenders typically are “institutional quality” mortgages which command low interest rates and are therefore outside our investment objectives.

#### *DUTIES AND SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE MANAGER*

Pursuant to the Management Agreement, the Manager has the authority to manage our affairs and day-to-day activities. The Manager may delegate certain of its powers to third parties, where, in the discretion of the Manager, it would be in our best interests to do so. The Manager’s duties and services include:

- Sourcing and structuring new mortgage opportunities
- Undertaking due diligence before issuing a formal commitment to lend
- Providing mortgage servicing duties, including ongoing collection of principal and interest payments, regular assessment of the risk profile of each mortgage investment and active collection and pursuit of legal remedies in the event of default
- Carrying out all of our capital market activities
- Authorizing the payment of operating expenses
- Preparing our consolidated financial statements and financial and accounting information
- Ensuring that we comply with applicable law and regulatory requirements, including regulatory and shareholder reporting
- Recommending to the board the amount of dividends to be declared
- Negotiating contracts with third-party providers of services, including registrars, transfer agents, auditors and printers

In performing its duties, the Manager must ensure that we qualify, and maintain our status, as a MIC.

The Management Agreement provides that the Manager shall, in its capacity as our manager, be subject to the overriding authority of the board over our management and affairs. Consequently, the board has oversight mechanisms in place to enable the board to satisfy itself that the Manager is properly performing its duties under the Management Agreement. Following the end of each calendar quarter, the board conducts a quarterly review of each mortgage (except single family house mortgages) in our mortgage portfolio. In addition, in connection with each such quarterly review, any higher risk mortgage loans forming part of our mortgage portfolio are identified and the Manager provides the board with a detailed review and strategy for dealing with them. We believe that this detailed oversight will lead to our continued strong performance, and the minimization of loan losses, over the long term.

#### *DETAILS OF THE MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT*

Pursuant to the Management Agreement, the Manager is required to exercise its powers and discharge its duties diligently, honestly and in good faith and in our best interests and to exercise the standard of care, diligence and skill that a reasonably prudent person would exercise in similar circumstances. The Management Agreement provides that the Manager and its directors, officers, securityholders, employees and agents will not be liable to us in any way for any default, failure or defect in our mortgage portfolio held by us or for any act performed, or failure to act, by the Manager within the scope of the authority conferred on the Manager by the Management Agreement, if it has satisfied the duties and the standard of care, diligence and skill set forth in the Management Agreement. The Manager will

incur liability, however, in cases of wilful misconduct, bad faith, gross negligence, breach of the Manager's standard of care or by any material breach or material default by it of its obligations under the Management Agreement.

The term of the Management Agreement commenced on August 29, 2012 and continues until December 31, 2025 unless renewed or terminated prior thereto. The Management Agreement will be automatically renewed for successive five year terms at the expiration of the initial term and any renewal term, unless either we (at the direction of the board) or the Manager notifies the other party in writing of non-renewal at least 12 months prior to the expiration of the initial term or a renewal term.

The Management Agreement may be terminated by us at any time upon approval of a majority of the independent directors upon the occurrence of any of the following: (a) in the event of a breach by the Manager of any material term of the Management Agreement that is not cured within 60 days of written notice of such breach to the Manager (or such longer period, not to exceed 120 days, as may be reasonably required in the circumstances to cure such breach if such breach may be cured); (b) in the event of the commission (as determined by a court of competent jurisdiction with all rights of appeal having expired) by the Manager of any act constituting bad faith, willful malfeasance, gross negligence or reckless disregard of its duties under the Management Agreement; or (c) if any proceedings in insolvency, bankruptcy, receivership or liquidation are taken against the Manager or if the Manager makes an assignment for the benefit of its creditors, commits any act of bankruptcy within the meaning of the *Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act* (Canada) or declares itself or is declared to be insolvent.

The Management Agreement may also be terminated by us at any time (each, a "No Cause Termination Right"): (i) on or at any time after December 31, 2024 upon: (a) approval of two-thirds of the independent directors; and (b) twelve months' prior written notice to the Manager being given after the approval of independent directors is obtained; or (ii) in the event of the successful completion of an amalgamation or other business combination transaction or "formal take-over bid" (as such term is defined in the *Securities Act* (Ontario)) following which, there is a change of control of Atrium, upon twelve months' prior written notice to the Manager being given after the business combination transaction or "formal take-over bid" is completed.

The Management Agreement may be terminated by the Manager at any time: (a) on or at any time after December 31, 2024 upon not less than twelve months' prior written notice to us given on or after December 31, 2024; (b) in the event of a breach by us of any material term of the Management Agreement that is not cured within 60 days of written notice of such breach to us (or such longer period, not to exceed 120 days, as may be reasonably required in the circumstances to cure such breach if such breach may be cured) (a "Material Corporation Breach"); or (c) if any proceedings in insolvency, bankruptcy, receivership or liquidation are taken against us or if we make an assignment for the benefit of our creditors, commit any act of bankruptcy within the meaning of the *Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act* (Canada) or declare ourselves, or we are declared to be, insolvent.

Upon the termination of the Management Agreement by us pursuant to a No Cause Termination Right, upon termination of the Management Agreement by the Manager pursuant to a Material Corporation Breach or in connection with the expiration of the initial term or the then current renewal term of the Management Agreement as a result of us providing a non-renewal notice to the Manager, we will pay to the Manager, in immediately available funds on the date of termination or expiration, an amount equal to three times the greater of the following: (1) the total amount of the management fee received and/or earned by the Manager pursuant to the Management Agreement during the twelve consecutive completed calendar months occurring on or prior to the termination/expiration date; or (2) the result of the following formula: 0.85% multiplied by the aggregate face value of all assets invested in mortgages by us as at the close of business on the termination/expiration date, in each case, plus applicable taxes.

Subject to the ability of the Manager to delegate its powers and duties, the Management Agreement (and any interest in the Management Agreement) may not be assigned or subcontracted by either party without the prior written consent of the other party. Any amendment, supplement or modification of the Management Agreement may only be executed by us if and when approved by a majority of the independent directors. In addition, the Manager and each of its directors, officers, securityholders, employees and agents will be indemnified by us to the fullest extent permitted by law for all liabilities, costs and expenses incurred in connection with any action, suit or proceeding that is proposed or commenced, or other claim that is made against the Manager, or any of its directors, officers, securityholders, employees and agents, in the exercise of its duties as our manager, except those resulting from the Manager's wilful misconduct, bad faith, gross negligence, breach of the Manager's standard of care or material breach or default by the Manager of its obligations under the Management Agreement.

Any direct or indirect change of control of the Manager will be subject to the prior approval of a majority of the independent directors. The management services to be provided by the Manager under the Management Agreement are not exclusive to us and nothing in the Management Agreement prevents the Manager from providing similar management services to other clients or from engaging in other activities.

The Management Agreement further provides that: (a) upon the death of Robert G. Goodall; or (b) in the event that Robert G. Goodall, through *bona fide* illness, physical or mental, is unable to devote sufficient time and attention to the services provided by the Manager for a period of 120 consecutive working days, Atrium and the Manager will remove and replace Mr. Goodall as its most senior executive officer within 60 days of such occurrence (or by such other date as may be mutually agreed upon) with an individual that is agreed upon by Atrium and the Manager.

