# IN THE SUPREME COURT OF BRITISH COLUMBIA IN BANKRUPTCY AND INSOLVENCY

# IN THE MATTER OF THE BANKRUPTCY OF WEATHERGUARD EXTERIORS INC. (the "Company")

### **ORDINARY ADMINISTRATION**

#### MINUTES OF THE FIRST MEETING OF CREDITORS

MINUTES OF THE FIRST MEETING OF CREDITORS HELD VIA TELECONFERENCE ON TUESDAY, THE 15th DAY OF MARCH, 2022 AT 2:00 PM AT THE OFFICE OF THE TRUSTEE LOCATED AT 1021 WEST HASTINGS STREET, SUITE 1600, VANCOUVER, BRITISH COLUMBIA.

Present: As per attendance list; which is attached hereto, and forms part of these minutes.

#### CALL TO ORDER

At 2:00 PM, Greg Ibbott declared the meeting properly called and a quorum being present, duly constituted. Mr. Ibbott proceeded to introductions of those present and thanked the creditors for attending by way of teleconference given the restrictions imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Mr. Ibbott then advised that he was acting as Chairperson (the "Chairperson") of the meeting under authority of Section 105(1) of the *Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act* and that the following documents were maintained by the Trustee at its office and/or on the Trustee's website:

- Bankruptcy Assignment;
- Certificate of Appointment of Trustee;
- Statement of Affairs;
- Trustee's Preliminary Report;
- Proof of Publication;
- Notice to Creditors of Bankruptcy and First Meeting of Creditors; and
- Affidavit of Mailing of Notice of First Meeting of Creditors.

The Chairperson explained that the purpose of the meeting was to consider the affairs of the bankrupt, to affirm the appointment of the Licensed Insolvency Trustee (the "**Trustee**") or appoint another Trustee, to appoint Inspectors, and to provide direction to the Trustee in respect of the administration of the Estate.

## TRUSTEE'S PRELIMINARY REPORT TO CREDITORS

The Chairperson reviewed the Trustee's Preliminary Report at the meeting (which is attached and forms part of these minutes) and advised the creditors that the Trustee's Preliminary Report and other documents were available for review on a website maintained by the Trustee for the bankruptcy proceedings.

## **OUESTION PERIOD**

The Chairperson requested that the Director provide further detail with regards to the issues faced by the Company leading to the insolvency and bankruptcy of Weatherguard Exteriors Inc. Stephen Wall ("Mr. Wall") explained that the as a result of price increases for materials, poor onsite management, lack of quality information being provided from employees and cost overruns the Company experienced financial difficulty. In late 2021, additional funds were injected into the Company, but the Company's results did not improve. The Company's management determined that the Company was no longer viable, that they would not inject any further funding and that bankruptcy was its only option.

Mr. Wall advised that the additional funds injected into the Company in 2021 were from Silver Sky Investments (a company with related ownership to the Company), in addition to increased funding from the Bank of Montreal. The Chairman noted that the Trustee would perform a detailed review of the claim of Silver Sky Investments in the event that the prior ranking claims were paid in full.

A discussion was held on the steps taken to date by the Trustee with regards to the assessment and collectability of the accounts receivable and holdbacks, and notification of each customer with an outstanding account of the bankruptcy directions to forward payment to MNP. The Chairperson stated that the actual collectability is unknown at this time.

Creditors inquired with regards to any recent transfers of assets or employees from the Company to Weather Guard Gutters Inc. ("Gutters"), and if any of the Company's suppliers were deemed critical and paid prior to the bankruptcy. Mr. Wall advised that none of the Company's assets or employees were transferred to Gutters and none of the Company's suppliers were deemed critical or given preferential treatment. Further, he confirmed that the inventory of the two companies are primarily different products. The Chairperson confirmed that it is the duty of the Trustee to perform a transaction review with regards to such transfers between companies and will be doing so in due course.

Mr. Wall was asked if he had information on missing Company or leased assets, to which he responded that he did not know where the missing assets were located as he was not the person who managed those assets on a day-to-day basis.

There were no further questions.

## AFFIRMATION OF APPOINTMENT OR SUBSTITUTION

A motion was made by Dan Yamasaki and was seconded by Scott Silver that MNP Ltd. be affirmed in its appointment as Licensed Insolvency Trustee of the bankrupt estate.

IT WAS UNANEMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT MNP Ltd. be affirmed in its appointment as Trustee of the Estate.

# APPOINTMENT OF INSPECTORS

The Chairperson informed the meeting of the duties of an Inspector and the eligibility requirements provided by the Act. The Chairperson advised those present that an Inspector acts in a fiduciary capacity for the general body of creditors and must not be in a position of conflict at the time of their appointment or allow themselves to become in a position of conflict while continuing to act as Inspector.

