



First Quarter Report to Shareholders

Thirteen weeks ended April 1, 2017



HIGH LINER FOODS

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

For the thirteen weeks ended April 1, 2017

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

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INTRODUCTION

This Management's Discussion and Analysis ("MD&A"), dated May 10, 2017, relates to the financial condition and results of operations of High Liner Foods Incorporated for the thirteen weeks ended April 1, 2017, compared to the thirteen weeks ended April 2, 2016. Throughout this discussion, "We", "Us", "Our", "Company" and "High Liner Foods" refer to High Liner Foods Incorporated and its businesses and subsidiaries.

This document should be read in conjunction with our 2016 Annual Report along with our Unaudited Condensed Interim Consolidated Financial Statements ("Consolidated Financial Statements") as at and for the thirteen weeks ended April 1, 2017, prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards ("IFRS"). The information contained in this document, including forward-looking statements, is based on information available to Management as of May 10, 2017, except as otherwise noted.

Non-IFRS Financial Measures

This document also includes certain non-IFRS financial measures which we use as supplemental indicators of our operating performance and financial position, as well as for internal planning purposes. These non-IFRS measures do not have any standardized meaning as prescribed by IFRS, and therefore, may not be comparable to similarly titled measures presented by other publicly traded companies, nor should they be construed as an alternative to other financial measures determined in accordance with IFRS. Non-IFRS financial measures are defined and reconciled to the most directly comparable IFRS measures in the *Non-IFRS Financial Measures* section starting on page 17 of this MD&A.

Currency

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

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

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

FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

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

Specific forward-looking statements in this document include, but are not limited to: statements with respect to: future growth strategies and their impact on the Company's market share and shareholder value; anticipated financial performance, including earnings trends and growth; achievement, and timing of achievement, of strategic goals and publicly stated financial targets, including to increase our market share, acquire and integrate other businesses and reduce our operating and supply chain costs; and our ability to develop new and innovative products that result in increased sales and market share; increased demand for our products whether due to the recognition of the health benefits of seafood or otherwise; changes in costs for seafood and other raw materials; proposed disposal of assets and/or operations; increases or decreases in processing costs; the USD/CAD exchange rate; percentage of sales from our brands; expectations with regards to sales volume, earnings, product margins, product innovations, brand development and anticipated financial performance; competitor reaction to Company strategies and actions; impact of price increases or decreases on future profitability; sufficiency of working capital facilities; future income tax rates; the expected amount and timing of cost savings related to supply chain optimization initiatives, including, without limitation, related to the cessation of value-added fish processing operations at our New Bedford facility and the accounting implications of same; the expected timing and amount of costs associated with product recalls; our ability to close and successfully integrate the proposed acquisition of Rubicon Resources, LLC; levels of accretion and synergy and earnings growth relating to Rubicon; the expected amount and timing of integration activities related to acquisitions; expected leverage levels and expected net interest-bearing debt to Adjusted EBITDA; statements under the "outlook" heading including expected demand, sales of new product, and plant production; decreased leverage in the future; estimated capital spending; future inventory trends and seasonality; market forces and the maintenance of existing customer and supplier relationships; availability of credit facilities; our projection of excess cash flow and minimum repayments under the Company's long-term loan facility; expected decreases in debt-to-capitalization ratio; dividend payments; and amount and timing of the capital expenditures in excess of normal requirements to allow the movement of production between plants.

Forward-looking statements can generally be identified by the use of the conditional tense, the words "may", "should", "would", "could", "believe", "plan", "expect", "intend", "anticipate", "estimate", "foresee", "objective", "goal", "remain" or "continue" or the negative of these terms or variations of them or words and expressions of similar nature. Actual results could differ materially from the conclusion, forecast or projection stated in such forward-looking information. As a result, we cannot guarantee that any forward-looking statements will materialize. Assumptions, expectations and estimates made in the preparation of forward-looking statements and risks that could cause our actual results to differ materially from our current expectations are discussed in detail in the Company's materials filed with the Canadian securities regulatory authorities from time to time, including the *Risk Factors* section of our 2016 Annual Report and the *Risk Factors* section of our 2016 Annual Information Form. The risks and uncertainties that may affect the operations, performance, development and results of High Liner Foods' business include, but are not limited to, the following factors: volatility in the CAD/USD exchange rate; competitive developments including increases in overseas seafood production and industry consolidation; availability and price of seafood raw materials and finished goods and the impact of geopolitical events (and related economic sanctions) on same; costs of commodity products and other production inputs, and the ability to pass cost increases on to customers; successful integration of acquired operations; potential increases in maintenance and operating costs; shifts in market demands for seafood; performance of new products launched and existing products in the market place; changes in laws and regulations, including environmental, taxation and regulatory requirements; technology changes with respect to production and other

equipment and software programs; supplier fulfillment of contractual agreements and obligations; competitor reactions; High Liner Foods' ability to generate adequate cash flow or to finance its future business requirements through outside sources; compliance with debt covenants; the availability of adequate levels of insurance; and management retention and development.

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

COMPANY OVERVIEW

High Liner Foods, through its predecessor companies, has been in business since 1899 and has been a publicly traded Canadian company since 1967, trading under the symbol 'HLF' on the Toronto Stock Exchange ("TSX"). We are the leading North American processor and marketer of value-added (i.e. processed) frozen seafood, producing a wide range of products from breaded and battered items to seafood entrées, that are sold to North American food retailers and foodservice distributors. The retail channel includes grocery and club stores and our products are sold throughout the U.S., Canada and Mexico under the High Liner, Fisher Boy, Mirabel, Sea Cuisine and C. Wirthly & Co. labels. The foodservice channel includes sales of seafood that are usually eaten outside the home and our branded products are sold through distributors to restaurants and institutions under the High Liner, Icelandic Seafood¹ and FPI labels. The Company is also a major supplier of private-label value-added frozen premium seafood products to North American food retailers and foodservice distributors.

We own and operate three food-processing plants located in Lunenburg, Nova Scotia ("NS"), Portsmouth, New Hampshire ("NH"), and Newport News, Virginia ("VA"). The Company ceased value-added fish operations at its plant in New Bedford, Massachusetts ("MA") on July 15, 2016 and sold the facility and the New Bedford scallop business on September 7, 2016.

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

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

¹ In December 2011, as part of our acquisition of the U.S. subsidiary of Icelandic Group h.f., we acquired several brands and agreed to a seven year royalty-free licensing agreement with Icelandic Group for the use of the Icelandic Seafood brand in the U.S., Canada and Mexico.

PERFORMANCE

The discussion and analysis of the Company's financial results focuses on the performance of the consolidated operations, and the performance of the two reportable segments described in Note 10 "*Operating segment information*" to the Consolidated Financial Statements: Canada Operations and U.S. Operations. Information is also provided for the "Corporate" category, which includes expenses for corporate functions, share-based compensation costs and business acquisition, integration and other expenses.

Seasonality

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

In our retail business, we spend significant dollars on consumer advertising and listing allowances for new product launches. Although the related activities benefit more than one period, the costs must be expensed in the period when the initial promotional activity takes place or when new products are first shipped. A significant percentage of advertising is typically done in either the first or fourth quarter, however the accounting periods during which we incur these expenditures may vary from year to year and, therefore, there may be fluctuations in income relating to these activities. Customer-specific promotional expenditures such as trade spending, listing allowances and couponing are deducted from "Revenues" and non-customer-specific consumer marketing expenditures are included in selling, general and administrative expenses.

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

Consolidated Performance

The following analysis of our operating results contain certain corrections of errors identified in previously reported amounts (see Note 3 "Revision of previously reported consolidated financial statements" to the Consolidated Financial Statements for further discussion).

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

(in \$000s, except sales volume, per share amounts, percentage amounts, and exchange rates)	Thirteen weeks ended		
	April 1, 2017	April 2, 2016	Change
Sales volume (millions of lbs)	83.2	88.2	(5.0)
Average foreign exchange rate (USD/CAD)	\$ 1.3238	\$ 1.3721	\$ (0.0483)
Sales			
Sales in domestic currency	\$ 296,107	\$ 313,303	\$ (17,196)
Foreign exchange impact	(20,372)	(21,864)	1,492
Sales in USD	\$ 275,735	\$ 291,439	\$ (15,704)
Gross profit	\$ 55,508	\$ 65,429	\$ (9,921)
Gross profit as a percentage of sales	20.1%	22.5%	(2.4)%
Distribution expenses	\$ 12,025	\$ 12,527	\$ (502)
Selling, general and administrative expenses	\$ 24,990	\$ 27,891	\$ (2,901)
Adjusted EBITDA⁽¹⁾			
Adjusted EBITDA in domestic currency	\$ 23,062	\$ 32,351	\$ (9,289)
Foreign exchange impact	(725)	(2,043)	1,318
Adjusted EBITDA in USD	\$ 22,337	\$ 30,308	\$ (7,971)
Adjusted EBITDA as a percentage of sales	8.1%	10.4%	(2.3)%
Net income	\$ 10,742	\$ 14,180	\$ (3,438)
Basic Earnings per Share ("EPS")	\$ 0.35	\$ 0.46	\$ (0.11)
Diluted EPS	\$ 0.34	\$ 0.45	\$ (0.11)
Adjusted Net Income⁽¹⁾	\$ 10,815	\$ 15,831	\$ (5,016)
Adjusted Basic EPS	\$ 0.35	\$ 0.51	\$ (0.16)
Adjusted Diluted EPS ^{(1),(2)}	\$ 0.35	\$ 0.51	\$ (0.16)
Total assets	\$ 664,382	\$ 651,909	\$ 12,473
Total long-term financial liabilities	\$ 276,356	\$ 292,920	\$ (16,564)
Dividends paid per common share (CAD)	\$ 0.140	\$ 0.120	\$ 0.020

⁽¹⁾ See the *Non-IFRS Financial Measures* section starting on page 17 for further explanation of Adjusted EBITDA, Adjusted Net Income, and Adjusted Diluted EPS.

⁽²⁾ CAD-Equivalent Adjusted Diluted EPS was \$0.46 and \$0.70 for the thirteen weeks ended April 1, 2017 and April 2, 2016, respectively. See the *Non-IFRS Financial Measures* section on page 19 for further explanation of CAD-Equivalent Adjusted Diluted EPS.

The sale of our New Bedford scallop business on September 7, 2016 had the impact of lowering sales volume by 0.7 million pounds, sales by \$9.0 million, and a nominal impact on Adjusted EBITDA in the first quarter of 2017 compared to the first quarter of 2016.

Sales

Consolidated sales volume for the first quarter of 2017 decreased by 5.0 million pounds, or 5.7%, to 83.2 million pounds compared to 88.2 million pounds in the same period in 2016 due to lower sales volume, primarily in our U.S. retail and foodservice businesses, reflecting the following:

- The continued impact of lower demand for traditional breaded and battered frozen seafood products which we were unable to offset with sales from our new frozen seafood products;
- A later Easter in 2017 (April 16, 2017) compared to 2016 (March 27, 2016) shifted a portion of the benefit associated with this period into the second quarter of this year compared to the full benefit being realized in the first quarter of 2016;
- Residual manufacturing challenges associated with production transferred from our previously-owned New Bedford facility resulted in an inability to meet heightened demand in March related to a late Lent; and
- Lower scallop sales as a result of the sale of the New Bedford facility in the third quarter of 2016.

Sales in the first quarter of 2017 decreased by \$15.7 million, or 5.4%, to \$275.7 million compared to \$291.4 million in the same period last year. The slightly stronger Canadian dollar in the first quarter of 2017 compared to the same quarter of 2016 increased the value of USD sales from our CAD-denominated operations by approximately \$2.0 million relative to the conversion impact last year.