#### *MANAGER FEES AND EXPENSES*

In consideration for the services provided to us by the Manager, the Manager is paid a management fee equal to 0.85% per annum of the aggregate face value of all assets invested in mortgages, calculated daily, aggregated and paid monthly in arrears, plus applicable taxes. The Manager retains origination fees up to 1.0% of the amount of each mortgage investment and up to half of the origination fees in excess of that amount, plus applicable taxes. We retain the balance of such origination fees and also retain any prepayment fees or other lender fees due over the term of the mortgage.

We will pay for all expenses that we or the Manager incur on our behalf in connection with our operation and management, including but not limited to: (a) financial reporting costs, and mailing and printing expenses for securityholder communications, and all costs and expenses incurred with respect to meetings of securityholders; (b) all costs and expenses incurred in the management and administration of our assets, including those for audit, accounting, bookkeeping, travel, and reporting; (c) fees payable to our transfer agent and our custodian(s); (d) costs and fees payable to any agent, legal counsel, actuary, valuator, technical consultant, accountant or auditor or other third party service provider; (e) ongoing regulatory filing fees, license fees and other fees (including in respect of Atrium, stock exchange fees and listing fees); (f) any expenses incurred in connection with any legal proceedings in which the Manager participates on our behalf or any other acts of the Manager or any other agent of Atrium in connection with the maintenance or protection of our property, including costs associated with the enforcement of Mortgage loans; and (g) all taxes, commissions, brokerage commissions and other costs of securities transactions, debt service, commitment fees and costs relating to any credit facilities, insurance premiums and any extraordinary expenses which we may incur or which may be incurred on our behalf from time to time, as applicable.

Under the Management Agreement, the Manager is responsible for employment expenses of its personnel, rent and other office and administrative expenses of the Manager (except as set out above), and all costs and fees associated with maintaining and complying with the licensing requirements under applicable mortgage broker legislation.

#### *NON-COMPETITION ARRANGEMENTS*

Robert G. Goodall is part of the key management personnel of the Manager and is also a director and the President and Chief Executive Officer of Atrium and he receives compensation from the Manager. Mr. Goodall also controls the Manager. It is expected that Mr. Goodall will devote approximately 90% of his time to our affairs.

On March 23, 2012, the date of execution of the Management Agreement, Robert G. Goodall entered into certain non-competition arrangements with us that restrict certain activities by him in the mortgage lending industry. Under the terms of the non-competition arrangements, Robert G. Goodall may not, directly or indirectly, carry on or be engaged in a business that competes with us or be affiliated with or have an economic interest in a competitive business, anywhere in Canada. These restrictions do not apply in connection with any mortgage brokerage business, mortgage servicing business, the ownership, management or development of any real or immovable property and/or investments made by Mr. Goodall or his affiliates prior to the effective date of the Management Agreement. The foregoing restrictions commenced on the effective date of the Management Agreement and end on the first anniversary of the earlier of: the effective date of the termination or non-renewal of the Management Agreement; and such date on which Robert G. Goodall ceases to be employed by the Manager or otherwise ceases to assist in providing services on behalf of the Manager.

#### *EMPLOYEES*

As at December 31, 2019, we had no employees.

## **DIVIDENDS AND DISTRIBUTIONS**

#### **DIVIDEND POLICY**

We intend, at all times, to qualify as a MIC. As a MIC, we are entitled to deduct in computing our income all taxable dividends (other than capital gains dividends) paid to our shareholders in the year and in the first 90 days of the following taxation year, provided that such dividends are not deductible by us in the immediately preceding taxation year. As a result, a MIC generally operates as a flow-through entity so that a shareholder of a MIC is in a similar

position from an income tax perspective as if the investments made by the MIC had been made directly by the shareholder.

It is our intention to make distributions to the extent necessary to reduce our taxable income each year to nil so that no tax is payable by us under Part I of the ITA. To the extent that we realize a capital gain in a year in excess of applicable capital losses, we intend to elect to have dividends to be capital gains dividends to the maximum extent allowable.

The board adopted a dividend policy, effective September 4, 2012 pursuant to which we make monthly cash distributions by way of dividends to holders of common shares of record at the close of business on the last business day of each month. Commencing January 1, 2019, the monthly dividend was set at \$0.075 per common share (a rate of \$0.90 per annum), and commencing January 1, 2020, the monthly dividend was set at \$0.075 per common share (a rate of \$0.90 per annum). Each monthly dividend is paid within 14 days after the dividend record date. In addition, there may be an additional (thirteenth) special dividend to holders of common shares of record at the close of business on December 31 of each year payable within 90 days of the dividend record date. For each year ending December 31, we intend to pay a special dividend equal to at least our taxable income for that fiscal year and capital gains dividends equal to twice our taxable capital gains for that fiscal year, less dividends previously declared for that fiscal year.

The dividend policy includes the discretion of the board to change the record date, declare dividends from time to time as determined by the board, and to vary the amount paid depending on, among other things, our earnings, financial requirements, the satisfaction of solvency tests imposed by the *Business Corporations Act* (Ontario) for the declaration of dividends and other conditions existing at such future time. Under the terms of our operating facility, upon the occurrence and continuance of an event of default, no dividends are permitted to be made by us.

#### **DIVIDEND REINVESTMENT PLAN**

Our Dividend Reinvestment Plan (“DRIP”) allows our shareholders who are resident Canadians the option to elect to invest any and all cash dividends on their common shares. Computershare Trust Company of Canada is our agent under the DRIP, under which cash dividends paid to participants are automatically reinvested in common shares purchased by the agent from treasury at the weighted average trading price of our common shares on the TSX for the five consecutive trading days immediately preceding the relevant dividend payment date, less a discount of 2%.

We may, subject to the terms of the DRIP, increase the discount to up to 5%, reduce it, or eliminate it at any time, although, as at the date hereof, there is no plan to do so. There are no commissions, service charges or brokerage fees payable by participants under the DRIP for the reinvestment of dividends.

#### **DIVIDEND HISTORY**

The aggregate of the cash dividends declared per common share in respect of the years ended December 31, 2019, December 31, 2018, and December 31, 2017 were \$0.96, \$0.94 and \$0.92, respectively.

### **CAPITAL STRUCTURE**

#### **AUTHORIZED CAPITAL**

Our authorized capital consists of an unlimited number of common shares, of which 41,863,776 were issued and outstanding at December 31, 2019, and 42,125,356 are issued and outstanding as at the date hereof.

Holders of our common shares are entitled to receive: (i) notice of and to attend and vote at all meetings of our shareholders and each common share has the right to one vote in person or by proxy at all meetings of our shareholders; (ii) dividends as and when declared by the board from time to time out of our moneys properly applicable to the payment of dividends, and the amount per common share of each such dividend is determined by the board at the time of declaration; and (iii) our remaining property upon our liquidation, dissolution or winding up, or other distribution of our assets among our shareholders by way of repayment of capital, whether voluntary or involuntary.

#### **RESTRICTION ON OUR BUSINESS**

Our articles provide that we may not make any investment or conduct any activity that would result in our failing to qualify as a MIC.

#### **LIMITATION ON OWNERSHIP**

In order to maintain our status as a MIC, our articles provide that no shareholder may hold at any time, directly or indirectly, either alone or together with a person “related” to the shareholder (within the meaning of the ITA, a “Related Person”), more than 25% of any class or series of our issued shares. With the assistance of information

provided by our transfer agent and registrar, the Manager will monitor the foregoing limitation on ownership and advise the board of any potential circumstances in which this limitation may be exceeded.