The Chairperson called for the nomination of candidates. Daniel Yamasaki and Mitchell Laxer names were put forward to act as inspectors for the estate.

A motion was made by Scott Silver and seconded by MNP as proxy for Sunbelt Rentals Inc. that Daniel Yamasaki and Mitchell Laxer be affirmed as the Inspectors for the Estate of Weatherguard Exteriors Inc.

IT WAS UNANEMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT the following individuals be appointed as Inspector of the Estate.

- Daniel Yamasaki
- Mitchell Laxer

## INSTRUCTIONS TO TRUSTEE

There were no additional instructions given to the Trustee.

# **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business on the agenda, the meeting was adjourned at 2:50 PM.

Greg Ibbott, Chairperson

**Attachments:** 

Attendance List Trustee's Preliminary Report to Creditors



Industry Canada

Office of the Superintendent of Bankruptcy

Industrie Canada Bureau du Surintendant ATTENDANCE LIST LISTE DES PRESENCES Estate Number - N° de Pactif 11-2806711

Debtor and Representatives - Debiteur et Representants

Weatherguard Exteriors Inc.

Per: Stephen Wall

Trustee and Representatives – Syndic et Representants

MNP Ltd.

Per: Greg Ibbott & Seamus Boyle

Creditors present or represented - Creanciers presents ou representes

NAME - NOM

REPRESENTING - REPRESENTE

AMOUNT Proven Claim MONTANT Reclamation prouvee

Mitchell Laxer	Kaycan	\$62,259.42		
Scott Silver	Kaycan	\$62,259.42		
Dave Heer	Bc Building Products	\$139,779.11		
Christopher Jones	Canada Scaffold	\$25,099.58		
Sunil Amin	Yellowridge Construction	N/A		
Dennis Fitzpatrick	Fraser Valley Building Supplies	\$494,916.78		
Les Armitstead	Fraser Valley Building Supplies	\$494,916.78		
Alanna Martin	Fraser Valley Building Supplies	\$494,916.78		
Lisa Rawson	Fraser Valley Building Supplies	\$494,916.78		
Ray Cyr	Fraser Valley Building Supplies	\$494,916.78		
Daniel Yamaski	BMO	\$1,032,503.16		
Dan Mosely (Legal Counsel)	Vesta Properties	N/A		
	7			



Estate No. 11-2806711 Vancouver Registry

## IN THE SUPREME COURT OF BRITISH COLUMBIA IN BANKRUPTCY AND INSOLVENCY

# IN THE MATTER OF THE BANKRUPTCY OF WEATHERGUARD EXTERIORS INC.

#### ORDINARY ADMINISTRATION

#### TRUSTEE'S PRELIMINARY REPORT TO CREDITORS

#### **BACKGROUND**

Weatherguard Exteriors Inc. (the "Company" or "Exteriors") operated from Langley, British Columbia and provided exterior renovation services for residential and commercial properties in the Lower Mainland of British Columbia. The Company's services included siding installation, house and building wrapping, and trim design and detailing.

A search of the British Columbia Corporate Registry dated February 10, 2022, indicated that Exteriors was incorporated on May 17, 2004 and that Bradley McDonald and Stephen Wall are the Company's directors. We understand that the Company's operations were primarily managed by Stephen Wall.

Prior to the bankruptcy, the directors performed a detailed review of the Company's expected cashflows in medium term, reviewed the Company's growing amount of unpaid suppliers and unpaid subcontractors and ultimately determined that the Company was no longer viable. On February 18, 2022 the Company ceased operations and terminated all of its employees.

#### **BANKRUPTCY ASSIGNMENT**

On February 18, 2022, it was resolved at a meeting of the Company's directors that the Company was in financial distress, could no longer meet its obligations as they generally became due, that the Company would make an assignment in bankruptcy pursuant to the provisions of the *Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act* and that Stephen Wall be authorized to execute the documents associated with the bankruptcy proceedings. The bankruptcy documents were filed with the Office of the Superintendent of Bankruptcy and MNP Ltd. was appointed as the Licensed Insolvency Trustee of the Bankrupt Estate ("MNP" or the "Trustee") on February 22, 2022.



Notice of the Assignment in Bankruptcy and First Meeting of Creditors was sent to all known creditors on February 24, 2022.

#### **ASSETS**

According to the Statement of Affairs filed in the bankruptcy, the assets of Exteriors include:

#### **Statement of Affairs**

0,000
3,000
2,000
\$500
1,500
7,000
)

#### **Accounts Receivable**

The Company's Statement of Affairs reported total accounts receivable of \$1,400,000, of which \$350,000 was considered by management to be collectable.