Sales in domestic currency decreased by \$17.2 million, or 5.5%, to \$296.1 million in the first quarter of 2017 compared to \$313.3 million in the first quarter of 2016, reflecting the lower U.S. sales volume and changes to product mix, including the impact of lower demand for traditional breaded and battered frozen seafood products mentioned above.

Gross Profit

Gross profit for the first quarter of 2017 was \$55.5 million compared to \$65.4 million in the same period in 2016 and gross profit as a percentage of sales decreased to 20.1% compared to 22.5% in 2016.

Gross profit decreased by \$9.9 million, or 15.1%, in 2017 relative to 2016, reflecting a decrease in gross profit as a percentage of sales and lower sales volumes. Gross profit as a percentage of sales was lower in the first quarter of 2017, primarily due to the impact of product mix changes and plant inefficiencies mentioned above, and the recognition of foreign exchange gains in 2016, partially related to favourable hedging activities in our Canadian operations, that did not reoccur in 2017. Gross profit also decreased by \$0.7 million as a result of a voluntary product recall in Canada that occurred after the reporting period (see the *Events After the Reporting Period* section on page 16 for further discussion).

Distribution Expenses

Distribution expenses decreased in the first quarter of 2017 by \$0.5 million to \$12.0 million compared to \$12.5 million in the same period in 2016, due to lower volumes, primarily in our U.S. operations. As a percentage of sales, these expenses increased to 4.4% in the first quarter of 2017, compared to 4.3% in the same period in 2016.

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

(Amounts in \$000s)	Thirteen weeks ended	
	April 1, 2017	April 2, 2016
SG&A expenses, as reported	\$ 24,990	\$ 27,891
Less:		
Share-based compensation expense ⁽¹⁾	196	581
Depreciation and amortization expense ⁽¹⁾	1,668	2,165
SG&A expenses, net	\$ 23,126	\$ 25,145
SG&A expenses, net as a percentage of sales	8.4%	8.6%

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

Selling, General and Administrative Expenses

SG&A expenses decreased in the first quarter of 2017 by \$2.9 million to \$25.0 million compared to \$27.9 million in the same period last year. SG&A expenses included share-based compensation expense of \$0.2 million for the first quarter of 2017 compared to \$0.6 million for the same period in 2016. SG&A expenses also included depreciation and amortization expense of \$1.7 million in the first quarter of 2017 and \$2.2 million in the same period of 2016.

Excluding share-based compensation and depreciation and amortization expenses, SG&A expenses decreased in the first quarter of 2017 by \$2.0 million to \$23.1 million compared to \$25.1 million in the same period last year, primarily as a result of a reduction in U.S marketing expenses. As a percentage of sales, SG&A excluding share-based compensation and depreciation and amortization expense decreased to 8.4% in 2017 compared to 8.6% in the same period last year.

Adjusted EBITDA

We refer to Adjusted EBITDA throughout this MD&A, including in the *Performance by Segment* section on page 9, where Adjusted EBITDA for the first quarter of 2017 is discussed for both our Canadian and U.S. operations. See the *Non-IFRS Financial Measures* section on page 17 for further explanation of this non-IFRS measure.

Consolidated Adjusted EBITDA decreased in the first quarter of 2017 by \$8.0 million, or 26.4%, to \$22.3 million compared to \$30.3 million in 2016. The impact of converting our CAD-denominated operations and corporate activities to our USD presentation currency decreased the value of reported Adjusted EBITDA in USD by \$0.7 million in the first quarter of 2017 compared to \$2.0 million in 2016.

In domestic currency, Adjusted EBITDA decreased in the first quarter of 2017 by \$9.3 million, or 28.7%, to \$23.1 million (7.8% of sales) compared to \$32.4 million (10.3% of sales) in 2016. The decrease in Adjusted EBITDA reflects the lower gross profit, partially offset by the reduction in distribution expenses and SG&A, as previously mentioned.

The following table shows the impact in the first quarter of 2017 and 2016 of converting our CAD-denominated operations and corporate activities to our USD presentation currency.

(Amounts in \$000s)	Thirteen weeks ended			Thirteen weeks ended		
	April 1, 2017 USD	April 2, 2016 USD	% Change USD	April 1, 2017 Domestic \$	April 2, 2016 Domestic \$	% Change Domestic \$
External Sales						
Canada	\$ 62,882	\$ 59,384	5.9 %	\$ 83,254	\$ 81,248	2.5 %
USA	212,853	232,055	(8.3)%	212,853	232,055	(8.3)%
	275,735	291,439	(5.4)%	296,107	313,303	(5.5)%
Conversion	—	—		(20,372)	(21,864)	
	\$ 275,735	\$ 291,439	(5.4)%	\$ 275,735	\$ 291,439	(5.4)%
Adjusted EBITDA						
Canada	\$ 3,494	\$ 6,189	(43.5)%	\$ 4,622	\$ 8,471	(45.4)%
USA	19,434	23,811	(18.4)%	19,434	23,811	(18.4)%
Corporate	(591)	308	(291.9)%	(994)	69	(1,540.6)%
	22,337	30,308	(26.3)%	23,062	32,351	(28.7)%
Conversion	—	—		(725)	(2,043)	
	\$ 22,337	\$ 30,308	(26.3)%	\$ 22,337	\$ 30,308	(26.3)%
Adjusted EBITDA as percentage of sales						
In USD	8.1%	10.4%				
In Domestic \$				7.8%	10.3%	

Net Income

We refer to Adjusted Net Income, Adjusted Diluted EPS and CAD-Equivalent Adjusted Diluted EPS throughout this MD&A. See the *Non-IFRS Financial Measures* section starting on page 17 for further explanation of these non-IFRS measures.

Net income decreased in the first quarter of 2017 by \$3.5 million, or 24.6%, to \$10.7 million (\$0.34 per diluted share) compared to \$14.2 million (\$0.45 per diluted share) in the first quarter of the prior year. The decrease in net income reflects the decrease in Adjusted EBITDA mentioned previously, partially offset by a decrease in income tax expense.

Net income included "business acquisition, integration and other expenses", and other non-cash expenses. Excluding the impact of these non-routine or non-cash expenses, Adjusted Net Income for the first quarter of 2017 decreased by \$5.0 million, or 31.6%, to \$10.8 million compared to \$15.8 million in the same period last year.

Correspondingly, Adjusted Diluted EPS decreased by \$0.16 to \$0.35 compared to \$0.51 in the first quarter of the same period last year, and when converted to CAD using the average USD/CAD exchange rate for the period of 1.3238 (2016: 1.3721), CAD-Equivalent Adjusted Diluted EPS decreased by CAD\$0.24 to CAD\$0.46 compared to CAD\$0.70 in the first quarter of 2016.

Performance by Segment

Canadian Operations

(All currency amounts in this section are in CAD)

(in \$000s, except sales volume and percentage amounts)	Thirteen weeks ended		
	April 1, 2017	April 2, 2016	Change
Sales volume (millions of lbs)	17.7	17.9	(0.2)
Sales	\$ 83,254	\$ 81,248	\$ 2,006
Gross profit	\$ 16,584	\$ 20,108	\$ (3,524)
Gross profit as a percentage of sales	19.9%	24.7%	(4.8)%
Adjusted EBITDA ⁽¹⁾	\$ 4,622	\$ 8,471	\$ (3,849)
Adjusted EBITDA as a percentage of sales	5.6%	10.4%	(4.8)%

⁽¹⁾ See the *Non-IFRS Financial Measures* section on page 17 for further explanation of Adjusted EBITDA.

Sales volume for our Canadian operations decreased during the first quarter of 2017 by 0.2 million pounds to 17.7 million pounds as compared to 17.9 million pounds in 2016. Sales in the first quarter increased by \$2.1 million, or 2.6%, to \$83.3 million compared to \$81.2 million in the same period of 2016, reflecting increased sales prices, partially offset by the decreased sales volume.

Gross profit decreased by \$3.5 million in the first quarter of 2017 to \$16.6 million (19.9% of sales) compared to \$20.1 million (24.7% of sales) in 2016, due to decreased sales volume, increased raw material costs, and plant inefficiencies as previously mentioned. In addition, gross profit decreased due to the recognition of foreign exchange gains related to favourable hedging activities in 2016 that did not reoccur in 2017. Gross profit also decreased by \$0.9 million as a result of a voluntary product recall in Canada that occurred after the reporting period (see the *Events After the Reporting Period* section on page 16 for further discussion).

Adjusted EBITDA for our Canadian operations decreased during the first quarter of 2017 by \$3.9 million, or 45.9%, to \$4.6 million, compared to \$8.5 million in 2016 (2017: 5.6% of sales, 2016: 10.4%), primarily reflecting the decrease in gross profit mentioned previously.

U.S. Operations

(All currency amounts in this section are in USD)

(in \$000s, except sales volume and percentage amounts)	Thirteen weeks ended		
	April 1, 2017	April 2, 2016	Change
Sales volume (millions of lbs)	65.6	70.2	(4.6)
Sales	\$ 212,853	\$ 232,055	\$ (19,202)
Gross profit	\$ 42,650	\$ 49,309	\$ (6,659)
Gross profit as a percentage of sales	20.0%	21.2%	(1.2)%
Adjusted EBITDA ⁽¹⁾	\$ 19,434	\$ 23,811	\$ (4,377)
Adjusted EBITDA as a percentage of sales	9.1%	10.3%	(1.2)%

⁽¹⁾ See the *Non-IFRS Financial Measures* section on page 17 for further explanation of Adjusted EBITDA.

Sales volume for our U.S. operations decreased by 4.6 million pounds, or 6.6%, during the first quarter of 2017 to 65.6 million pounds compared to 70.2 million pounds in 2016, primarily reflecting lower sales volume in the retail and

foodservice businesses largely due to the impact of lower demand for traditional breaded and battered frozen seafood products, the timing of the Lenten period in the first quarter of 2017 as compared to the same period in 2016, the decline in scallop sales, and continued plant inefficiencies, as described in the discussion on consolidated sales on page 6.

Sales during the first quarter decreased by \$19.2 million, or 8.3%, to \$212.9 million compared to \$232.1 million in 2016 reflecting the lower sales volume and the impact of product mix changes, including lower demand for traditional breaded and battered frozen seafood products mentioned above.

Gross profit decreased in the first quarter of 2017 by \$6.6 million to \$42.7 million (20.0% of sales) compared to \$49.3 million (21.2% of sales) in the same period last year, reflecting lower sales volume, plant inefficiencies, produce mix changes mentioned previously, partially offset by lower raw material costs.

Adjusted EBITDA for our U.S. operations decreased during the first quarter of 2017 by \$4.4 million, or 18.5%, to \$19.4 million, compared to \$23.8 million in 2016 (2017: 9.1% of sales, 2016: 10.3% of sales) as the lower gross profit noted previously was partially offset by a reduction in marketing expenses.

BUSINESS ACQUISITION, INTEGRATION AND OTHER EXPENSES

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

(Amounts in \$000s)	Thirteen weeks ended	
	April 1, 2017	April 2, 2016
Business acquisition, integration and other expenses	\$ 276	\$ 1,444

In the first quarter of 2017, business acquisition, integration and other expenses included costs related to the acquisition of Rubicon Resources, LLC. See the *Events After the Reporting Period* section on page 16 for further discussion.

In the first quarter of 2016, business acquisition, integration and other expenses primarily included costs related to the cessation of value-added fish operations at the New Bedford facility.