In the event that, as determined by the board in its sole discretion, any transaction affecting our shares, if completed, would cause any shareholder(s), either alone or together with Related Persons, to hold more than 25% of any class or series of our issued shares, that portion of the shares held by each such shareholder which constitutes in excess of 24.9% of the issued shares of any class or series of shares will, immediately prior to the completion of the triggering transaction, automatically be repurchased and cancelled by us without any further action by us or such shareholder. The purchase price for any such repurchased shares will be equal to the volume weighted average trading price of the particular class or series of shares for the five consecutive trading days ending immediately preceding the date of the triggering transaction.

## **CONVERTIBLE DEBENTURES**

The 5.25% convertible debentures and 5.50% convertible debentures (2021) were issued pursuant to a trust indenture between us and Computershare Trust Company of Canada, as trustee, dated June 18, 2013, as supplemented by a second supplemental indenture dated September 23, 2014 (the “**CTCC Indenture**”). The 5.25% convertible debentures and 5.50% convertible debentures (2021) are governed by the CTCC Indenture. We can issue additional convertible debentures under the CTCC Indenture from time to time. The CTCC Indenture does not restrict us from incurring additional indebtedness for borrowed money or from mortgaging, pledging or charging our real or personal property to secure any indebtedness.

The 5.30% convertible debentures, 5.50% convertible debentures (2025) and 5.60% convertible debentures were issued pursuant to a trust indenture between us and AST Trust Company (Canada), as trustee, dated June 13, 2017, as supplemented by a first supplemental indenture dated July 18, 2018 and a second supplemental indenture dated March 29, 2019 (the “**AST Indenture**”, and together with the CTCC Indenture, the “**Indentures**”). The 5.30% convertible debentures, 5.50% convertible debentures (2025) and 5.60% convertible debentures are governed by the AST Indenture. We can issue additional convertible debentures under the AST Indenture from time to time. The AST Indenture does not restrict us from incurring additional indebtedness for borrowed money or from mortgaging, pledging or charging our real or personal property to secure any indebtedness.

There is \$27.1 million, \$40.25 million, \$25.3 million, \$34.5 million and \$28.8 million aggregate principal amount of 5.25% convertible debentures, 5.50% convertible debentures (2021), 5.30% convertible debentures, 5.50% convertible debentures (2025) and 5.60% convertible debentures issued and outstanding, respectively. The convertible debentures are direct, unsecured obligations of Atrium, subordinated to other indebtedness of Atrium for borrowed money and rank equally with all other unsecured subordinated indebtedness. The 5.25% convertible debentures mature on June 30, 2020 and accrue interest at the rate of 5.25% per annum payable semi-annually in arrears on the last day of June and December of each year. The 5.50% convertible debentures (2021) mature on September 30, 2021 and accrue interest at the rate of 5.50% per annum payable semi-annually in arrears on the last day of March and September of each year. The 5.30% convertible debentures mature on June 30, 2024 and accrue interest at the rate of 5.30% per annum payable semi-annually in arrears on the last day of June and December of each year. The 5.50% convertible debentures (2025) mature on December 31, 2025 and accrue interest at the rate of 5.50% per annum payable semi-annually in arrears on the last day of June and December of each year. The 5.60% convertible debentures mature on March 31, 2025 and accrue interest at the rate of 5.60% per annum payable semi-annually in arrears on the last day of March and September of each year. At the holder’s option, the convertible debentures may be converted into our common shares at any time prior to the close of business on the earlier of the business day immediately preceding either the maturity date and, if called for redemption, the date specified by us for redemption of the convertible debentures. The conversion price for 5.25% convertible debentures is \$13.50, for the 5.50% convertible debentures (2021) is \$14.65, for the 5.30% convertible debentures is \$14.94, for the 5.50% convertible debentures (2025) is \$15.60 and for the 5.60% convertible debentures is \$14.75 in each case, for each common share, subject to adjustment in certain events.

Other than in certain circumstances set out in the Indentures, the 5.25% convertible debentures will not be redeemable prior to June 30, 2016, the 5.50% convertible debentures (2021) will not be redeemable prior to September 30, 2017, the 5.30% convertible debentures will not be redeemable prior to June 30, 2020, the 5.50% convertible debentures (2025) will not be redeemable prior to December 31, 2021 and the 5.60% convertible debentures will not be redeemable prior to March 31, 2022.

On and after: (i) June 30, 2016, but prior to June 30, 2018, the 5.25% convertible debentures will be redeemable; (ii) September 30, 2017, but prior to September 30, 2019, the 5.50% convertible debentures (2021) will be redeemable; (iii) June 30, 2020, but prior to June 30, 2022, the 5.30% convertible debentures will be redeemable; (iv) December 31, 2021, but prior to December 31, 2023, the 5.50% convertible debentures (2025) will be redeemable; and (v) March

31, 2022, but prior to March 31, 2024, the 5.60% convertible debentures will be redeemable, in each case, in whole or in part, from time to time at our sole option at a price equal to the principal amount thereof, plus accrued and unpaid interest up to, but excluding, the date of redemption, on not more than 60 days' and not less than 30 days' prior written notice, provided that the volume weighted average trading price of our common shares on the TSX during the 20 consecutive trading days ending on the fifth trading day preceding the date on which the notice of the redemption is given is not less than 125% of the conversion price of the applicable series of convertible debentures. On or after: (i) June 30, 2018 and prior to the maturity date, the 5.25% convertible debentures will be redeemable; (ii) September 30, 2019 and prior to the maturity date, the 5.50% convertible debentures (2021) will be redeemable; (iii) June 30, 2022 and prior to the maturity date, the 5.30% convertible debentures will be redeemable; (iv) December 31, 2023 and prior to maturity date, the 5.50% convertible debentures (2025) will be redeemable; and (v) March 31, 2024 and prior to maturity date, the 5.60% convertible debentures will be redeemable, in each case, in whole or in part, from time to time at our sole option at a price equal to the principal amount thereof, plus accrued and unpaid interest up to, but excluding, the date of redemption, on not more than 60 days' and not less than 30 days' prior written notice.

Subject to specified conditions, we have the right to repay the outstanding principal amount of the convertible debentures, on maturity or redemption, through the issuance of our common shares. We also have the option to satisfy our obligation to pay interest on the convertible debentures through the issuance and sale of our common shares.

The Indentures provide that an event of default in respect of the convertible debentures will occur if any one or more of the following described events has occurred and is continuing with respect to the convertible debentures: (a) failure for 10 days to pay interest on the convertible debentures when due; (b) failure to pay principal or premium, if any, when due on the convertible debentures, whether at maturity, upon redemption, by declaration or otherwise; (c) certain events of bankruptcy, insolvency or reorganization of Atrium under bankruptcy or insolvency laws as described in the Indenture; (d) default in the observance or performance of any material covenant or condition of the Indenture by us and continuance of such default for a period of 30 days after notice in writing has been given by the trustee to us specifying such default and requiring we rectify the same; or (e) if a resolution is passed for the winding-up or liquidation of Atrium except as permitted under the Indenture. If an event of default has occurred and is continuing, the trustee may, in its discretion, and shall upon request of holders of not less than 25% of the principal amount of convertible debentures of a series then outstanding, declare the principal of and interest on all outstanding convertible debentures of a series to be immediately due and payable. In certain cases, the holders of more than 50% of the principal amount of the convertible debentures of a series then outstanding may, on behalf of the holders of all convertible debentures of such series, waive any event of default and/or cancel any such declaration upon such terms and conditions as such holders shall prescribe.