Subsequent to the bankruptcy, the Trustee wrote to the various outstanding trade accounts advising of the bankruptcy and directing payment to the Trustee's office. As of the date of this report the trustee has not received any payments in relation to the outstanding accounts receivable and holdbacks.

Until such time as the Trustee completes its review and corresponds with customers and subcontractors, it is difficult to provide a reasonable estimate of funds which may be collectable, and not subject to liens and/or trust claims.

## **Inventory**

The Company did not maintain a perpetual inventory tracking system. The inventory was counted once each year with the most recent inventory count being performed for the Company's year-end in November 2021. The Trustee attended the Company's premises on February 22, 2022 and inspected the inventory on site. The Company shared warehouse space with a related company, Weatherguard Gutters Inc.("Gutters"). The inventory stored at the Company's warehouse was separated into sections dedicated to Exteriors and sections dedicated Gutters. The Trustee performed testing over the Gutters inventory and determined that the inventory was properly segregated.

The level of inventory maintained at the Company's premises was minimal compared to the figure reported on the statement of affairs. The Trustee reviewed the Company's monthly purchases from June 2021 until the date of bankruptcy and noted that the Company's purchases had been steadily



declining. Per discussion with Stephen Wall and several of the Company's former employees it was determined that much of the inventory that was previously delivered to jobsites had been installed and that inventory levels had not been replenished due to the Company's cash flow constraints.

The Trustee has not identified material amounts of inventory on any jobsites and does not expect a material realization from the inventory stored in the Company's warehouse.

## **Machinery and Equipment**

The value for machinery and equipment reported on the Statement of Affairs included various tools, scaffolding, and equipment. The trustee has identified limited small tools and equipment stored in the warehouse, along with scaffolding located at a former worksite. The Trustee will take steps to realize on those assets. The Trustee is still working with management to determine the location of one piece of equipment.

## **Furniture and Computer Equipment**

Exteriors owns several pieces of office furniture and computer equipment. The value reported on the Statement of Affairs for these assets was \$5,500. The Trustee does not expect a material realization from the Company's furniture or computer equipment.

#### **Vehicles**

The Trustee has secured all of the Company's vehicles. The Statement of Affairs reports vehicles with a value totaling \$52,000. Specifically, the Statement of Affairs reports a 2018 Dodge Ram Promaster cargo van, two 2016 Dodge Ram trucks, and a 2002 Kenworth flat deck truck. With the approval of any inspectors appointed, the Trustee will take steps to realize on the vehicles and pay the outstanding leases. The balance of funds will be for the benefit of the estate.

The Trustee prepared an inventory of the personal property at the premises to which the Director attested to be a complete and accurate representation of the Company's assets as at the Date of Bankruptcy.

#### PROVABLE CLAIMS

It is the duty of the Trustee to examine and satisfy itself as to the validity and priority of all claims filed in the Estate. Claims filed with the Trustee as of 3 pm on March 14, 2022 are as follows:

	Statement of Affairs		Filed	
Secured Creditors	\$	2,951,800	\$ 98,982.96	
Preferred Creditors	\$	-	\$ -	
Unsecured Creditors	\$	1,409,282	\$ 348,268.52	
Total	\$	4,361,082	\$ 447,251.48	



As at the date of this report, there have been no significant differences between the claims listed on the Statement of Affairs and the claims filed to date with the Trustee.

#### SECURED CREDITORS

## Canada Revenue Agency ("CRA")

CRA has a "deemed trust" claim or property claim equal to the amount of payroll deductions withheld from employees' compensation and not remitted to CRA. This claim comes in priority to the claims of all other creditors with the exception of a previously registered mortgage.

From a review of the Company's records, the Trustee determined that Exteriors had failed to remit payroll deductions withheld from employees' wages to CRA for the three pay periods immediately prior to the Date of Bankruptcy. The Trustee estimates that CRA's deemed trust claim for unremitted source deductions totals approximately \$27,000. At the date of this report, CRA has not filed a claim with the Trustee.

Any debt owing to CRA for unremitted Goods and Service Tax and Corporate Income Tax at the date of bankruptcy will rank as a general, unsecured claim.

# Claims of Wage Earners

Pursuant to Section 81.3(1) of the BIA, claims of employees who are owed wages, vacation pay, and other compensation for services rendered in the six-month period preceding the Date of Bankruptcy are secured, to the extent of \$2,000, by security over the Company's current assets (cash, inventory, and accounts receivable).