FINANCE COSTS

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

(Amounts in \$000s)	Thirteen weeks ended	
	April 1, 2017	April 2, 2016
Interest paid in cash during the period	\$ 3,393	\$ 3,719
Change in cash interest accrued during the period	24	(106)
Total interest to be paid in cash	3,417	3,613
Mark-to-market gain on interest rate swap not designated for hedge accounting	—	(124)
Deferred financing cost amortization	131	131
Total finance costs	\$ 3,548	\$ 3,620

Finance costs were \$0.1 million lower in the first quarter of 2017 compared to the same period last year.

Marking-to-market interest rate swaps not designated in a formal hedging relationship had no impact on diluted EPS in the first quarter of 2017 and 2016 (see the discussion on Adjusted Net Income and Adjusted Diluted EPS in the *Non-IFRS Financial Measures* section, starting on page 18 of this MD&A).

INCOME TAXES

The Company's statutory tax rate was 29.2% for the first quarter of 2017 (2016: 29.2%). The effective income tax rate in the first quarter of 2017 was an expense of 26.8% compared to an expense of 28.9% in the same period last year. The change in the effective income tax rate for the first quarter of 2017 compared to same period last year was attributable to a decrease in income subject to higher foreign tax rates.

RESULTS BY QUARTER

The following contains certain corrections of errors identified in previously reported amounts (see Note 3 "Revision of previously reported consolidated financial statements" to the Consolidated Financial Statements for further discussion).

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

(Amounts in 000s, except per share amounts)	Q1 2017	Q4 2016	Q3 2016	Q2 2016	Q1 2016	Q4 2015	Q3 2015	Q2 2015	Q1 2015
Sales	\$ 275,735	\$ 208,794	\$ 230,366	\$ 224,388	\$ 291,439	\$ 224,282	\$ 239,857	\$ 225,922	\$ 309,410
Adjusted EBITDA⁽¹⁾	\$ 22,337	\$ 16,118	\$ 17,510	\$ 17,448	\$ 30,308	\$ 17,174	\$ 16,831	\$ 12,317	\$ 29,860
Net Income	\$ 10,742	\$ 6,660	\$ 6,316	\$ 5,129	\$ 14,180	\$ 6,667	\$ 5,938	\$ 3,704	\$ 12,042
Adjusted Net Income⁽¹⁾	\$ 10,815	\$ 6,969	\$ 8,959	\$ 8,524	\$ 15,831	\$ 7,788	\$ 6,939	\$ 4,469	\$ 15,137
EPS, based on Net Income									
Basic	\$ 0.35	\$ 0.22	\$ 0.20	\$ 0.17	\$ 0.46	\$ 0.22	\$ 0.19	\$ 0.12	\$ 0.39
Diluted	\$ 0.34	\$ 0.21	\$ 0.20	\$ 0.16	\$ 0.45	\$ 0.21	\$ 0.19	\$ 0.12	\$ 0.38
EPS, based on Adjusted Net Income⁽¹⁾									
Basic	\$ 0.35	\$ 0.23	\$ 0.29	\$ 0.28	\$ 0.51	\$ 0.25	\$ 0.22	\$ 0.14	\$ 0.49
Diluted ⁽¹⁾	\$ 0.35	\$ 0.22	\$ 0.29	\$ 0.27	\$ 0.51	\$ 0.25	\$ 0.22	\$ 0.14	\$ 0.48
Dividends paid per common share (CAD)									
	\$ 0.140	\$ 0.140	\$ 0.130	\$ 0.130	\$ 0.120	\$ 0.120	\$ 0.120	\$ 0.120	\$ 0.105
Net non-cash working capital⁽²⁾									
	\$ 218,832	\$ 190,825	\$ 192,879	\$ 202,031	\$ 214,327	\$ 216,422	\$ 224,681	\$ 254,699	\$ 256,981

⁽¹⁾ See the *Non-IFRS Financial Measures* section starting on page 17 for further explanation of Adjusted EBITDA, Adjusted Net Income and Adjusted Diluted EPS.

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

CONTINGENCIES

The Company has no material outstanding contingencies.

LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES

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

on page 22 (in the *Risk Factors* section).

Our capital management practices are described in our 2016 Consolidated Financial Statements in Note 23 "*Capital management*".

Working Capital Credit Facility

The Company entered into an asset-based working capital credit facility in November 2010 with the Royal Bank of Canada as the collateral and administrative agent. There have been several amendments made to this facility with the most recent being in April 2014, when it was amended concurrently with the term loan, and increased from \$120.0 million to \$180.0 million. The working capital credit facility provides for the rates noted in the following table, based on the "Average Adjusted Aggregate Availability" as defined in the credit agreement. The rates at which the Company is currently borrowing are also noted in the following table.

Per Credit Agreement	As at April 1, 2017	
Canadian Prime Rate loans denominated in CAD, Canadian Base Rate revolving and U.S. Prime Rate revolving loans denominated in USD, at Prime or Base Rate	plus 0.00% to 0.25%	plus 0.00%
Bankers' Acceptances ("BA") loans at BA rates	plus 1.25% to 1.75%	plus 1.25%
LIBOR advances at LIBOR	plus 1.25% to 1.75%	plus 1.25%
Letters of credit with fees of	1.25% to 1.75%	1.25%
Standby fees of	0.25% to 0.375%	0.375%

Average short-term borrowings were \$18.8 million in the first quarter of 2017 compared to \$27.4 million in the same period last year. This \$8.6 million decrease primarily reflects the repayment of debt with cash flow provided by operating activities.

At the end of the first quarter of 2017, the Company had \$150.4 million (April 2, 2016: \$152.4 million) of unused borrowing capacity taking into account both margin calculations and the total line availability. On April 1, 2017, letters of credit and standby letters of credit were outstanding in the amount of \$21.2 million (April 2, 2016: \$12.4 million) to support raw material purchases and to secure certain contractual obligations, including those related to the Company's Supplemental Executive Retirement Plan ("SERP"). Letters of credit reduce the availability under our working capital credit facility and are accounted for in the \$150.4 million of unused borrowing capacity noted above.

Additional details regarding the Company's working capital facility are provided in Note 4 "*Bank Loans*" to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

In the absence of any major acquisitions or capital expenditures in 2017 beyond the proposed acquisition of Rubicon Resources, LLC (see the *Events After the Reporting Period* section on page 16 for further discussion), we expect average short-term borrowings at the end of 2017 to be lower than the first quarter of 2017. This assumes that we are able to convert short-term borrowings associated with the proposed acquisition of Rubicon Resources, LLC to our term loan facility at favorable rates. We believe the asset-based working capital credit facility should be sufficient to fund all of the Company's anticipated cash requirements.

Term Loan Facility

High Liner Foods entered into a term loan in December 2011. There have been several amendments made to the term loan with the most recent being in April 2014, when it was amended concurrently with the working capital credit facility, and was increased from \$250.0 million to \$300.0 million.

Minimum repayments on the term loan are required on an annual basis, plus, based on a leverage test, additional payments could be required of up to 50% of the previous year's defined excess cash flow. There were excess cash flows in 2015, due largely to decreased working capital and capital expenditures in 2015 as compared to 2014, and as a result, an excess cash flow payment of \$11.8 million was made in March 2016. In addition, the Company made a

voluntary repayment of \$15.0 million during the second quarter of 2016 to reduce excess cash balances. Quarterly principal repayments of \$0.75 million are required on the term loan, however, as per the loan agreement, the mandatory excess cash flow payment and the voluntary repayment will be applied to future regularly scheduled principal repayments. As such, no regularly scheduled principal repayments are required in 2017.

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

During the thirteen weeks ended April 1, 2017, the Company had the following interest rate swaps outstanding to hedge interest rate risk resulting from the term loan facility:

Effective date	Maturity date	Receive floating rate	Pay fixed rate	Notional amount (millions)
Designated in a formal hedging relationship:				
December 31, 2014	December 31, 2019	3-month LIBOR (floor 1.0%)	2.1700% \$	20.0
March 4, 2015	March 4, 2020	3-month LIBOR (floor 1.0%)	1.9150% \$	25.0
April 4, 2016	April 4, 2018	3-month LIBOR (floor 1.0%)	1.2325% \$	35.0
April 4, 2016	April 24, 2021	3-month LIBOR (floor 1.0%)	1.6700% \$	40.0

As of April 1, 2017, the combined impact of the interest rate swaps listed above effectively fix the interest rate on \$120.0 million of the \$300.0 million face value of the term loan and the other portion of the debt continues to be at variable interest rates. As such, we expect that there will be fluctuations in interest expense due to changes in interest rates when LIBOR is higher than the embedded floor of 1.0%.

Additional details regarding the Company's term loan are provided in Note 5 "Long-term debt and finance lease obligations" to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Net Interest-Bearing Debt

The Company's net interest-bearing debt (as calculated in the *Non-IFRS Financial Measures* section on page 20 of this MD&A) is comprised of the working capital credit and term loan facilities (excluding deferred finance costs) and finance leases, less cash. Net interest-bearing debt decreased by \$15.9 million to \$272.5 million at April 1, 2017 compared to \$288.4 million at April 2, 2016, reflecting the repayment of debt with cash flow provided by operating activities and the receipt of proceeds on the sale of the New Bedford facility in September 2016 which increased the Company's cash balances.

Net interest-bearing debt to rolling twelve-month Adjusted EBITDA (see the *Non-IFRS Financial Measures* section on page 17 of this MD&A for further discussion of Adjusted EBITDA) was 3.7x at April 1, 2017 compared to 3.1x at the end of Fiscal 2016 as shown in the table below. In the absence of any major acquisitions or strategic initiatives requiring capital expenditures in 2017 beyond the proposed acquisition of Rubicon Resources, LLC (see the *Events After the Reporting Period* section on page 16 for further discussion), we expect this ratio to approximate 3.0x by the end of 2017.

(Amounts in \$000s, except as otherwise noted)	April 1, 2017	Twelve months ended December 31, 2016
Net interest-bearing debt	\$ 272,499	\$ 252,056
Adjusted EBITDA	\$ 73,413	\$ 81,384
Net interest-bearing debt to Adjusted EBITDA ratio (times)	3.7x	3.1x

Capital Structure

At April 1, 2017, net interest-bearing debt was 54.5% of total capitalization, as compared to 57.6% at April 2, 2016.

(Amounts in \$000s)	April 1, 2017	April 2, 2016	December 31, 2016
Net interest-bearing debt	\$ 272,499	\$ 288,404	\$ 252,056
Shareholders' equity	228,151	211,097	220,204
Unrealized losses (gains) on derivative financial instruments included in AOCI	(501)	876	(561)
Total capitalization	\$ 500,149	\$ 500,377	\$ 471,699
Net interest-bearing debt as percentage of total capitalization	54.5%	57.6%	53.4%

Using our April 1, 2017 market capitalization of \$418.6 million, based on a share price of CAD\$18.05 (USD\$13.55 equivalent), instead of the book value of equity, net interest-bearing debt as a percentage of total capitalization decreased to 39.4%.