A summary of additional terms of the convertible debentures is set out in the section entitled "Description of the Debentures" contained in each of our final prospectuses or prospectus supplements dated June 11, 2013, September 15, 2014, June 5, 2017, July 11, 2018 and March 22, 2019 qualifying the distribution of the 5.25% convertible debentures, 5.50% convertible debentures (2021), 5.30% convertible debentures, 5.50% convertible debentures (2025) and 5.60% convertible debentures, respectively, which sections are incorporated herein by reference and are available on SEDAR at [www.sedar.com](http://www.sedar.com).

## MARKET FOR SECURITIES

Our common shares, 5.25% convertible debentures, 5.50% convertible debentures (2021), 5.30% convertible debentures, 5.50% convertible debentures (2025) and 5.60% convertible debentures are listed and posted for trading on the TSX under the symbols AI, AI.DB, AI.DB.B, AI.DB.C, AI.DB.D and AI.DB.E, respectively. The monthly price ranges and total monthly trading volumes for our common shares and convertible debentures during 2019 were as follows:

*Common shares*

<u>Month</u>	<u>High (\$)</u>	<u>Low (\$)</u>	<u>Share volume</u>
January 2019	13.66	12.55	746,348
February 2019	13.43	12.96	1,064,268
March 2019	13.33	13.12	577,098
April 2019	13.53	13.08	581,127
May 2019	13.82	13.30	507,261
June 2019	13.92	13.18	637,602
July 2019	13.92	13.29	629,232
August 2019	13.95	13.53	603,975
September 2019	14.03	13.52	434,669
October 2019	14.01	13.40	1,457,506
November 2019	14.36	13.76	796,487
December 2019	14.81	13.90	812,515

*5.25% convertible debentures*

<u>Month</u>	<u>High (\$)</u>	<u>Low (\$)</u>	<u>Volume (face value)</u>
January 2019	100.90	98.50	775,000
February 2019	100.51	99.75	335,000
March 2019	100.89	99.92	244,000
April 2019	101.31	100.36	194,000
May 2019	103.86	100.76	357,000
June 2019	102.87	100.16	292,000
July 2019	102.50	100.38	138,000
August 2019	104.00	100.50	483,000
September 2019	103.00	101.50	344,000
October 2019	103.50	100.26	719,000
November 2019	104.25	102.00	532,000
December 2019	108.00	102.02	819,000

*6.25% convertible debentures*

<u>Month</u>	<u>High (\$)</u>	<u>Low (\$)</u>	<u>Volume (face value)</u>
January 2019	101.50	99.85	307,000
February 2019	101.05	99.68	384,000
March 2019	100.25	99.73	1,717,000

*5.50% convertible debentures (2021)*

<u>Month</u>	<u>High (\$)</u>	<u>Low (\$)</u>	<u>Volume (face value)</u>
January 2019	100.89	99.50	252,000
February 2019	101.01	100.00	287,000
March 2019	101.29	100.10	266,000
April 2019	101.30	100.75	506,000
May 2019	103.00	101.15	368,000
June 2019	103.00	101.20	183,000
July 2019	102.99	101.50	173,000
August 2019	101.75	100.85	320,000
September 2019	102.00	101.40	225,000
October 2019	105.00	101.30	202,000
November 2019	102.10	101.85	187,000
December 2019	102.60	101.30	181,000

*5.30% convertible debentures*

<u>Month</u>	<u>High (\$)</u>	<u>Low (\$)</u>	<u>Volume (face value)</u>
January 2019	99.51	95.80	253,000
February 2019	100.00	97.51	181,000
March 2019	99.81	97.51	373,000
April 2019	101.01	99.00	238,000
May 2019	101.25	100.01	130,000
June 2019	103.00	101.00	169,000
July 2019	101.90	98.15	304,000
August 2019	102.95	100.06	334,000
September 2019	103.00	100.11	375,000
October 2019	103.00	100.42	418,000
November 2019	103.00	101.01	147,000
December 2019	102.50	101.00	143,000

*5.50% convertible debentures (2025)*

<u>Month</u>	<u>High (\$)</u>	<u>Low (\$)</u>	<u>Volume (face value)</u>
January 2019	98.91	95.49	185,000
February 2019	99.00	97.26	232,000
March 2019	100.01	98.50	436,000
April 2019	99.90	98.75	634,000
May 2019	100.26	98.76	445,000
June 2019	100.50	98.75	498,000
July 2019	104.00	100.26	390,000
August 2019	102.50	100.52	468,000
September 2019	103.99	101.90	333,000
October 2019	102.00	100.00	622,000
November 2019	103.70	101.50	284,000
December 2019	102.00	102.00	31,000

*5.60% convertible debentures*

<u>Month</u>	<u>High (\$)</u>	<u>Low (\$)</u>	<u>Volume (face value)</u>
March 2019	99.25	98.00	1,253,000
April 2019	100.00	98.49	2,354,000
May 2019	101.00	99.50	1,018,000
June 2019	101.00	100.50	410,000
July 2019	105.99	100.50	1,216,000
August 2019	102.01	100.25	462,000
September 2019	102.00	100.41	383,000
October 2019	102.01	101.00	247,000
November 2019	102.50	101.50	488,000
December 2019	102.50	101.25	479,000

**ESCROWED SECURITIES AND  
SECURITIES SUBJECT TO CONTRACTUAL RESTRICTIONS ON TRANSFER**

As at December 31, 2019, we do not have any securities in escrow and we do not have any securities subject to contractual restrictions on transfer.

## DIRECTORS AND EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

### DIRECTORS AND EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

Our articles provide that we may have a minimum of one and a maximum of ten directors. Our directors are responsible for supervising the management of our business and affairs. The number of directors is currently set at seven. The board is empowered to determine and fix from time to time, by ordinary resolution, the number of our directors within the minimum and maximum numbers provided for in our articles.

The following table sets forth the names and municipalities of residence of our directors and executive officers, their positions or offices, the date when they first became a director and/or executive officer and their principal occupations during the past five years:

<b><u>Name and Municipality of Residence</u></b>	<b><u>Position with Atrium</u></b>	<b><u>Director or Executive Officer Since</u></b>	<b><u>Principal Occupation</u></b>
Peter P. Cohos <sup>(3)(4)(6)</sup> Calgary, Alberta Canada	Director	March 23, 2012	President, Copez Properties Ltd.
Robert H. DeGasperi <sup>(6)</sup> Concord, Ontario Canada	Director	March 23, 2012	President, Metrus Properties Inc.
Andrew Grant <sup>(4)(6)</sup> Vancouver, B.C. Canada	Director	October 23, 2014	President PCI Group
Maurice (Maish) Kagan <sup>(2)(6)</sup> Toronto, Ontario Canada	Director	April 26, 2018	President Canal Group
Nancy Lockhart <sup>(2)(5)(6)</sup> Toronto, Ontario Canada	Director	June 24, 2013	Corporate Director
Mark L. Silver <sup>(1)(6)</sup> Toronto, Ontario Canada	Director and Chair of the Board	March 23, 2012	President, Optus Capital Corporation
Robert G. Goodall Toronto, Ontario Canada	Director, President and Chief Executive Officer	July 30, 2001	President, Chief Executive Officer and a director of the Manager
Jennifer Scoffield, CPA, CA Mississauga, Ontario Canada	Chief Financial Officer and Secretary	January 1, 2018	Chief Financial Officer of the Manager

Notes:

- (1) Chair of the board.
- (2) Member of the Audit Committee.
- (3) Chair of the Audit Committee.
- (4) Member of the Compensation, Nominating and Governance Committee.
- (5) Chair of the Compensation, Nominating and Governance Committee.
- (6) Independent member of the board.