The Director has advised that all employee wages, vacation pay, and other compensation has been paid in full, and as such, the Trustee does not anticipate receiving claims under Section 81.3(1). Amounts owing to employees for termination pay will be handled through Wage Earners Protection Program Act. The subrogated claim in relation to the employee's termination pay will rank as a general, unsecured claim.

# Bank of Montreal ("BMO")

BMO advanced certain loans to Exteriors under an overdraft facility. As at February 22, 2022, Exteriors was indebted to BMO in the approximate amount of \$997,000 and interest and costs continue to accrue. BMO was granted a general security agreement which was registered in the Personal Property Registry on April 9, 2020.



# Silver Sky Investments Ltd. ("Silver Sky")

Silver Sky is a company controlled by Bradley McDonald which advanced funds to Exteriors and was granted a general security agreement. The general security agreement was registered in the Personal Property Registry on October 27, 2021 and is subordinate to BMO's security. The statement of affairs reports that Exteriors is indebted to Silver Sky in the amount of \$1,874,500.

## Fraser City Motors Ltd.

Fraser City Motors Ltd. registered a lease agreement in the Personal Property Registry on July 20, 2018 indicating specific security over the 2018 Dodge Ram Promaster cargo van.

### WS Leasing

WS Leasing registered a lease agreement in the Personal Property Registry on October 4, 2016 indicating specific security over the 2016 Dodge Ram 1500 truck.

## Meridian Onecap Credit Corporation ("Meridian")

Meridian registered a lease agreement in the Personal Property Registry on January 8, 2021 indicating specific security over a 2014 Yale Forklift. Meridian also registered a lease agreement in the Personal Property Registry on December 22, 2020, with two Genie S-65 lifts as its security. The Trustee has reviewed the assets leased from Meridian, and determined that there is no net realizable value for the Estate after payment of the registered claims against the Forklift and S-65 lifts.

## PREFERRED CREDITORS

## **Employees**

Employees are afforded priority for wages and compensation that are not paid by virtue of Section 81 of the BIA. Claims of employees that relate to the period more than six months preceding the date of bankruptcy are general, unsecured claims and will share ratably with the claims of other creditors. As reported, we do not anticipate receiving claims from employees for unpaid compensation.

#### Landlord

As reported, the Company operated from premises shared with Gutters. Gutters has agreed to cover the rent and utility payments during the Trustee's administration of the estate. We do not expect to receive any claims from unpaid landlords.

## **UNSECURED CREDITORS**

The Statement of Affairs reports total unsecured creditors of approximately \$3.5 million, including the estimated deficiency claims of secured creditors.



Ultimately the amounts owing to unsecured creditors will be based on proofs of claim filed and admitted by the Trustee.

# SALE AND REALIZATION OF ASSETS

All of the Company's personal property appears to be encumbered by the registered secured claims of BMO, Silver Sky as well as the anticipated property claim of CRA. As such, it is likely that the general unsecured creditors have no financial interest in the assets.

#### **OTHER MATTERS**

#### **Books** and Records

The Trustee is in possession of certain books and records at the date of bankruptcy that were obtained from the Director, external bookkeeper, and external accountant.

#### Insurance

The Trustee has confirmed with the Company's insurance provider that the existing insurance policy covering the Company's assets and general commercial liability remains in effect.

## Legal Proceedings

The Trustee has not commenced any legal proceedings at the date of this report.

## Conservatory and Protective Measures

The Trustee did not change the locks to the Company's premises on the Date of Bankruptcy as Gutters was continuing to operate and provide storage for the Exteriors assets.

# Preferences, and Transactions at Under Value

The Trustee will review the Company's books and records preceding the date of bankruptcy in order to ascertain whether any preferential payments and/or reviewable transactions have occurred within the last three months or, where related parties are involved, within the last twelve months.

# Directive $5R - 3^{rd}$ Party Deposit

Pursuant to a written agreement between the Trustee and Gutters, Gutters has advanced a \$83,000 retainer to the Trustee to be used to cover Trustee's fees over and above the assets realized from the estate.



#### ESTIMATED REALIZATION

While the Trustee has not completed its review of the Company's accounts receivable, given the claims of CRA, and other secured creditors, it is not anticipated that there will be any funds available for the claims of unsecured creditors in the Bankrupt Estate.

All dividends payable by the Trustee to creditors are subject to a 5% levy payable to the Office of the Superintendent of Bankruptcy.

This concludes the Trustee's Preliminary Report to Creditors.

DATED at the City of Vancouver, in the Province of British Columbia, this 15th day of March, 2022.

#### MNP Ltd.

In its capacity as Licensed Insolvency Trustee of the Bankrupt Estate of Weatherguard Exteriors Inc. and not in its personal capacity

Greg Ibbott, CPA, CA, CIRP, LIT Senior Vice President