Cash Flow

(Amounts in \$000s)	Thirteen weeks ended		
	April 1, 2017	April 2, 2016	Change
Cash flows provided by operations before changes in non-cash working capital, interest and income taxes paid	\$ 21,915	\$ 27,781	\$ (5,866)
Interest paid	(3,393)	(3,719)	326
Income taxes paid	(2,424)	(3,734)	1,310
Cash flows provided by operations, including interest and income taxes, and before change in non-cash working capital balances	16,098	20,328	(4,230)
Net change in non-cash working capital balances	(28,383)	9,439	(37,822)
Net cash flows (used in) provided by operating activities	(12,285)	29,767	(42,052)
Net cash flows provided by (used in) financing activities	4,040	(22,630)	26,670
Net cash flows used in investing activities	(5,395)	(933)	(4,462)
Foreign exchange increase (decrease) on cash	494	(863)	1,357
Net change in cash during the period	\$ (13,146)	\$ 5,341	\$ (18,487)

Net cash flows (used in) provided by operating activities decreased by \$42.1 million in the first quarter of 2017 to an outflow of \$12.3 million compared to an inflow of \$29.8 million in the first quarter of the prior year reflecting the following:

- Cash flows from operating activities, including interest and income taxes, and before the change in non-cash working capital balances, decreased \$4.2 million in the first quarter of 2017 to \$16.1 million compared to \$20.3 million in the same period last year. This decrease reflects less favourable results from operations, partially offset by lower interest and income tax payments.
- Cash flows from changes in net non-cash working capital decreased by \$37.8 million in the first quarter of 2017 to an outflow of \$28.4 million compared to an inflow of \$9.4 million in the same period last year. This decrease primarily reflects less favourable changes in inventories and accounts receivable during the first quarter of 2017 compared to the same period last year related to a later end to Lent as mentioned previously.

Standardized Free Cash Flow (see the *Non-IFRS Financial Measures* section on page 19 for further explanation of Standardized Free Cash Flow) for the rolling twelve months ended April 1, 2017 decreased by \$60.2 million to \$16.8 million compared to \$77.0 million for the twelve months ended April 2, 2016. This decrease reflects a less favourable change in working capital and higher capital expenditures, partially offset by higher cash flow from operating activities, including interest and income taxes during the twelve months ended April 1, 2017 as compared to the twelve months ended April 2, 2016.

Net Non-Cash Working Capital

(Amounts in \$000s)	April 1, 2017	December 31, 2016	Change
Accounts receivable	\$ 102,993	\$ 75,190	\$ 27,803
Inventories	218,103	252,059	(33,956)
Prepaid expenses	2,181	3,340	(1,159)
Accounts payables and accrued liabilities	(101,509)	(139,378)	37,869
Provisions	(2,936)	(386)	(2,550)
Net non-cash working capital	\$ 218,832	\$ 190,825	\$ 28,007

Net non-cash working capital consists of accounts receivable, inventories and prepaid expenses, less accounts payable and accrued liabilities, and provisions. Net non-cash working capital increased by \$28.0 million to \$218.8 million at the end of the first quarter of 2017, primarily reflecting increased accounts receivable attributed to a later end to Lent and lower accounts payable and accrued liabilities, partially offset by lower inventory.

Our working capital requirements fluctuate during the year, usually peaking between December and April as our inventory is the highest at that time. Going forward, we expect the trend of inventory peaking between December and April to continue, and believe we have enough availability on our working capital credit facility to finance our working capital requirements throughout 2017.

Capital Expenditures

Gross capital expenditures (including finance leases) were \$5.6 million for the first quarter of 2017, or \$4.2 million higher than capital expenditures of \$1.4 million during the same quarter last year due to the timing of expenditures.

Excluding strategic initiatives that may arise, management expects that capital expenditures in 2017 will be between \$18.0 million and \$20.0 million and funded by cash generated from operations and short-term borrowings.

Dividends

The Company paid a CAD per share quarterly dividend on March 15, 2017 to common shareholders of record on March 3, 2017.

On May 10, 2017, the Company's Board of Directors approved a quarterly dividend of CAD\$0.14 per share on the Company's common shares, payable on June 15, 2017 to holders of record on June 1, 2017.

These dividends are "eligible dividends" for Canadian income tax purposes.

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

- Under the working capital credit facility, Average Adjusted Aggregate Availability, as defined in the credit agreement, needs to be \$22.5 million or higher and was \$148.8 million on April 1, 2017, and NCIBs are subject to an annual limit of \$10.0 million; and
- Under the term loan facility, dividends cannot exceed \$17.5 million per year. This amount increases to the greater of \$25.0 million per year or the defined available amount based on excess cash flow accumulated over the term of the loan when the defined total leverage ratio is below 4.50x and becomes unlimited when the

defined total leverage ratio is below 3.75x. The defined total leverage ratio was 3.7x on April 1, 2017. NCIBs are subject to an annual limit of \$10.0 million under the term loan facility.

Contractual Obligations

Contractual obligations relating to our long-term debt, finance lease obligations, operating leases, purchase obligations and other long-term liabilities are as follows:

(Amounts in \$000s)	Payments Due by Period			
	Total	Less than 1 year	1 - 5 Years	Thereafter
Long-term debt	\$ 267,926	\$ —	\$ 267,926	\$ —
Finance lease obligations	1,314	629	685	—
Other current and long-term liabilities	925	440	485	—
Operating leases	20,105	4,651	14,732	722
Purchase obligations	129,271	116,933	12,338	—
Total contractual obligations	\$ 419,541	\$ 122,653	\$ 296,166	\$ 722

Purchase obligations are for the purchase of seafood and other non-seafood inputs, including flour, paper products and frying oils. See the *Procurement* section on page 23 and the *Foreign Currency* section on page 22 of this MD&A for further details.

Financial Instruments and Risk Management

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

Readers are directed to Note 11 "*Fair value measurement*" of the Consolidated Financial Statements for a complete description of the Company's use of derivative financial instruments and their impact on the financial results, and to Note 24, *Financial risk management objectives and policies* of the Company's annual consolidated financial statements for further discussion of the Company's financial risks and policies.

Disclosure of Outstanding Share Data

On May 10, 2017, 30,889,537 common shares and 1,718,764 options were outstanding. The options are exercisable on a one-for-one basis for common shares of the Company.

RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Refer to Note 20 "*Related party disclosures*" to the 2016 annual consolidated financial statements in our 2016 Annual Report for a description of the Company's related party transactions. These transactions are substantially unchanged in 2017.

EVENTS AFTER THE REPORTING PERIOD

Product recall

On April 14, 2017 and April 21, 2017, the Company issued a voluntary product recall of certain brands of breaded fish and seafood products sold in Canada that may contain a Milk allergen that was not declared on the ingredient label and allergen statement. Although the Company did not learn of the undeclared allergen until subsequent to period end,

in accordance with IFRS, this cost is required to be recorded in the Consolidated Financial Statements as it related to a condition that existed at the balance sheet date of April 1, 2017. The total cost of the recall program is recorded in cost of sales and is estimated to be \$0.7 million, with \$0.3 million related to costs associated with the return and destruction or re-work of product, and \$0.4 million related to consumer refunds and customer fines.

Acquisition of Rubicon Resources, LLC

On May 10, 2017, the Company signed a definitive agreement to acquire 100% of the outstanding equity of Rubicon Resources, LLC ("Rubicon"), a privately held United States based corporation engaged principally in the import and sale of shrimp products under the private labels of major U.S. grocery retailers. Management believes Rubicon will provide the Company with a strong platform for growth in this key species. The anticipated purchase price is \$107.0 million prior to transaction fees, and will be settled 70% in cash and 30% in High Liner Foods common shares, with the share consideration subject to a three year stand-still agreement during which time the sellers are not permitted to sell the shares (except in limited circumstances). The definitive agreement includes a five-year supply agreement with Rubicon's supply partners based on mutually acceptable terms and a three-year employment contract with Brian Wynn to continue as Rubicon's President.

The Company does not anticipate it will realize material synergies from this business but it will be immediately accretive in 2017, after considering the impact of incremental interest costs related to financing the acquisition, and excluding the impact of one-time costs associated with the acquisition which will be expensed in the period they are incurred. The acquisition will be financed using the Company's existing credit facilities and is subject to approval from the Company's lenders and the Toronto Stock Exchange. The Company expects this transaction will close in the second quarter of 2017.

OUTLOOK

The Company's primary focus in 2017 continues to be on returning to organic sales volume and earnings growth. Innovation efforts and new products in 2017 focus on driving seafood consumption through improving the Company's core product offerings and introducing new products to the market that align with emerging consumer trends and preferences. Management expects the trend of lower demand for frozen breaded and battered seafood products will continue in 2017, but is optimistic sales from new and improved product offerings can offset this decline by the end of this year. This improvement in sales trend and a return to typical plant production levels are expected to return the Company to year-over-year earnings growth in the second half of 2017.

NON-IFRS FINANCIAL MEASURES

The Company uses the following non-IFRS financial measures in this MD&A to explain the following financial results: Adjusted Earnings before Interest, Taxes, Depreciation and Amortization ("Adjusted EBITDA"); Adjusted Net Income; Adjusted Diluted Earnings per Share ("Adjusted Diluted EPS"); CAD-Equivalent Adjusted Diluted EPS; Standardized Free Cash Flow; and Net Interest-Bearing Debt.

Adjusted EBITDA

Adjusted EBITDA follows the October 2008 "General Principles and Guidance for Reporting EBITDA and Free Cash Flow" issued by the Chartered Professional Accountants of Canada ("CPA Canada") and is earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization, excluding: business acquisition, integration and other expenses including those related to the cessation of plant operations; gains or losses on disposal of assets; and share-based compensation expense. The related margin is defined as Adjusted EBITDA divided by net sales ("Adjusted EBITDA as a percentage of sales"), where net sales is defined as "Revenues" on the Consolidated Statement of Income.

We use Adjusted EBITDA (and Adjusted EBITDA as a percentage of sales) as a performance measure as it approximates cash generated from operations before capital expenditures and changes in working capital, and it excludes the impact of expenses associated with business acquisition, integration activities, certain non-routine costs and share-based compensation expense related to the Company's share price. We believe investors and analysts also use Adjusted

EBITDA and Adjusted EBITDA as a percentage of sales to evaluate performance of our business. The most directly comparable IFRS measure to Adjusted EBITDA is "Results from operating activities" on the Consolidated Statement of Income. Adjusted EBITDA is also useful when comparing companies as it eliminates the differences in earnings that are due to how a company is financed. Also, for the purpose of certain covenants on our credit facilities, "EBITDA" is based on Adjusted EBITDA, with further adjustments as defined in the Company's credit agreements.

The following table reconciles our Adjusted EBITDA with measures that are found in our Consolidated Financial Statements, including the operating segment information disclosed in Note 10 "Operating segment information".

(Amounts in \$000s)	Thirteen weeks ended April 1, 2017				Thirteen weeks ended April 2, 2016			
	Canada	U.S.	Corporate	Total	Canada	U.S.	Corporate	Total
Net income (loss)	\$ 3,062	\$ 16,514	\$ (8,834)	\$ 10,742	\$ 5,767	\$ 20,311	\$ (11,898)	\$ 14,180
Add back:								
Depreciation and amortization	445	2,890	280	3,615	456	3,495	741	4,692
Finance costs	—	—	3,548	3,548	—	—	3,620	3,620
Income tax expense	—	—	3,927	3,927	—	—	5,767	5,767
Standardized EBITDA	3,507	19,404	(1,079)	21,832	6,223	23,806	(1,770)	28,259
Add back (deduct):								
Business acquisition, integration and other expenses	—	—	276	276	—	—	1,444	1,444
(Gain) loss on disposal of assets	(13)	30	—	17	(34)	5	9	(20)
Share-based compensation expense	—	—	212	212	—	—	625	625
Adjusted EBITDA	\$ 3,494	\$ 19,434	\$ (591)	\$ 22,337	\$ 6,189	\$ 23,811	\$ 308	\$ 30,308

Adjusted Net Income and Adjusted Diluted EPS

Adjusted Net Income is net income excluding the after-tax impact of: business acquisition, integration and certain other non-routine costs including those related to the cessation of plant operations; the non-cash expense or income related to marking-to-market an interest rate swap not designated for hedge accounting; and share-based compensation expense. Adjusted Diluted EPS is Adjusted Net Income divided by the average diluted number of shares outstanding.

