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**Sandspring Resources Ltd.**  
(An exploration stage entity)

Consolidated Financial Statements  
Expressed in Canadian Dollars  
Years Ended December 31, 2012 and 2011

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## MANAGEMENT'S RESPONSIBILITY FOR FINANCIAL REPORTING

The accompanying consolidated financial statements of Sandspring Resources Ltd. were prepared by management in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards. Management acknowledges responsibility for the preparation of the consolidated financial statements, including responsibility for significant accounting judgments and estimates and the choice of accounting principles and methods that are appropriate to the Company's circumstances. The significant accounting policies of the Company are summarized in Note 3 to the consolidated financial statements.

The Board of Directors is responsible for reviewing and approving the consolidated financial statements together with other financial information of the Company and for ensuring that management fulfills its financial reporting responsibilities. An Audit Committee assists the Board of Directors in fulfilling this responsibility. The Audit Committee meets with management as well as with the independent auditors to review the consolidated financial statements together with other financial information of the Company. The Audit Committee reports its findings to the Board of Directors for its consideration in approving the consolidated financial statements together with other financial information of the Company for issuance to the shareholders.

Management recognizes its responsibility for conducting the Company's affairs in compliance with established financial standards, and applicable laws and regulations, and for maintaining proper standards of conduct for its activities.

/s/ Rich Munson  
Chief Executive Officer

/s/ Scott Issel  
Chief Financial Officer

Toronto, Canada  
April 29, 2013



**KPMG LLP**  
**Chartered Accountants**  
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## **INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT**

To the Shareholders of Sandspring Resources Ltd.

We have audited the accompanying consolidated financial statements of Sandspring Resources Ltd., which comprise the consolidated statements of financial position as at December 31, 2012 and December 31, 2011, the consolidated statements of loss and comprehensive loss, changes in equity and cash flows for the years then ended, and notes, comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

### *Management's Responsibility for the Consolidated Financial Statements*

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these consolidated financial statements in accordance with the International Financial Reporting Standards, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of consolidated financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

### *Auditors' Responsibility*

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these consolidated financial statements based on our audits. We conducted our audits in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the consolidated financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the consolidated statements. The procedures selected depend on our judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the consolidated financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, we consider internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the consolidated financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the consolidated financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained in our audits is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

### *Opinion*

In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the consolidated financial position of Sandspring Resources Ltd. as at December 31, 2012 and December 31, 2011, and its consolidated financial performance and its consolidated cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards.



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*Emphasis of Matter*

Without modifying our opinion, we draw attention to Note 1 in the consolidated financial statements which indicates that Sandspring Resources Ltd. had a deficit of \$90,068,605 as at December 31, 2012, experienced negative cash flows from operations of \$24,322,971 and its future viability is dependent on its ability to raise financing to fund operating and investing activities. These conditions, along with other matters as set forth in Note 1 in the consolidated financial statements, indicate the existence of a material uncertainty that may cast significant doubt about Sandspring Resources Ltd.'s ability to continue as a going concern.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'KPMG LLP' with a horizontal line underneath.

Chartered Accountants, Licensed Public Accountants

April 29, 2013  
Toronto, Canada

**SANDSPRING RESOURCES LTD.**  
**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION**

*(Expressed in Canadian Dollars)*

		12/31/2012	12/31/2011
<b>ASSETS</b>			
	<u>Notes</u>	\$	\$
<b>Current</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents		11,278,902	12,003,357
Prepaid expenses		279,510	207,615
		<b>11,558,412</b>	<b>12,210,972</b>
Equipment	6	2,594,095	3,562,570
Mineral properties under exploration	7	25,061,071	25,061,071
		<b>39,213,578</b>	<b>40,834,613</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
<b>Current liabilities</b>			
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities		3,057,042	4,712,358
		<b>3,057,042</b>	<b>4,712,358</b>
<b>SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY</b>			
Common Shares	8	117,099,645	93,031,310
Contributed Surplus		2,062,859	-
Warrant Reserve	9	-	1,591,101
Stock Option Reserve	10	7,062,637	5,520,810
Deficit		(90,068,605)	(64,020,966)
		<b>36,156,536</b>	<b>36,122,255</b>
		<b>39,213,578</b>	<b>40,834,613</b>

