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A2A RAIL FILES FOR PROTECTION FROM CREDITORS AFTER PRIVATE BANK GOES INTO RECEIVERSHIP

Alaska to Alberta Railway, an Alberta corporation, has obtained creditor protection under a Canadian insolvency statute so that the Company can pursue a Court supervised sale/ refinancing of the development stage of the proposed 2000-mile rail link between the existing North American rail grid, and the Alaska Railroad and Alaska tidewater ports.

This project is viewed in both Alaska and Alberta as a vital transportation link which will enable Alaska, Yukon, Northwest Territories and Alberta, and their respective economies, to have greater access to world markets for their raw materials and manufactured goods, in addition to providing for tourism and passenger travel. The project could also provide significant employment and ownership opportunities for members of the Indigenous communities along the proposed railway line.

The move comes after A2A’s main lender, Bridging Finance Inc., was placed in Receivership by the Ontario Securities Commission on April 30. Earlier this month, the Court Appointed Receiver of Bridging Finance, PriceWaterhouseCoopers called a $149 million CDN loan made to A2A by Bridging Finance. To protect against the Company’s assets being liquidated, A2A obtained creditor protection late Friday.
The Company intends to commence a Court approved Sale and Investor and Solicitation Process to pursue refinancing of the loan with other investors. This could include a sale of the Company’s business on a going concern basis including engineering, permits and pending permits, right-of-way agreements, marketing materials, agreements and relationships with proposed partners, First Nations and Alaska Native entities – developed for the project. We note that Mr. McCoshen will not be involved in this process, which will be driven by a third-party consultant. The Company will keep a core team together during this process in both Canada and the United States, and will maintain ties with its large engineering, permitting, marketing, and stakeholder outreach team.

The Company will also continue to work to preserve the firm’s value during the reorganization, refinancing, or sale process, and is currently working to inform partners and stakeholders of its intent to keep its commitments. Despite its lender’s receivership, the Company believes that the A2A rail project concept is sound, and has already made significant progress toward full financing, above and beyond the development capital provided by Bridging Finance over the past five years.

Ultimately, construction of A2A Rail is expected to cost $22 billion CDN, and will cross lands in Alaska, Yukon, Northwest Territories, and Alberta creating a new North American gateway for a large variety of products, commodities, and tourism operations.

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