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

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

	Thirteen weeks ended April 1, 2017		Thirteen weeks ended April 2, 2016	
	\$000s	Diluted EPS	\$000s	Diluted EPS
Net income	\$ 10,742	\$ 0.34	\$ 14,180	\$ 0.45
Add back:				
Business acquisition, integration and other expenses	276	0.01	1,444	0.05
Accelerated depreciation on equipment as part of the cessation of operations	—	—	487	0.02
Mark-to-market gain on interest rate swaps not designated for hedge accounting	—	—	(124)	—
Share-based compensation expense	212	0.01	625	0.02
Tax impact of reconciling items	\$ (415)	\$ (0.01)	\$ (781)	\$ (0.03)
Adjusted Net Income	\$ 10,815	\$ 0.35	\$ 15,831	\$ 0.51
Average shares for the period (000s)		31,138		31,208

CAD-Equivalent Adjusted Diluted EPS

CAD-Equivalent Adjusted Diluted EPS is Adjusted Diluted EPS, as defined above, converted to CAD using the average USD/CAD exchange rate for the period. High Liner Foods' common shares trade on the TSX and are quoted in CAD. The CAD-Equivalent Adjusted Diluted EPS is provided for the purpose of calculating financial ratios, like share price-to-earnings ratio, where investors should take into consideration that the Company's share price and dividend rate are reported in CAD and its earnings and financial position are reported in USD. This measure is included for illustrative purposes only, and would not equal the Adjusted Diluted EPS in CAD that would result if the Company's Consolidated Financial Statements were presented in CAD.

	Thirteen weeks ended	
	April 1, 2017	April 2, 2016
Adjusted Diluted EPS	\$ 0.35	\$ 0.51
Average foreign exchange rate for the period	1.3238	1.3721
CAD-Equivalent Adjusted Diluted EPS	\$ 0.46	\$ 0.70

Standardized Free Cash Flow

Standardized Free Cash Flow follows the October 2008 "General Principles and Guidance for Reporting EBITDA and Free Cash Flow" issued by CPA Canada and is cash flow from operating activities less capital expenditures (net of investment tax credits) as reported in the Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows. The capital expenditures related to business acquisitions are not deducted from Standardized Free Cash Flow.

We believe Standardized Free Cash Flow is an important indicator of financial strength and performance of our business because it shows how much cash is available to pay dividends, repay debt and reinvest in the Company. We believe investors and analysts use Standardized Free Cash Flow to value our business and its underlying assets. The most comparable IFRS financial measure is "cash flows from operating activities" in the Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows.

The table below reconciles our Standardized Free Cash Flow ("FCF") calculated on a rolling twelve-month basis, with measures that are in accordance with IFRS and as reported in the Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows.

(Amounts in \$000s)	Twelve months ended		
	April 1, 2017	April 2, 2016	\$ Change
Net change in non-cash working capital items	\$ (11,875)	\$ 44,923	\$ (56,798)
Cash flow from operating activities, including interest and income taxes	49,839	49,250	589
Cash flow from operating activities	37,964	94,173	(56,209)
Less: total capital expenditures, net of investment tax credits	(21,181)	(17,151)	(4,030)
Standardized Free Cash Flow	\$ 16,783	\$ 77,022	\$ (60,239)

Net Interest-Bearing Debt

Net Interest-Bearing Debt is calculated as the sum of bank loans, long-term debt, and finance lease obligations, less cash.

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

The following table reconciles Net Interest-Bearing Debt to IFRS measures reported as at the end of the indicated periods.

(Amounts in \$000s)	April 1, 2017	April 2, 2016
Current bank loans	\$ 8,060	\$ 9,539
Add-back: deferred finance costs on current bank loans	305	461
Total current bank loans	8,365	10,000
Long-term debt	266,407	280,993
Add-back: deferred finance costs on long-term debt	1,519	1,933
Total term loan debt	267,926	282,926
Long-term portion of finance lease obligations	685	809
Current portion of finance lease obligations	629	1,053
Total finance lease obligation	1,314	1,862
Less: cash	(5,106)	(6,384)
Net interest-bearing debt	\$ 272,499	\$ 288,404

GOVERNANCE

There has been no change in the Company's internal control over financial reporting ("ICFR"), as defined in National Instrument 52-109 *Certification of Disclosure in Issuers' Annual and Interim Filings*, during the period beginning on January 1, 2017 and ending April 1, 2017 that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the Company's ICFR.

ACCOUNTING ESTIMATES AND STANDARDS

Critical Accounting Estimates

Critical accounting judgments and estimates used in preparing our Consolidated Financial Statements are described in the Company's 2016 annual MD&A and annual consolidated financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2016. The preparation of the Company's Consolidated Financial Statements requires management to make critical judgments, estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of revenues, expenses, assets and liabilities, and the disclosure of contingent liabilities, at the reporting date. On an ongoing basis, management evaluates its judgments, estimates and assumptions using historical experience and various other factors it believes to be reasonable under the given circumstances. Actual outcomes may differ from these estimates under different assumptions and conditions that could require a material adjustment to the reported carrying amounts in the future. There have been no material changes to our critical accounting estimates and judgments during the thirteen weeks ended April 1, 2017.

Accounting Standards

The accounting policies adopted in preparation of the Consolidated Financial Statements are consistent with those followed in the preparation of the Company's annual consolidated financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2016.

IFRS 15, *Revenue from Contracts with Customers*

In May 2014, the IASB issued IFRS 15, *Revenue from Contracts with Customers* ("IFRS 15"), which replaces IAS 18, *Revenue*, IAS 11, *Construction Contracts* and various revenue-related interpretations. IFRS 15 establishes a new control-based revenue recognition model where revenue is recognized at an amount that reflects the consideration to which an entity expects to be entitled in exchange for transferring goods or services to a customer. The standard will be applicable to all contracts the Company has with customers. The standard will also specify a comprehensive set of disclosure requirements regarding the nature, extent and timing as well as any uncertainty of revenue and corresponding cash flows with customers. The new revenue standard is effective for annual periods beginning on or after January 1, 2018.

The Company has begun assessing the impact of IFRS 15 through the evaluation of contracts, determining performance obligations and making a determination as to how to best allocate consideration to each obligation. The Company currently does not anticipate that the new standard will significantly affect its consolidated financial statements. The Company expects to report more detailed information in the consolidated financial statements for the second quarter of 2017.

Accounting Standards and Interpretations Issued but not yet Effective

The standards, amendments and interpretations that have been issued by the International Accounting Standards Board ("IASB") and the IFRS Interpretations Committee ("IFRIC"), but that are not yet effective, up to the date of issuance of this MD&A are consistent with those disclosed in the Company's 2016 annual consolidated financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2016.

RISK FACTORS

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

Readers should refer to the 2016 Annual Report and AIF for a more detailed description of risk factors applicable to the Company, which are available at www.sedar.com and at www.highlinerfoods.com. We have included new risk factors and updated certain risk factors below for the first quarter of 2017.

Acquisition Risk

A component of the Company's strategy is to pursue acquisition opportunities to support sales and earnings growth and further species diversification. While management intends to be careful in selecting businesses to acquire, acquisitions inherently involve a number of risks, including, but not limited to, the possibility that the Company pays more than the acquired assets are worth; the additional expense associated with completing an acquisition; the difficulty of assimilating the operations and personnel of the acquired business; the challenge of implementing uniform standards, controls procedures and policies throughout the acquired business; the inability to integrate, train, retain and motivate key personnel of the acquired business; the potential disruption to the Company's ongoing business and the distraction of management from the Company's day-to-day operations; the inability to incorporate acquired businesses successfully into the Company's existing operations; and the potential impairment of relationships with the Company's employees, suppliers and customers. If any one or more of such risks materialize, they could have a material adverse effect on the Company's business, financial condition, liquidity and operating results.

In addition, the Company may not be able to maintain the levels of operating efficiency that the acquired company had achieved or might have achieved had it not been acquired by the Company. Successful integration of the acquired company's operations would depend upon the Company's ability to manage those operations and to eliminate redundant and excess costs. As a result of difficulties associated with combining operations, the Company may not be able to achieve the cost savings and other benefits that it would hope to achieve with the acquisition. Any difficulties in this process could disrupt the Company's ongoing business, distract its management, result in the loss of key personnel or customers, increase its expenses and otherwise materially adversely affect the Company's business, financial condition, liquidity and operating results. Further, inherent in any acquisition there is risk of liabilities and contingencies that the Company may not discover in its due diligence prior to the consummation of a particular acquisition, and the Company may not be indemnified for some or all of these liabilities and contingencies. The discovery of any material liabilities or contingencies in any acquisition could also have a material adverse effect on the Company's business, financial condition, liquidity and operating results.

As discussed in the *Events After the Reporting Period* section on page 16, the Company has entered into a definitive agreement to acquire 100% of the outstanding equity of Rubicon, however there is no guarantee the acquisition will be completed, or that the acquisition will ultimately benefit the Company.

Product Recall

The Company is subject to risks that affect the food industry in general, including risks posed by food spoilage, accidental contamination, product tampering, consumer product liability, and the potential costs and disruptions of a product recall. The Company actively manages these risks by maintaining strict and rigorous controls and processes in its manufacturing facilities and distribution systems and by maintaining prudent levels of insurance. However, the Company cannot assure that such systems, even when working effectively, will eliminate the risks related to food safety. The Company could be required to recall certain of its products in the event of contamination or adverse test results or as precautionary measures. There is also a risk that not all of the product subject to the recall will be properly identified, or that the recall will not be successful or not be enacted in a timely manner. Any product contamination could subject the Company to product liability claims, adverse publicity and government scrutiny, investigation or intervention, resulting in increased costs and decreased sales. Many of these costs and losses are not covered by insurance. Any of these events could have a material adverse impact on the Company's financial condition and results of operations.

As discussed in the *Events After the Reporting Period* section on page 16, the Company initiated a voluntary recall in April 2017, and has estimated the costs associated with this recall. Our estimates are provisional and were determined based on an assessment of the information available up to the date of filing of this report, including a review of customer claims received as of that date and consideration of the extent of potential additional claims that have yet to be received.

Foreign Currency

Foreign currency values affect our operations in a number of ways. As we translate the results of the Parent to USD, a fluctuating exchange rate affects the individual line items on our balance sheet and income statement. The Company's shares are traded in CAD and its results are reported in USD, and therefore investors are reminded to take this into consideration for purposes of calculating financial ratios, including dividend payout and share price-to-earnings ratios.

We have discussed the impact of foreign currency fluctuations on sales and earnings for the quarter in various sections of this document.

The Canadian dollar weakened relative to the U.S. dollar approximately 2.1% as of April 1, 2017 compared to April 2, 2016. On our balance sheet, this decreases the USD carrying value of both CAD-denominated assets and liabilities and increases the foreign exchange translation impact of our Canadian company included in accumulated other comprehensive income ("AOCI") in shareholders' equity. As our Canadian operations are a net importer of seafood and other products purchased in USD, a stronger CAD reduces its costs and a weaker CAD increases its costs in its CAD functional currency.