As a group, our directors and executive officers beneficially own or exercise control or direction, directly or indirectly, 1,673,465 common shares (representing approximately 4.0% of the total common shares issued and outstanding) as at December 31, 2019.

The board consists of the seven directors as shown in the table above. Each director holds office until the next annual meeting or until his or her successor is duly elected or appointed, unless his or her office is earlier vacated in accordance with our articles and by-laws, or he or she becomes disqualified to act as a director.

## **BIOGRAPHIES**

The following are brief profiles of our directors and executive officers, including a description of each individual's principal occupation within the past five years.

### *Peter P. Cohos, director*

Peter P. Cohos is the President of Copez Properties Ltd., a Calgary-based real estate investment company. He was previously the Chief Executive Officer of Triovest Realty Advisors Inc. a national commercial real estate advisory company which has approximately \$7 billion in assets under management. Mr. Cohos has worked in the commercial real estate industry since 1985, founding Copez Management Ltd., Tonko Development Corp. and then Tonko Realty Advisors Ltd., which merged with Redcliff Realty Management Inc. in 2011. Tonko Development Corp. was a publicly traded corporation from 1995 through 2002. During that time, Mr. Cohos was President and Chief Executive Officer, as well as a member of its board. Mr. Cohos' extensive and varied real estate career is augmented by his Honours degree in Business Administration from the University of Western Ontario and a MBA from the University of Capetown, South Africa.

### *Robert H. DeGasperis, director*

Robert DeGasperis is President of Metrus Properties and DG Group, family owned and operated real estate companies that have operated primarily in the Greater Toronto Area (GTA) for over 40 years. Metrus Properties has developed, and currently manages, approximately 15 million square feet of industrial, retail and office properties throughout the GTA. Its mandate is to acquire, develop and manage all asset classes. The DG Group develops and manages master planned communities throughout the GTA. The DG Group has completed award-winning communities including the Beaches (Toronto); Springdale (Brampton); Bayview Hill (Richmond Hill) and Lakeshore Woods (Oakville). Mr. DeGasperis is a director of both ConDrain Company (1983) and Con-Cast Pipe. Mr. DeGasperis, through a family foundation, continues his commitment to sponsorship of numerous hospitals, charities, youth groups and community organizations.

### *Andrew Grant, director*

Andrew Grant is the president and founding partner of PCI Group, a major developer in British Columbia. PCI Group was established in 1982, and is continually active in the BC real estate market. Mr. Grant is actively involved in the Vancouver real estate community: he is former president of the Urban Development Institute (UDI); in the past was a chair of St. George's School; a supporter of the University of British Columbia athletics; and a former director of Great Northern Way Trust.

### *Maurice (Maish) Kagan, director*

Maurice Kagan is the president of Canal Group, a residential and commercial property holding company. Canal Group is engaged in property development, construction, financing and management of commercial and residential assets. Mr. Kagan was formerly chief executive officer and owner of Sparkle Solutions Inc., a route operator servicing over 13,000 laundry machines serving the multi-residential housing industry in Canada that was acquired by a U.S. based laundry operator in 2013. In 1997, Mr. Kagan spearheaded the launch of Residential Equities Real Estate Investment Trust (RESREIT). Mr. Kagan is a director of Kew Media Group and Cliffside Capital Ltd. He was a director of Pure Multi-Family REIT until September 2019. He is a former director of InterRent REIT, Carfinco Financial Group Inc. and Lonestar West Inc. and was the Chair of the audit committee of both Carfinco Financial Group Inc. and Lonestar West Inc. Mr. Kagan qualified as a Chartered Accountant in South Africa in 1981, has a Bachelor of Commerce from the University of Cape Town and has a certificate in the Theory of Accountant.

### *Nancy Lockhart, director*

Nancy Lockhart is a director of George Weston Limited and a member of its governance and pension committees; as well as a director of Choice Properties REIT. Ms. Lockhart was Chair of the board of directors of Gluskin Sheff + Associates, Inc., and a member of its compensation, nominating and governance committees until June 2019. She was a director of Loblaw Companies Limited and a member of its risk committee and of its governance, employee development, nominating and compensation committee until May 2019. She was a member of the board of Barrick Gold Corporation until September 2018 where she sat on the governance and nominating committee and was chair of the corporate responsibility committee. She was formerly Chief Administrative Officer of Frum Development Group and a Vice President of Shoppers Drug Mart Corporation. Ms. Lockhart is a director of The Royal Conservatory of Music and Chair Emeritus of Crow's Theatre Company. She is a former Chair of the Ontario Science Centre, former President of the Canadian Club of Toronto and a former Chair of the Canadian Film Centre. Ms. Lockhart is also a

former director of the Canada Deposit Insurance Corporation and a former director of Retirement Residence REIT. Ms. Lockhart was awarded the Order of Ontario in 2006.

*Mark L. Silver*, director and chair of the board of directors

Mark L. Silver is President of Optus Capital Corporation. Mr. Silver has made significant real estate investments in both development stage and income producing properties in the residential, commercial and industrial sectors over his 35 year business career. Over the last 22 years, these investments have been made through his company, Optus Capital Corporation. Mr. Silver was a founding partner and Chief Executive Officer of Universal Energy which was sold in 2009 to Just Energy Group Inc. He co-founded Direct Energy Marketing and grew the company to over \$1.3 billion in revenues before selling to Centrica PLC (also known as British Gas) in 2000.

*Robert G. Goodall*, director, president and chief executive officer

Robert G. Goodall is the President and founder of CMCC, a major mortgage brokerage company with well-established lending and mortgage servicing operations. CMCC's head office is in downtown Toronto, and the company has branch offices in Calgary and Vancouver. CMCC has approximately \$1.6 billion of assets under management from its activities in non-bank lending, real estate equity funds, and administration of institutional mortgages. Mr. Goodall is also CEO of Atrium Mortgage Investment Corporation. For the fifteen year period from 1996 to 2011, CMCC arranged financing on over \$6 billion of real estate in Ontario. From 1997-1999, CMCC also had the exclusive mandate to originate mortgages, and manage the existing mortgage portfolio of a Toronto based trust company. Prior to founding CMCC, Mr. Goodall spent seven years with Royal Trust, where the last three years were served as National Managing Director of the Real Estate Finance Group overseeing a portfolio of \$1.4 billion in commercial and multi-residential real estate loans. The Real Estate Finance Group had offices in Toronto, Montreal and western Canada. Mr. Goodall is a trustee of Dream Office REIT and Sun Residential REIT, and director of a registered charity, Jump Math. Mr. Goodall has an HBA from the Ivey Business School, and an MBA from the Schulich School of Business.

*Jennifer Scoffield*, chief financial officer and secretary

Jennifer Scoffield joined the Manager on September 1, 2015 as vice president, finance. Ms. Scoffield was appointed chief financial officer on January 1, 2018. She was the chief financial officer of Pure Nickel Inc. from May 2013 until December 2016. Ms. Scoffield holds a BComm from Queen's University and is a Chartered Professional Accountant.

