

District of: Ontario
Division No. 08-Waterloo
Court No. 35-3026367
Estate No. 35-3026367

TRUSTEE'S PRELIMINARY REPORT

IN THE MATTER OF THE BANKRUPTCY OF
METROLINE RESEARCH GROUP INC.

Trustee: MNP Ltd.

SECTION A - Background

Metroline Research Group Inc. ("**Metroline**" or the "**Company**") was formed on amalgamation of two companies in June 2020. The directors are Paul Ulbrick and David Kains. The Company provided public opinion and market research services to government, corporate and not-for-profit organizations, using both established and emerging technologies and methods (e.g. focus groups and telephone surveys).

Prior to the Covid-19 pandemic Metroline did a lot of in-person focus groups, so it had leased an office with sufficient space to accommodate these. Historically the Company would do 10-12 focus groups per month; but since March 2020 and December 2023 these declined to a total of only 7. Not only did Metroline suffer from this lost revenue stream, but was burdened with high lease payments for the office space it could no longer use or afford. The Company attempted to renegotiate its lease but was unable to do so.

Metroline was not able to cashflow operations and made the decision to shut down and made an assignment in bankruptcy December 29, 2023. MNP Ltd. was appointed as trustee. (the "**Trustee**").

CLASS I - Stocks of merchandise

There was no inventory owned by the Company.

CLASS II - Plant, machinery, equipment, and office

There was no machinery or equipment owned by the Company.

CLASS III - Buildings and real estate

The Company did not own real estate.

CLASS IV - Books and records

The Trustee has received the books and records required to administer the bankruptcy.

CLASS V - Other assets

The book value of accounts receivable at the date of bankruptcy was \$329,658, of which \$130,015 is expected to be collectible and \$199,644 is considered doubtful. The Trustee has written to all former customers to request payment on these accounts. To date the Trustee has collected \$32,219.

There are no other assets the Trustee is aware of.

Property of Bankruptcy not divisible amongst creditors by virtue of Section 67(b), of the Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act

None known.

Property placed under the guardianship of the Company

None known.

SECTION B

1. Conservatory and protective measures

The leased premise was abandoned prior to the bankruptcy. The Trustee wrote to CIBC to request the Company's bank account be frozen.

2. Carrying on business

The Company's operations ceased prior to bankruptcy.

SECTION C - Legal proceedings

None known.

SECTION D - Provable claims

Creditor Class	Per Statement of Affairs	Proven
Deemed Trust	\$nil	\$nil
Secured	\$117,031	\$nil
Preferred	\$11,038	\$nil
Unsecured	\$142,231	\$47,619
Total	\$270,300	\$47,619

Secured Creditors

CIBC has registered security against all Company assets on the Ontario *Personal Property Security Act* registry. According to the Company's records CIBC is owed approximately \$117,000. CIBC has not yet filed a proof of claim confirming the amount of its debt or security.

SECTION F - Anticipated realizations and projected distribution

Any distribution in the estate will depend if asset realizations are sufficient to cover Service Canada's super priority charge over current assets for unpaid wages and vacation paid through the *Wage Earner Protection Program* (estimated to be approximately \$11,000) and CIBC's secured claim.

SECTION G - Reviewable transactions and preferential payment

The Trustee has reviewed the bank statements for the twelve months preceding bankruptcy and did not find any evidence of preferences or reviewable transactions.

SECTION H - Other matters

The Trustee has received a third-party deposit of \$12,000 from Paul Ulbrick to cover the fees and disbursements of the bankruptcy in the event asset realizations are insufficient.

Dated at London, Ontario this 18th day of January 2024.

MNP Ltd.

Licensed Insolvency Trustee of
Metroline Research Group Inc.



Per: Rob Smith CPA, CA, CIRP, LIT
Senior Vice-President



Division No. 08-Waterloo
Court No. 35-3026367
Estate No. 35-3026367

IN THE MATTER OF THE BANKRUPTCY OF
METROLINE RESEARCH GROUP INC.

Carrying on business in the City of Kitchener
in the Province of Ontario

TRUSTEE'S PRELIMINARY REPORT

MNP Ltd.
557 Southdale Road East, Suite 201
London, ON N6E 1A2



**Best
Employers**
in Canada
By Aon Hewitt

LICENSED INSOLVENCY TRUSTEES
201 – 557 SOUTHDAL ROAD EAST, LONDON ON N6E 1A2
P: 519-964-2200 F: 519-964-2210 **MNPdebt.ca**