In order to minimize foreign exchange risk, we undertake hedging activities using various derivative products in accordance with an internal policy on managing derivative usage and risk that is approved and monitored by the Board of Directors' Audit Committee. We hedge the USD costs of a portion of our raw material requirements and retail commodity products as sales price increases on these products take more time to implement. We generally do not hedge certain commodity foodservice products as the sales prices to our customers change frequently enough to capture foreign exchange fluctuations, but may do so from time to time. During the first quarter of 2017, our hedging activities resulted in an effective USD/CAD exchange rate of 1.3271 for inventory purchased in USD by our Canadian Operations, compared to 1.3111 for the first quarter of 2016.

Our risk management strategy with respect to exposure to the Canadian dollar is fully explained in the MD&A in our 2016 Annual Report.

Procurement

We are dependent upon the procurement of frozen raw seafood materials and finished goods on world markets. In 2016, the Company purchased approximately 198 million pounds of seafood, with an approximate value of \$518 million. Seafood and other food inputs markets are global with values expressed in USD. We buy approximately 30 species of seafood from 20 countries around the world. There are no formal hedging mechanisms in the seafood market. Prices can change due to changes in the balance between supply and demand. Weather, quota changes, geopolitical issues including economic sanctions, disease and other social, sustainability and environmental matters can affect supply and related costs. Changes in the relative values of currency can change the demand from a particular country whose currency has risen or fallen as compared to the USD. The increasing middle class and government policies in emerging economies, as well as demand from health conscious consumers, affect the demand side as well. The cost of products purchased in USD for our Canadian operations is also affected by USD/CAD exchange rate, as noted above.

While higher raw material prices can adversely affect profitability, our broad product line and customer base and geographically diverse procurement operations help us mitigate changes in the cost of our raw materials. In addition, species substitution, product formulation changes, long-term relationships with suppliers, and price changes to customers, are all important factors in our ability to manage margins to target.

Availability of Seafood and Non-Seafood Goods

Historically, North American markets have consumed less seafood per capita than certain Asian and European markets. If increased global seafood demand results in materially higher prices, North American consumers may be less likely to consume amounts historically consistent with their share of the global seafood market, which may adversely affect the financial results of High Liner Foods due to the Company's North American focus.

The Company expects demand for seafood to grow from current levels as the global economy and Southeast Asia economies improve. We expect the supply of wild-caught seafood to be stable over the long term, notwithstanding recent increases in quota in certain fisheries, in part due to sustainability efforts. We anticipate new demand will be supplied primarily from aquaculture. Currently, four of the top seven species consumed in the U.S. (shrimp, salmon, tilapia and pangasius) are partly or totally supplied by aquaculture and approximately 21% of the Company's procurement by value is related to aquaculture products. To the extent aquaculture is unable to supply future demand, prices may increase materially which may have a negative impact on the Company's results.

The Company has made the strategic decision not to be vertically integrated for a number of reasons, including the large amount of capital that would be involved and expected returns on such capital. As well, as a vertically integrated company, overall reduced returns to shareholders would likely result from subsidizing our North American operations with output from fishing efforts that could be sold in global markets at higher prices. Instead, we remain committed to our strategy to develop the North American market by differentiating ourselves based on product offerings and service levels, building our brands and customer relationships, being the lowest cost, largest scale manufacturer of seafood products and leveraging such position to buy seafood at reasonable prices, and be the supplier of choice for North American customers and consumers. However, in the event that supply shortages of certain seafood, or trade barriers to acquiring seafood as a result of economic sanctions or otherwise, results in difficulty procuring species from preferred suppliers or at all, the financial results of the Company may be adversely affected.

In addition, the Company purchases non-seafood goods from a limited number of suppliers as a result of consolidation within the industries in which these suppliers operate in North America and other major markets. Furthermore, issues with suppliers regarding pricing or performance of the goods they supply or the inability of suppliers to supply the required volumes of such goods and services in a timely manner could impact the Company's financial condition and performance. Any such impact will depend on the effectiveness of the Company's contingency plan.



HIGH LINER FOODS

UNAUDITED CONDENSED INTERIM CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**As at and for the thirteen weeks ended April 1, 2017
With comparative figures as at and for the thirteen weeks ended April 2, 2016**

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

	Notes	April 1, 2017	December 31, 2016
ASSETS			
Current			
Cash		\$ 5,106	\$ 18,252
Accounts receivable		102,993	75,190
Income taxes receivable		3,413	4,809
Other financial assets	11	1,020	1,705
Inventories		218,103	252,059
Prepaid expenses		2,181	3,340
Total current assets		332,816	355,355
Non-current			
Property, plant and equipment		114,748	111,322
Deferred income taxes	9	2,032	2,290
Other receivables and miscellaneous assets	11	717	864
Intangible assets		95,894	97,176
Goodwill		118,175	118,101
Total non-current assets		331,566	329,753
Total assets	4,5	\$ 664,382	\$ 685,108
LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY			
Current liabilities			
Bank loans	4	\$ 8,060	\$ 621
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities		101,509	139,378
Provisions		2,936	386
Other current financial liabilities	11	1,087	1,626
Other current liabilities		440	416
Income taxes payable		—	851
Current portion of finance lease obligations		629	721
Total current liabilities		114,661	143,999
Non-current liabilities			
Long-term debt	5	266,407	266,327
Other long-term financial liabilities	11	101	196
Other long-term liabilities		485	888
Long-term finance lease obligations		685	702
Deferred income taxes	9	45,214	44,602
Future employee benefits		8,678	8,190
Total non-current liabilities		321,570	320,905
Total liabilities		436,231	464,904
Shareholders' equity			
Common shares	7	86,102	86,094
Contributed surplus		14,869	14,654
Retained earnings		151,044	143,782
Accumulated other comprehensive loss		(23,864)	(24,326)
Total shareholders' equity		228,151	220,204
Total liabilities and shareholders' equity		\$ 664,382	\$ 685,108

See accompanying notes to the unaudited condensed interim consolidated financial statements

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

		Thirteen weeks ended	
	Notes	April 1, 2017	April 2, 2016
Revenues	\$	275,735	\$ 291,439
Cost of sales		220,227	226,010
Gross profit		55,508	65,429
Distribution expenses		12,025	12,527
Selling, general and administrative expenses		24,990	27,891
Business acquisition, integration and other expenses		276	1,444
Results from operating activities		18,217	23,567
Finance costs		3,548	3,620
Income before income taxes		14,669	19,947
Income taxes			
Current	9	2,908	5,193
Deferred	9	1,019	574
Total income tax expense		3,927	5,767
Net income	\$	10,742	\$ 14,180
Earnings per common share			
Basic	\$	0.35	\$ 0.46
Diluted	\$	0.34	\$ 0.45
Weighted average number of shares outstanding			
Basic		30,934,611	30,876,582
Diluted		31,138,090	31,207,531

See accompanying notes to the unaudited condensed interim consolidated financial statements

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

	Thirteen weeks ended	
	April 1, 2017	April 2, 2016
Net income	\$ 10,742	\$ 14,180
Other comprehensive income (loss), net of income tax (Note 9)		
Other comprehensive income (loss) to be reclassified to net income:		
Gain on hedge of net investment in foreign operations	1,802	12,573
Loss on translation of net investment in foreign operations	(2,665)	(18,630)
Translation impact on Canadian dollar denominated non-AOCI items	1,485	12,127
Translation impact on Canadian dollar denominated AOCI items	(100)	(955)
Total exchange gains on translation of foreign operations and Canadian dollar denominated items	522	5,115
Effective portion of changes in fair value of cash flow hedges	(185)	(3,117)
Net change in fair value of cash flow hedges transferred to carrying amount of hedged item	(117)	(1,185)
Net change in fair value of cash flow hedges transferred to income	175	(91)
Translation impact on Canadian dollar denominated AOCI items	67	540
Total exchange losses on cash flow hedges	(60)	(3,853)
Net other comprehensive gain to be reclassified to net income	462	1,262
Other comprehensive loss not to be reclassified to net income:		
Defined benefit plan actuarial losses	(268)	(660)
Other comprehensive income, net of income tax	194	602
Total comprehensive income	\$ 10,936	\$ 14,782

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF ACCUMULATED OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME (LOSS) ("AOCI")
(unaudited, in thousands of United States dollars)

	Foreign currency translation differences	Net exchange differences on cash flow hedges	Total AOCI
Balance at December 31, 2016	\$ (24,887)	\$ 561	\$ (24,326)
Total exchange gains on translation of foreign operations and Canadian dollar denominated items	522	—	522
Total exchange losses on cash flow hedges	—	(60)	(60)
Balance at April 1, 2017	\$ (24,365)	\$ 501	\$ (23,864)
Balance at January 2, 2016	\$ (27,582)	\$ 2,977	\$ (24,605)
Total exchange losses on translation of foreign operations and Canadian dollar denominated items	5,115	—	5,115
Total exchange losses on cash flow hedges	—	(3,853)	(3,853)
Balance at April 2, 2016	\$ (22,467)	\$ (876)	\$ (23,343)

See accompanying notes to the unaudited condensed interim consolidated financial statements

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

	Common shares	Contributed surplus	Retained earnings	AOCI	Total
Balance at December 31, 2016	\$ 86,094	\$ 14,654	\$ 143,782	\$ (24,326)	220,204
Other comprehensive income	—	—	(268)	462	194
Net income	—	—	10,742	—	10,742
Common share dividends	—	—	(3,212)	—	(3,212)
Share-based compensation	8	215	—	—	223
Balance at April 1, 2017	\$ 86,102	\$ 14,869	\$ 151,044	\$ (23,864)	228,151
Balance at January 2, 2016	\$ 85,282	\$ 13,999	\$ 123,949	\$ (24,605)	198,625
Other comprehensive income	—	—	(660)	1,262	602
Net income	—	—	14,180	—	14,180
Common share dividends	—	—	(2,774)	—	(2,774)
Share-based compensation	147	317	—	—	464
Balance at April 2, 2016	\$ 85,429	\$ 14,316	\$ 134,695	\$ (23,343)	211,097

See accompanying notes to the unaudited condensed interim consolidated financial statements

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

	Notes	Thirteen weeks ended	
		April 1, 2017	April 2, 2016
Cash flows provided by (used in):			
Operating activities			
Net income		\$ 10,742	\$ 14,180
Adjustments to net income not involving cash from operations:			
Depreciation and amortization	10	3,615	4,692
Share-based compensation expense	8	212	625
Loss on asset disposals and impairment		47	13
Future employee benefits contribution, net of expense		96	(104)
Finance costs		3,548	3,620
Income tax expense	9	3,927	5,767
Unrealized foreign exchange gain		(272)	(1,012)
Cash flows provided by operations before changes in non-cash working capital, interest and income taxes paid		21,915	27,781
Changes in non-cash working capital balances:			
Accounts receivable		(27,716)	(8,037)
Inventories		34,639	53,850
Prepaid expenses		1,178	(107)
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities		(39,039)	(40,034)
Provisions		2,555	3,767
Net change in non-cash working capital balances		(28,383)	9,439
Interest paid		(3,393)	(3,719)
Income taxes paid		(2,424)	(3,734)
Net cash flows (used in) provided by operating activities		(12,285)	29,767
Financing activities			
Increase (decrease) in bank loans		7,495	(7,858)
Repayment of finance lease obligations		(243)	(217)
Repayment of long-term debt	5	—	(11,824)
Common share dividends paid		(3,212)	(2,774)
Options exercised for shares		—	43
Net cash flows provided by (used in) financing activities		4,040	(22,630)
Investing activities			
Purchase of property, plant and equipment, net of investment tax credits		(5,485)	(1,038)
Net proceeds on disposal of assets	3	90	105
Net cash flows used in investing activities		(5,395)	(933)
Foreign exchange increase (decrease) on cash		494	(863)
Net change in cash during the period		(13,146)	5,341
Cash, beginning of period		18,252	1,043
Cash, end of period		\$ 5,106	\$ 6,384

See accompanying notes to the unaudited condensed interim consolidated financial statements

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

1. Corporate information

High Liner Foods Incorporated (the “Company” or “High Liner Foods”) is a company incorporated and domiciled in Canada. The address of the Company’s registered office is 100 Battery Point, P.O. Box 910, Lunenburg, Nova Scotia, B0J 2C0. The Unaudited Condensed Interim Consolidated Financial Statements (“Consolidated Financial Statements”) of the Company as at and for the thirteen weeks ended April 1, 2017, comprise High Liner Foods’ Canadian company (the “Parent”) and its subsidiaries (herein together referred to as the “Company” or “High Liner Foods”). The Company is primarily involved in the processing and marketing of prepared and packaged frozen seafood products.