#### **CEASE TRADE ORDERS, BANKRUPTCIES, PENALTIES OR SANCTIONS**

None of our directors or executive officers is, as at the date hereof, or was within ten years before the date hereof, a director, chief executive officer or chief financial officer of any company (including Atrium), that was:

- (a) subject to a cease trade or similar order or an order that denied the relevant company access to any exemption under securities legislation, that, in each case, was in effect for a period of more than 30 consecutive days, that was issued while the director or executive officer was acting in the capacity as director, chief executive officer or chief financial officer; or
- (b) was subject to a cease trade or similar order or an order that denied the relevant company access to any exemption under securities legislation, that, in each case, was in effect for a period of more than 30 consecutive days, that was issued after the director or executive officer ceased to be a director, chief executive officer or chief financial officer and which resulted from an event that occurred while that person was acting in the capacity as director, chief executive officer or chief financial officer,

except for Maurice Kagan, who is a member of the board of directors of Kew Media Group Inc. ("KEW"), which is subject to a cease trade order issued by the Ontario Securities Commission (and still in effect) due to KEW's auditors withdrawal of audit reports on certain of Kew's financial statements as a result of misrepresentations by KEW's former Chief Financial Officer.

No director or executive officer of Atrium, nor a shareholder holding a sufficient number of securities of Atrium to affect materially the control of Atrium:

- (a) is, as at the date hereof, or has been within the ten years before the date hereof, a director or executive officer of any company (including Atrium) that, while that person was acting in that capacity, or within a year of that person ceasing to act in that capacity, became bankrupt, made a proposal under any legislation relating to bankruptcy or insolvency or was subject to or instituted any proceedings, arrangement or compromise with creditors or had a receiver, receiver manager or trustee appointed to hold its assets; or
- (b) has, within the ten years before the date hereof, become bankrupt, made a proposal under any legislation relating to bankruptcy or insolvency, or become subject to or instituted any proceedings, arrangement or

compromise with creditors, or had a receiver, receiver manager or trustee appointed to hold the assets of the director, executive officer or shareholder.

No director or executive officer of Atrium, nor a shareholder holding a sufficient number of securities of Atrium to affect materially the control of Atrium, has been subject to:

- (a) any penalties or sanctions imposed by a court relating to securities legislation or by a securities regulatory authority or has entered into a settlement agreement with a securities regulatory authority; or
- (b) any other penalties or sanctions imposed by a court or regulatory body that would likely be considered important to a reasonable investor in making an investment decision.

#### **CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

We are subject to various potential conflicts of interest because the Manager is controlled by insiders of Atrium. We have entered into certain non-competition arrangements with Robert G. Goodall, which addresses certain conflicts of interest. We will rely upon the Manager to manage our business and to provide managerial skill. The directors and officers of the Manager may have a conflict of interest in allocating their time between the respective businesses and interests of the Manager and Atrium, and other businesses or projects in which they may become involved.

The members of the board may from time to time deal with parties with whom we may be dealing, or may be seeking investments similar to those desired by us. We have conflicts of interest policies requiring members of the board to disclose material interests in material contracts and transactions and to refrain from voting thereon.

#### **EXPERTS**

Crowe Soberman LLP, Chartered Professional Accountants and Licensed Public Accountants, our external auditor, has been named as having prepared a certified statement, report or valuation described or included in a filing, or referred to in a filing, made under National Instrument 51-102 by us during, or relating to our fiscal year ended December 31, 2019. Crowe Soberman LLP is independent of Atrium in accordance with the auditor's rules of professional conduct in a jurisdiction of Canada.

#### **AUDIT COMMITTEE DISCLOSURE**

##### **AUDIT COMMITTEE CHARTER**

The audit committee is responsible for overseeing, among other matters, the work of our external auditors, the integrity of our consolidated financial statements and financial reporting process, the qualifications and independence of the external auditors of Atrium and our compliance with legal and regulatory requirements. The audit committee reviews and recommends to the board for approval, our annual and interim consolidated financial statements and related management's discussion and analysis, earnings press releases, selected disclosure documents, including information pertaining to the audit committee contained in our annual information form and any other consolidated financial statements required by regulatory authorities, before they are released to the public or filed with the appropriate regulators. The audit committee reviews its charter at least annually and recommends changes to the board with respect to its charter, as necessary. The Audit Committee Charter is attached as Schedule "A".

The audit committee has implemented procedures for the receipt, retention and treatment of complaints received by Atrium regarding accounting, internal accounting controls or auditing matters and the confidential, anonymous submission by directors, officers, employees and others of concerns regarding questionable accounting or auditing matters. In this regard, the board and the audit committee have established a Whistleblower Policy outlining the confidential reporting process whereby all such complaints are referred to the chair of the audit committee for investigation and then the results are reported to the full audit committee, after which it determines what action should be taken. The Whistleblower Policy can be viewed on our website at [www.atriummic.com](http://www.atriummic.com).

##### **COMPOSITION OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE**

The audit committee is comprised of Peter P. Cohos, as chair, Maish Kagan and Nancy Lockhart. Each member of the audit committee is independent and is financially literate in that each has 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 our consolidated financial statements.

##### **RELEVANT EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE**

The relevant education and experience of each of the members of the audit committee is as follows:

Name of Audit Committee member	Relevant education and experience
Peter P. Cohos	Mr. Cohos is the president of Copez Properties Ltd., a Calgary-based real estate investment company. He was previously the Chief Executive Officer of Triovest Realty Advisors Inc. a national commercial real estate advisory company which has approximately \$7 billion in assets under management. Mr. Cohos has worked in the commercial real estate industry since 1985 and has had extensive involvement with public and private corporations throughout his career. Mr. Cohos has a BBA from the University of Western Ontario, and an MBA from the University of Capetown.
Maurice Kagan	Maurice Kagan is the president of Canal Group, a residential and commercial property holding company. Canal Group is engaged in property development, construction, financing and management of commercial and residential assets. Mr. Kagan was formerly chief executive officer and owner of Sparkle Solutions Inc., a route operator servicing over 13,000 laundry machines serving the multi-residential housing industry in Canada that was acquired by a U.S. based laundry operator in 2013. In 1997, Mr. Kagan spearheaded the launch of Residential Equities Real Estate Investment Trust (RESREIT). Mr. Kagan is a director of Pure Multi-Family REIT, Kew Media Group and Cliffside Capital Ltd. He is a former director of InterRent REIT, Carfinco Financial Group Inc. and Lonestar West Inc. and was the Chair of the audit committee of both Carfinco Financial Group Inc. and Lonestar West Inc. Mr. Kagan qualified as a Chartered Accountant in South Africa in 1981, has a Bachelor of Commerce from the University of Cape Town and has a certificate in the Theory of Accountant.
Nancy Lockhart	Ms. Lockhart is an experienced corporate executive and currently a director of George Weston Limited and a member of its governance and pension committees and a director of Choice Properties REIT. She was a former director of the Canada Deposit Insurance Corporation. Ms. Lockhart holds the ICD.d designation from The Institute of Corporate Directors, was awarded the Order of Ontario in 2006 and the Queens Golden Jubilee Medal in 2012.