These Consolidated Financial Statements were authorized for issue in accordance with a resolution of the Company’s Board of Directors on May 10, 2017.

2. Basis of preparation

(a) Statement of compliance

These Consolidated Financial Statements are in compliance with International Accounting Standard (“IAS”) 34, *Interim Financial Reporting*. Accordingly, certain information and footnote disclosures normally included in annual financial statements prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (“IFRS”), as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board (“IASB”), have been omitted or condensed. These Consolidated Financial Statements should be read in conjunction with the Company’s audited consolidated financial statements for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2016, as set out in the 2016 Annual Report, available at www.highlinerfoods.com.

(b) Functional and presentation currency

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

(c) Seasonality of operations

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

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

The accounting policies used in the preparation of the Consolidated Financial Statements are consistent with those followed in the preparation of the Company’s audited consolidated financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2016, and there have been no new standards or interpretations adopted which have had an impact on the accounting policies, financial position or performance of the Company.

(e) Accounting pronouncements issued but not yet effective

The standards, amendments and interpretations that have been issued but that are not yet effective, up to the date of issuance of these Consolidated Financial Statements, are consistent with those disclosed in the Company’s audited consolidated financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2016.

IFRS 15, Revenue from Contracts with Customers

In May 2014, the IASB issued IFRS 15, *Revenue from Contracts with Customers* (“IFRS 15”), which replaces IAS 18, *Revenue*, IAS 11, *Construction Contracts* and various revenue-related interpretations. IFRS 15 establishes a new control-based revenue recognition model where revenue is recognized at an amount that reflects the consideration to which an entity expects to be entitled in exchange for transferring goods or services to a customer. The standard will be applicable to all contracts the Company has with customers. The standard will also specify a comprehensive set of disclosure requirements regarding the nature, extent and timing as well as any uncertainty of revenue and corresponding cash flows with customers. The new revenue standard is effective for annual periods beginning on or after January 1, 2018.

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

The Company has begun assessing the impact of IFRS 15 through the evaluation of contracts, determining performance obligations and making a determination as to how to best allocate consideration to each obligation. The Company currently does not anticipate that the new standard will significantly affect its consolidated financial statements. The Company expects to report more detailed information in the consolidated financial statements for the second quarter of 2017.

3. Revision of previously reported consolidated financial statements

The Company identified an error related to the accounting for donated product received from the United States Department of Agriculture for the purpose of processing the product for distribution to eligible recipient agencies. The Company has concluded that this error is immaterial to each of the prior periods. Therefore, comparative financial information has been adjusted, but previously filed reports have not been amended. For the year ended December 31, 2016, the adjustments decreased the Company's net income by \$0.7 million. Retained earnings at January 2, 2016 was decreased by \$1.9 million.

The effects of the adjustments on our consolidated statement of financial position, consolidated statement of income, and consolidated statement of comprehensive income are presented below. The adjustments had no effect on the previously reported amounts of net cash flows from operating activities, financing activities or investing activities. Only corrected line items have been disclosed.

As at December 31, 2016	Previously reported	Adjustments	As adjusted
Consolidated Statement of Financial Position			
Income taxes receivable	3,783	1,026	4,809
Inventories	252,118	(59)	252,059
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	135,272	4,106	139,378
Deferred income taxes	45,183	(581)	44,602
Retained earnings	146,340	(2,558)	143,782
Thirteen weeks ended April 2, 2016			
Consolidated Statement of Income			
Revenues	290,548	891	291,439
Income taxes			
Current	5,202	(9)	5,193
Deferred	137	437	574
Total income tax expense	5,339	428	5,767
Net income	13,717	463	14,180
Earnings per common share			
Basic	0.44	0.02	0.46
Diluted	0.44	0.01	0.45
Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income			
Total comprehensive income	14,319	463	14,782

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

4. Bank loans

<i>(Amounts in \$000s)</i>	April 1, 2017	December 31, 2016
Bank loans, denominated in CAD (average variable rate of 2.70%; December 31, 2016: 2.70%)	\$ 365	\$ 959
Bank loans, denominated in USD (average variable rate of 2.09%; December 31, 2016: 4.00%)	8,000	—
	8,365	959
Less: deferred finance costs	(305)	(338)
	\$ 8,060	\$ 621

The Company has a five year \$180.0 million working capital facility (the "Facility"), with Royal Bank of Canada as Administrative and Collateral Agent, which expires in April 2019. The Facility is asset-based and collateralized by the Company's inventories, accounts receivable and other personal property in Canada and the U.S., subject to a first charge on brands, trade names and related intangibles under the Company's term loan facility (see Note 5). A second charge over the Company's plant and equipment is also in place. As at April 1, 2017 and December 31, 2016, the Facility allowed the Company to borrow: Canadian Prime Rate revolving loans, Canadian Base Rate revolving loans and U.S. Prime Rate revolving loans at their respective rates plus 0.00% to 0.25%; BA Equivalent revolving loans and LIBOR revolving loans at their respective rates plus 1.25% to 1.75%; and letters of credit with fees of 1.25% to 1.75%. Standby fees are 0.25% to 0.375% and are required to be paid on the unutilized facility. As at April 1, 2017, the Company had \$150.4 million of undrawn borrowing facility (December 31, 2016: \$151.6 million).

5. Long-term debt

<i>(Amounts in \$000s)</i>	April 1, 2017	December 31, 2016
Term loan	\$ 267,926	\$ 267,926
Less: current portion	—	—
	267,926	267,926
Less: deferred finance costs	(1,519)	(1,599)
	\$ 266,407	\$ 266,327

As at April 1, 2017, the Company had a \$300.0 million term loan facility with an interest rate of 3.25% plus LIBOR (LIBOR floor of 1.00%), maturing on April 24, 2021. The regularly scheduled principal repayment terms are \$0.75 million, paid on a quarterly basis. However, during the fifty-two weeks ended December 31, 2016, a payment of \$11.8 million was made due to excess cash flows in 2015, and a voluntary repayment of \$15.0 million was made to reduce excess cash balances. As such, no additional regularly scheduled principal repayments are required for 2017.

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

6. Future employee benefits

Employee benefits relating to the termination of employees ("termination benefits") are expensed during the period and are recorded as of the date a committed plan is in place and communication to employees has occurred. Termination benefits relate to severance which is not based on a future service requirement. Severance and retention benefits that are dependent upon the continuing provision of services through to certain predefined dates, are recognized as short-term employee benefits. Employee benefits are included on the following line items in the consolidated statement of income:

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

<i>(Amounts in \$000s)</i>	Thirteen weeks ended	
	April 1, 2017	April 2, 2016
Termination benefits		
Cost of sales	\$ 26	\$ —
Selling, general and administrative expenses	450	337
	\$ 476	\$ 337
Short-term benefits		
Selling, general and administrative expenses	27	549
	\$ 27	\$ 549

7. Share capital

Purchase of shares for cancellation

In January 2017, the Company announced that the Toronto Stock Exchange approved the renewal of the Company's Normal Course Issuer Bid ("NCIB") to repurchase for cancellation up to 150,000 common shares. The price the Company will pay for any common shares acquired will be the market price at the time of acquisition. Purchases could commence on February 2, 2017 and will terminate no later than February 1, 2018. During the thirteen weeks ended April 1, 2017, there were no purchases under this plan.

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

	Thirteen weeks ended		Thirteen weeks ended	
	April 1, 2017		April 2, 2016	
	Shares	(\$000s)	Shares	(\$000s)
Balance, beginning of period	30,889,078	\$ 86,094	30,874,164	\$ 85,282
Options exercised for shares	—	—	11,000	43
Options exercised for shares via cashless exercise method	459	—	—	—
Fair value of share-based compensation on options exercised	—	8	—	104
Balance, end of period	30,889,537	\$ 86,102	30,885,164	\$ 85,429

During the thirteen weeks ended April 1, 2017, the Company distributed dividends per share of CAD\$0.140 (thirteen weeks ended April 2, 2016: CAD\$0.120).

On May 10, 2017, the Company's Board of Directors declared a quarterly dividend of CAD\$0.140 per share, payable on June 15, 2017 to shareholders of record as of June 1, 2017.

8. Share-based compensation

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

Issuances of options, RSUs and PSUs may not result in the following limitations being exceeded: (a) the aggregate number of shares issuable to insiders pursuant to the PSU Plan, the Share Option Plan (the "Option Plan") or any other share-based compensation arrangement of the Company exceeding 10% of the aggregate of the issued and outstanding shares at any time; and (b) the issuance from treasury to insiders, within a 12-month period, of an aggregate number of shares under the PSU Plan, the Option Plan and any other share-based compensation arrangement of the Company exceeding 10% of the aggregate of the issued and outstanding shares.

HIGH LINER FOODS INCORPORATED
Notes to the Unaudited Condensed Interim Consolidated Financial Statements
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The carrying amount of cash-settled share-based compensation arrangements recognized in accounts payable and accrued liabilities, other current liabilities and other long-term liabilities on the consolidated statement of financial position, was \$nil, \$0.6 million and \$0.3 million, respectively, as at April 1, 2017 (December 31, 2016: \$0.6 million, \$0.4 million and \$0.9 million, respectively).

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

<i>(Amounts in \$000s)</i>	Thirteen weeks ended	
	April 1, 2017	April 2, 2016
Cost of sales resulting from:		
Cash-settled awards	\$ —	\$ 7
Equity-settled awards	16	37
Selling, general and administrative expenses resulting from:		
Cash-settled awards	(7)	200
Equity-settled awards	203	381
Share-based compensation expense ⁽¹⁾	\$ 212	\$ 625

⁽¹⁾ Cash-settled awards may include options with stock appreciation rights ("SAR"), restricted share units ("RSU"), PSUs, and DSUs. Equity-settled awards include options.

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

	April 1, 2017		Thirteen weeks ended April 2, 2016	
	No.	WAEP (CAD)	No.	WAEP (CAD)
Outstanding, beginning of period	1,607,350	\$ 18.21	1,323,292	\$ 18.98
Granted	123,614	20.61	654,196	15.29
Exercised for shares via cashless method ^{(1),(2)}	(3,000)	15.30	—	—
Exercised for shares ⁽²⁾	—	—	(11,000)	5.17
Exercised for shares ⁽²⁾	(3,000)	15.30	(11,000)	5.17
Exercised for cash ⁽²⁾	(3,000)	9.39	(10,944)	8.23
Cancelled or forfeited	(3,200)	15.30	(62,261)	21.45
Expired	(3,000)	23.21	—	—
Outstanding, end of period	1,718,764	\$ 18.40	1,893,283	\$ 17.77
Exercisable, end of period	1,090,500	\$ 18.79	997,174	\$ 18.07

⁽¹⁾ For the thirteen weeks ended April 1, 2017, 459 shares were exercised via the cashless exercise method (thirteen weeks ended April 2, 2016: nil shares).

⁽²⁾ The weighted average share price at the date of exercise for these options was CAD\$18.06 for the thirteen weeks ended April 1, 2017 (thirteen weeks ended April 2, 2016: CAD\$15.61).

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Set forth below is a summary of the outstanding options to purchase common shares as at April 1, 2017:

Option price	Options outstanding			Options exercisable	
	Number outstanding	Weighted average exercise price	Average life (years)	Number exercisable	Weighted average exercise price
\$8.25-\$10.00	153,986	\$ 9.07	0.46	153,986	\$ 9.07
\$10.01-\$15.00	3,000	\$ 14.03	4.00	3,000	\$ 14.03
\$15.01-\$20.00	745,728	\$ 15.62	3.43	350,831	\$ 15.97
\$20.01-\$25.00	816,050	\$ 22.72	2.42	582,683	\$ 23.09
Total	1,718,764			1,090,500	

The fair value of options granted during the thirteen weeks ended April 1, 2017 and April 2, 2016 was estimated on the date of grant using the Black-Scholes pricing model with the following weighted-average inputs and assumptions:

	April 1, 2017	April 2, 2016
Dividend yield (%)	2.72	3.14
Expected volatility (%)	33.87	33.33
Risk-free interest rate (%)	1.55	0.63
Expected life (years)	5.00	5.22
Weighted average share price (CAD)	\$ 20.61	\$ 15.29
Weighted average fair value (CAD)	\$ 4.99	\$ 3.27

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

	Thirteen weeks ended	
	April 1, 2017	April 2, 2016
Outstanding, beginning of period	216,070	139,184
Granted	86,194	82,017
Reinvested dividends	1,987	1,666
Released and paid in cash	(25,873)	—
Forfeited	(30,165)	(10,895)
Outstanding, end of period	248,213	211,972

The expected performance multiplier used in determining the fair value of the liability and related share-based compensation expense for the PSUs granted during the thirteen weeks ended April 1, 2017 was 61% (April 2, 2016: 66%) and the share price at the reporting date was CAD\$18.05 (April 2, 2016: CAD\$15.08). The PSUs will vest at the end of a three-year period, if agreed-upon performance measures are met (if applicable).

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

	Thirteen weeks ended April 1, 2017
Outstanding, beginning of period	—
Granted	56,264
Reinvested dividends	454
Outstanding, end of period	56,718

The share price at the reporting date for the RSUs was CAD\$18.05. The RSUs will vest at the end of a three-year period.

9. Income tax expense

The Company's statutory tax rate for the thirteen weeks ended April 1, 2017 was 29.2% (thirteen weeks ended April 2, 2016: 29.2%). The Company's effective income tax rate for the thirteen weeks ended April 1, 2017 was 26.8% (thirteen weeks ended April 2, 2016: 28.9%).

The major components of income tax expense in the consolidated statement of comprehensive income for the thirteen weeks ended April 1, 2017 and April 2, 2016 were as follows:

	Thirteen weeks ended	
<i>(Amounts in \$000s)</i>	April 1, 2017	April 2, 2016
Income tax expense (recovery) related to items recognized in other comprehensive income (loss):		
Gain on hedge of net investment in foreign operations	\$ 256	\$ 1,740
Loss on translation of net investment in foreign operations	(222)	(1,684)
Effective portion of changes in fair value of cash flow hedges	(76)	(1,289)
Net change in fair value of cash flow hedges transferred to carrying amount of hedged item	(48)	(483)
Net change in fair value of cash flow hedges transferred to income	72	(37)
Defined benefit plan actuarial (loss) gain	(96)	22
Income tax recovery recognized in other comprehensive income	\$ (114)	\$ (1,731)

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10. Operating segment information

The operating results and identifiable assets and liabilities by reportable segment are as follows:

<i>(Amounts in \$000s)</i>	Thirteen weeks ended April 1, 2017				Thirteen weeks ended April 2, 2016			
	Canada	U.S.	Corporate	Total	Canada	U.S.	Corporate	Total
Revenue (excluding intercompany sales)	\$ 62,882	\$ 212,853	\$ —	\$ 275,735	\$ 59,384	\$ 232,055	\$ —	\$ 291,439
Cost of sales (excluding intercompany sales)	50,350	170,203	(326)	220,227	44,706	182,746	(1,442)	226,010
Gross profit	\$ 12,532	\$ 42,650	\$ 326	\$ 55,508	\$ 14,678	\$ 49,309	\$ 1,442	\$ 65,429
Income (loss) before income taxes	\$ 3,062	\$ 16,514	\$ (4,907)	\$ 14,669	\$ 5,767	\$ 20,311	\$ (6,131)	\$ 19,947
Add back:								
Depreciation and amortization included in:								
Cost of sales	319	1,250	14	1,583	306	1,761	7	2,074
Distribution	37	327	—	364	35	418	—	453
Selling, general and administrative expenses	89	1,313	266	1,668	115	1,316	734	2,165
Total depreciation and amortization	445	2,890	280	3,615	456	3,495	741	4,692
Finance costs	—	—	3,548	3,548	—	—	3,620	3,620
Income (loss) before depreciation, amortization, finance costs and income taxes	\$ 3,507	\$ 19,404	\$ (1,079)	\$ 21,832	\$ 6,223	\$ 23,806	\$ (1,770)	\$ 28,259

<i>(Amounts in \$000s)</i>	As at April 1, 2017				As at December 31, 2016			
	Canada	U.S.	Corporate	Total	Canada	U.S.	Corporate	Total
Total assets	\$132,161	\$521,665	\$ 10,556	\$664,382	\$137,331	\$522,426	\$ 25,351	\$685,108
Total liabilities	\$ 77,720	\$ 25,155	\$ 333,356	\$436,231	\$109,910	\$ 73,573	\$ 281,421	\$464,904

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11. Fair value measurement

Fair value of financial instruments

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

<i>(Amounts in \$000s)</i>	April 1, 2017		December 31, 2016	
	Level 2	Level 3	Level 2	Level 3
Fair value of financial assets				
Foreign exchange contracts	\$ 1,087	\$ —	\$ 1,883	\$ —
Interest rate swaps	650	—	686	—
Fair value of financial liabilities				
Interest rate swaps	517	—	769	—
Foreign exchange contracts	671	—	1,053	—
Long-term debt	—	266,368	—	266,727
Finance lease obligations	—	1,315	—	1,434

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

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

The Company uses the date of the event or change in circumstances to recognize transfers between Level 1, Level 2 and Level 3 fair value measurements. During the thirteen weeks ended April 1, 2017 no such transfers occurred.

The financial liabilities that are not measured at fair value on the consolidated statement of financial position consist of long-term debt (including current portion) and finance lease obligations. The carrying amount for these instruments are \$266.4 million and \$1.3 million, respectively, as at April 1, 2017 (December 31, 2016: \$266.3 million and \$1.4 million, respectively).

Hedging activities

Interest rate swaps

During the thirteen weeks ended April 1, 2017, the Company had the following interest rate swaps outstanding to hedge interest rate risk resulting from the term loan facility (see Note 5):

Effective date	Maturity date	Receive floating rate	Pay fixed rate	Notional amount (millions)
Designated in a formal hedging relationship:				
December 31, 2014	December 31, 2019	3-month LIBOR (floor 1.0%)	2.1700% \$	20.0
March 4, 2015	March 4, 2020	3-month LIBOR (floor 1.0%)	1.9150% \$	25.0
April 4, 2016	April 4, 2018	3-month LIBOR (floor 1.0%)	1.2325% \$	35.0
April 4, 2016	April 24, 2021	3-month LIBOR (floor 1.0%)	1.6700% \$	40.0

The cash flow hedge of interest expense variability was assessed to be highly effective for the thirteen weeks ended April 1, 2017 and April 2, 2016, and therefore, the change in fair value for those interest rate swaps designated in a hedging relationship was included in OCI as after-tax net losses of \$nominal and \$0.6 million, respectively.

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During the thirteen weeks ended April 2, 2016, the change in fair value for an interest rate swap that was not designated in a formal hedging relationship was a net gain of \$0.1 million.

Foreign currency contracts

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

As at April 1, 2017, the Company had outstanding notional amounts of \$44.4 million in foreign currency average-rate forward contracts and \$2.0 million in foreign currency single-rate forward contracts that were formally designated as a hedge. With the exception of \$2.1 million average-rate forward contracts with maturities ranging from April 2018 to September 2018, all foreign currency forward contracts have maturities that are less than one year.

The cash flow hedges of the expected future purchases were assessed to be highly effective for the thirteen weeks ended April 1, 2017 and April 2, 2016, and therefore, the change in fair value was recorded in OCI as after-tax net loss of \$0.2 million and after-tax net loss of \$2.5 million, respectively. The amount recognized in the consolidated statement of income resulting from hedge ineffectiveness during the thirteen weeks ended April 1, 2017 was a net loss of \$0.1 million (April 2, 2016: net gain of \$0.2 million).

As at April 1, 2017, the Company had outstanding notional amounts of \$14.0 million foreign currency single-rate forward contracts outstanding to hedge foreign currency exchange risk on USD monetary assets and liabilities that were not formally designated as a hedge. The change in fair value for the thirteen weeks ended April 1, 2017 and April 2, 2016, was a net loss of \$0.1 million and a net gain of \$0.2 million, respectively, which was recorded in the consolidated statement of income.

Hedge of net investment in foreign operations

As at April 1, 2017, a total borrowing of \$252.3 million (\$15.0 million included in accounts payable and \$237.3 million included in long-term debt) (December 31, 2016: \$15.0 million included in accounts payable and \$237.3 million included in long-term debt) has been designated as a hedge of the net investment in the U.S. subsidiary and is being used to hedge the Company's exposure to foreign exchange risk on this net investment. Gains or losses on the re-translation of this borrowing are transferred to OCI to offset any gains or losses on translation of the net investment in the U.S. subsidiary. There was no hedge ineffectiveness recognized during the thirteen weeks ended April 1, 2017 or April 2, 2016.

12. Events after the reporting period

Product recall

On April 14, 2017 and April 21, 2017, the Company issued a voluntary product recall of certain brands of breaded fish and seafood products sold in Canada that may contain a Milk allergen that was not declared on the ingredient label and allergen statement. Although the Company did not learn of the undeclared allergen until subsequent to period end, in accordance with IFRS, this cost is required to be recorded in the Consolidated Financial Statements as it related to a condition that existed at the balance sheet date of April 1, 2017. The total cost of the recall program is recorded in cost of sales and is estimated to be \$0.7 million, with \$0.3 million related to costs associated with the return and destruction or re-work of product, and \$0.4 million related to consumer refunds and customer fines.

Acquisition of Rubicon Resources, LLC

On May 10, 2017, the Company signed a definitive agreement to acquire 100% of the outstanding equity of Rubicon Resources, LLC ("Rubicon"), a privately held United States based corporation engaged principally in the import and sale of shrimp products under the private labels of major U.S. grocery retailers. Management believes Rubicon will provide the Company with a strong platform for growth in this key species. The anticipated purchase price is \$107.0 million prior to transaction fees, and will be settled 70% in cash and 30% in High Liner Foods common shares. The Company expects the transaction to close in the second quarter of 2017 and will finance the acquisition with existing credit facilities.