#### PRE-APPROVAL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

The Audit Committee Charter provides that the audit committee pre-approves all audit and non-audit services provided by our external auditors and will only engage the external auditors to perform non-audit services permitted by law or regulation. The Audit Committee may delegate pre-approval authority to a member of the Audit Committee. The decisions of any Audit Committee member to whom pre-approval authority is delegated must be presented to the full Audit Committee at its next scheduled meeting.

#### EXTERNAL AUDITOR SERVICE FEES (BY CATEGORY)

The following table sets out by category fees charged by Crowe Soberman LLP, our external auditors, in respect of the last three fiscal years for the services noted:

Category (in thousands of Canadian dollars)	Year ended December 31 2019	Year ended December 31 2018	Year ended December 31 2017
Audit fees <sup>(1)</sup>	\$77	\$77	\$69
Audit-related fees <sup>(2)</sup>	42	39	35
Tax fees <sup>(3)</sup>	-	-	1
All other fees <sup>(4)</sup>	57	41	63
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$176</b>	<b>\$157</b>	<b>\$168</b>

Notes:

- (1) Fees for audit services.
- (2) Fees for interim reviews of our consolidated financial statements, and other fees related to audit services.
- (3) Fees for tax advice.
- (4) Fees for work in connection with the preparation and filing of prospectuses.

## LEGAL PROCEEDINGS AND REGULATORY ACTIONS

There are no outstanding legal proceedings material to us to which we are a party or in respect of which any of our properties are subject, nor are there any such proceedings known to be contemplated. In addition, there were no penalties or sanctions imposed against us by a court relating to securities legislation or by a securities regulatory authority since January 1, 2019, no other penalties or sanctions imposed by a court or regulatory body against us that would likely be considered important to a reasonable investor in making an investment decision, and no settlement agreements entered into by us with a court relating to securities legislation or with a securities regulatory authority since January 1, 2019.

## INTERESTS OF MANAGEMENT AND OTHERS IN MATERIAL TRANSACTIONS

Certain of our mortgages are shared with other investors, who may include from time to time members the board and/or officers of Atrium. In every case, our mortgage participation either ranks equally or in priority to other members of the syndicate as to receipt of principal and interest.

Robert G. Goodall is a member of our board and an officer of Atrium, and is also a shareholder, director, officer and is related to entities that own, directly or indirectly, an interest in the Manager, which is a party to the Management Agreement described above.

Certain of our directors and executive officers participated in offerings of our common shares and convertible debentures at the same price and on the same terms as other arm's length subscribers in such offerings.

Other than the foregoing or as otherwise disclosed herein, there were no material interests, direct or indirect, of our directors or executive officers, any shareholder who beneficially owns, directly or indirectly, or exercises control or direction over more than 10% of our outstanding common shares, or any other Informed Person (as such term is defined in National Instrument 51-102) or any known associate or affiliate of such persons, in any transaction since the commencement of our last completed financial year or in any proposed transaction which has materially affected or would materially affect us.

## TRANSFER AGENT AND REGISTRAR

The transfer agent and registrar for our common shares and our 5.25%, and 5.50% (2021) convertible debentures is Computershare Trust Company of Canada at its principal offices located in Toronto, Ontario, Canada. The transfer agent and registrar for our 5.30%, 5.50% (2025) and 5.60% convertible debentures is AST Trust Company (Canada).

## MATERIAL CONTRACTS

The following are the material contracts, other than contracts in the ordinary course of business, and material contracts in the ordinary course of business required to be listed, that Atrium has entered into since January 1, 2019 or prior thereto but still in effect:

- (a) the Management Agreement referred to under "Description of the Business – Management";
- (b) the operating facility dated July 6, 2014, as amended to January 2, 2019, and from time to time, referred to under "Investment Strategies – Borrowing Strategy"; and
- (c) the Indentures referred to under "Capital Structure – Convertible Debentures".

We have also adopted a Deferred Share Incentive Plan and the Dividend Reinvestment Plan referred to under "Dividends and Distributions – Dividend Reinvestment Plan."

## NOTICE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING INFORMATION

Certain information included in this Annual Information Form contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of applicable securities legislation, including statements with respect to management's beliefs, estimates, and intentions, and similar statements concerning anticipated future events, results, circumstances, performance or expectations that are not historical facts. Forward-looking statements generally can be identified by the use of forward-looking terminology such as "outlook", "objective", "may", "will", "expect", "intent", "estimate", "anticipate", "believe", "should", "plans" or "continue" or similar expressions suggesting future outcomes or events. Such forward-looking statements reflect management's current beliefs and are based on information currently available to management. These statements are not guarantees of future performance and are based on our estimates and assumptions that are subject to risks and uncertainties which could cause our actual results to differ materially from

the forward-looking statements contained in this Annual Information Form. Those risks and uncertainties include risks associated with mortgage lending, competition for mortgage lending, real estate values, interest rate fluctuations, environmental matters and the general economic environment. For other risks and uncertainties, please refer to “Risks Factor” above. We caution that the foregoing list is not exhaustive, as other factors could adversely affect our results, performance or achievements. The reader is cautioned against undue reliance on any forward-looking statements.

Although the forward-looking information contained herein is based upon what management believes are reasonable assumptions, there can be no assurance that actual results will be consistent with these forward-looking statements. Except as required by applicable law, we undertake no obligation to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statement, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

#### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Additional information, including directors’ and officers’ remuneration and indebtedness, the executive compensation for named executive officers of Atrium, principal holders of our securities, and interests of insiders in material transactions, as applicable, is contained in Atrium’s management information circular for its most recent annual meeting of shareholders. Additional financial information is provided in the consolidated financial statements and management’s discussion and analysis of Atrium for the year ended December 31, 2019. A copy of the management information circular, consolidated financial statements and management’s discussion and analysis may be obtained upon request from Atrium, and those documents and other information in respect of Atrium are also available on SEDAR at [www.sedar.com](http://www.sedar.com).

## GLOSSARY OF TERMS

The following terms used in this Annual Information Form have the meanings as shown below.

“**5.25% convertible debentures**” means Atrium’s 5.25% convertible unsecured subordinated debentures due June 30, 2020.

“**5.30% convertible debentures**” means Atrium’s 5.30% convertible unsecured subordinated debentures due June 30, 2024.

“**5.50% convertible debentures (2021)**” means Atrium’s 5.50% convertible unsecured subordinated debentures due September 30, 2021.

“**5.50% convertible debentures (2025)**” means Atrium’s 5.50% convertible unsecured subordinated debentures due December 31, 2025.

“**5.60% convertible debentures**” means Atrium’s 5.60% convertible unsecured subordinated debentures due March 31, 2025.

“**6.25% convertible debentures**” means Atrium’s 6.25% convertible unsecured subordinated debentures due March 31, 2019.

“**CMSC**” means Canadian Mortgage Servicing Corporation, a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Manager.

“**commercial mortgages**” means mortgages which are principally secured by: (a) income-producing properties which have retail, commercial service, office and/or industrial uses; and (b) land, zoned for commercial purposes.

“**conventional mortgage**” means a mortgage for which the principal amount, at the time of commitment, together with all other equal and prior ranking mortgages: (a) in the case of a property purchase, does not exceed the lower of 75% of the purchase price of the underlying real property securing the mortgage and 75% of the appraised value of the underlying real property securing the mortgage as determined by a qualified appraiser; and (b) in the case of a refinancing, does not exceed 75% of the appraised value of the underlying real property securing the mortgage as determined by a qualified appraiser at the time of such refinancing.

“**convertible debentures**” means, collectively, the 5.25% convertible debentures, the 5.30% convertible debentures, the 5.50% convertible debentures (2021), the 5.50% convertible debentures (2025) and the 5.60% convertible debentures.

“**first mortgage**” means a mortgage having priority over all other security interests registered against the same real property used to secure such mortgage.

“**ITA**” means the *Income Tax Act* (Canada), including the regulations promulgated thereunder, as amended and replaced from time to time.

“**Management Agreement**” means the amended and restated management agreement between Atrium and the Manager executed and delivered as of March 23, 2012, as amended.

“**Manager**” or “**CMCC**” means Canadian Mortgage Capital Corporation and its successors as our manager under the Management Agreement.

“**MIC**” means a mortgage investment corporation, within the meaning of subsection 130.1(6) of the ITA.

“**non-conventional mortgage**” means a mortgage other than a conventional mortgage, and includes mortgage investments that exceed, or may exceed, 75% of the appraised value of the real property underlying such mortgages as determined by a qualified appraiser.

“**residential mortgages**” means mortgages that are principally secured by single family residences, multi-family residential properties and residential land.

“**second mortgage**” means a mortgage interest having priority over all other security interests registered against the same real property used to secure such mortgage, other than a first mortgage of such real property.

“**TSX**” means the Toronto Stock Exchange.

## SCHEDULE “A”

### ATRIUM MORTGAGE INVESTMENT CORPORATION AUDIT COMMITTEE CHARTER

#### INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE

The board of directors of Atrium Mortgage Investment Corporation has delegated the responsibilities, authorities and duties described below to the audit committee.

The purpose of the committee is to provide assistance to the board in fulfilling its oversight responsibility relating to: (i) the integrity of Atrium’s financial statements; (ii) Atrium’s compliance with legal and regulatory requirements; and (iii) the independent auditors’ qualifications and independence.

The committee may retain (and set and pay the compensation) of such outside legal, accounting or other advisors as it considers necessary to carry out its duties. In fulfilling its purpose, it is the responsibility of the committee to maintain free and open communication between itself, independent auditors and management, and to determine that all parties are aware of their responsibilities.

#### COMPOSITION AND MEMBERSHIP

The committee shall consist of at least three directors appointed by the board to hold office until their successors are appointed. Unless a committee chair is elected by the full board, the members of the committee may designate a chair by majority vote.

#### INDEPENDENCE

Each member shall be independent as defined by National Instrument 52-110 – *Audit Committees* and in such regard shall have no direct or indirect material relationship with Atrium that could, in the view of the board, reasonably interfere with the exercise of a member’s independent judgment.

#### FINANCIALLY LITERATE

Each member shall be financially literate or must become financially literate within a reasonable period of time. For these purposes, an individual is financially literate if he or she has 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 Atrium’s financial statements.

#### MEETINGS

The committee shall meet at least four times annually, or more frequently as circumstances dictate. A majority of the committee members constitutes a quorum for the transaction of business. The committee will meet separately and periodically with management and with the independent auditors, and there will be the opportunity for such *in camera* sessions at every committee meeting. The committee will report regularly to the board with respect to its activities. Meetings may be in person or by telephone.

#### DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The Committee has the responsibilities and powers set forth in this charter. Management is responsible for the preparation, presentation, and integrity of Atrium’s financial statements, for the appropriateness of the accounting principles and reporting policies that are used by Atrium, and for implementing and maintaining internal control over financial reporting. The independent auditors are responsible for auditing Atrium’s financial statements and for reviewing Atrium’s unaudited interim financial statements if requested to do so.

The principal duties and responsibilities of the committee are set out below with the understanding that the committee may supplement them as appropriate. At all times, the committee will take actions that set an appropriate tone for quality external financial reporting and the highest standards of ethical behaviour.

The specific responsibilities of the committee are as follows:

1. Make regular reports to the board.
2. Recommend to the board: (i) the independent auditor to be nominated for the purpose of preparing or issuing an auditor’s report or performing other audit, review or attest services for Atrium; and (ii) the compensation of the independent auditor, and pre-approve any non-audit services provided by the independent auditors. The committee is directly responsible for the oversight of the work of the independent auditors (including resolution of disagreements between management and the auditors regarding financial reporting) for the purpose of preparing or issuing an audit report or performing other audit, review or attest services. The independent auditors report directly to the committee.
3. At least annually, the committee will obtain and review a report by the independent auditors describing: (i) the firm’s internal quality control processes; (ii) sanctions made by any government or professional authorities, respecting independent audits

carried out by the firm, and any steps taken to deal with any such issues; and (iii) all relationships between the independent auditors and Atrium, to assess the auditors' independence.

4. Annually evaluate the auditors' qualifications, performance and independence. Such evaluation will include the review and evaluation of the lead partner of the independent auditors and take into account the opinions of management.
5. Determine that the independent audit firm has a process in place to address the rotation of the lead audit partner and other audit partners serving the account as required under Canadian independence standards.
6. Discuss with the independent auditors the overall scope and plans for the audits.
7. Review with the independent auditors any audit problems or difficulties encountered during the course of the audit work, including any restrictions on the scope of the independent auditors' activities or access to requested information, and management's response. The committee will review any accounting adjustments that were noted or proposed by the auditors but were not booked (as immaterial or otherwise); and any management or internal control letter issued.
8. Review and recommend approval of the quarterly financial statements and annual audited financial statements to the board, including Management's Discussion and Analysis, with management and the independent auditors prior to the issuance and/or filing of same. (References in this paragraph to the independent auditors apply to the quarterly financial statements only if a review by the auditors has been undertaken.) The review of the financial statements includes: (i) major issues regarding accounting principles and financial statement presentation, including any significant changes in Atrium's selection or application of accounting principles, and major issues as to the adequacy of Atrium's internal controls and any specific remedial actions adopted in light of material control deficiencies; (ii) discussions with management and the independent auditors regarding significant financial reporting issues and judgments made in connection with the preparation of the financial statements and the reasonableness of those judgments; (iii) consideration of the judgment of both management and the independent auditors about the quality of accounting principles; and (iv) the clarity of the disclosures in the financial statements. Also, the committee will discuss the results of the annual audit and any other matters required to be communicated to the committee by the independent auditors under professional standards.
9. Review and approve related party transactions not in the ordinary course of business to the extent that such matters are not reviewed and approved by the full board.
10. Review and approve earnings press releases.
11. Discuss with management and the independent auditors the adequacy and effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting, including any significant deficiencies or material weaknesses identified.
12. Review with management Atrium's compliance systems with respect to legal and regulatory requirements.
13. Ensure there are adequate procedures in place for the review of Atrium's public disclosure of financial information extracted or derived from Atrium's financial statements, and assess the adequacy of those procedures at least annually.
14. Ensure there are appropriate policies and procedures for the receipt, retention, and treatment of complaints received by Atrium regarding accounting, internal accounting controls, or auditing matters, as well as any confidential, anonymous submission by employees of Atrium, or its manager, of concerns regarding questionable accounting or auditing matters.
15. Ensure that Atrium has in effect hiring policies for employees or former employees of the independent auditors that meet Canadian independence standards and applicable stock exchange listing requirements.
16. Evaluate its performance at least annually to determine whether it is functioning effectively.
17. Review and reassess this charter annually.