Going Concern - Note 1  
 Commitments - Note 15  
 Subsequent events - Note 16

*The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.*

On behalf of the Board of Directors:

"Signed"

Rich Munson, CEO/Director

"Signed"

P. Greg Barnes, Director

**SANDSPRING RESOURCES LTD.**  
**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS AND COMPREHENSIVE LOSS**

*(Expressed in Canadian Dollars)*

		For the year ended 12/31/2012	For the year ended 12/31/2011
	<u>Notes</u>	\$	\$
Expenditures			
Administrative		1,108,144	2,354,555
Consulting		1,988,067	1,949,150
Depreciation		1,040,105	195,700
Drilling		4,852,336	10,330,863
Foreign exchange loss		55,579	89,119
Operations		6,574,811	9,688,838
Other		68,413	121,123
Professional fees		489,520	809,691
Salaries and other employee benefits		5,872,482	5,773,853
Shareholder information		628,979	910,436
Stock based compensation		2,411,774	3,256,128
Transfer, listing and filing fees		71,518	104,977
Travel		1,026,548	1,599,988
		<b>26,188,276</b>	<b>37,184,421</b>
Other			
Interest income		140,637	331,009
		<b>140,637</b>	<b>331,009</b>
<b>Net loss and comprehensive loss for the year</b>		<b>(26,047,639)</b>	<b>(36,853,412)</b>
Loss per share	11		
Basic		(0.21)	(0.34)
Diluted		(0.21)	(0.34)
Weighted average number of shares outstanding			
Basic		126,337,061	108,186,371
Diluted		126,337,061	108,186,371

*The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.*

**SANDSPRING RESOURCES LTD.  
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY**

*(Expressed in Canadian Dollars)*

	Common Shares	Contributed Surplus	Reserves			Total
			Warrant Reserve	Stock Option Reserve	Deficit	
Balance, December 31, 2010	91,627,363	-	1,594,443	2,735,101	(27,167,554)	68,789,353
Shares issued on exercise of options	793,880	-	-	-	-	793,880
Value of options exercised	470,419	-	-	(470,419)	-	-
Shares issued on exercise of warrants	93,213	-	-	-	-	93,213
Value of warrants exercised	46,435	-	(46,435)	-	-	-
Stock based compensation	-	-	-	3,256,128	-	3,256,128
Shares issued on exercise of compensation options	43,093	-	-	-	-	43,093
Value of warrants issued on exercise of compensation options	(43,093)	-	43,093	-	-	-
Net loss for the year	-	-	-	-	(36,853,412)	(36,853,412)
<b>Balance, December 31, 2011</b>	<b>93,031,310</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,591,101</b>	<b>5,520,810</b>	<b>(64,020,966)</b>	<b>36,122,255</b>
Shares issued on exercise of options	13,333	-	-	-	-	13,333
Shares issued on exercise of warrants	162,751	-	-	-	-	162,751
Value of warrants exercised	215,986	-	(215,986)	-	-	-
Stock based compensation	-	-	-	2,411,774	-	2,411,774
Shares issued on bought deal	25,002,000	-	-	-	-	25,002,000
Share issue cost from bought deal	(1,507,938)	-	-	-	-	(1,507,938)
Stock options expired	-	869,947	-	(869,947)	-	-
Warrants expired	182,203	1,192,912	(1,375,115)	-	-	-
Net loss for the year	-	-	-	-	(26,047,639)	(26,047,639)
<b>Balance, December 31, 2012</b>	<b>117,099,645</b>	<b>2,062,859</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>7,062,637</b>	<b>(90,068,605)</b>	<b>36,156,536</b>

*The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.*

**SANDSPRING RESOURCES LTD.**  
**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOW**

*(Expressed in Canadian Dollars)*

		For the year ended 12/31/2012	For the year ended 12/31/2011
<b>Cash provided by:</b>			
	<b>Notes</b>	<b>₹</b>	<b>₹</b>
<b>Operating Activities</b>			
Net loss		(26,047,639)	(36,853,412)
Adjustments for:			
Depreciation		1,040,105	195,700
Stock-based compensation		2,411,774	3,256,128
Change in non-cash working capital			
Prepaid expenses		(71,895)	3,609
Accounts payable		(1,655,316)	1,528,781
		<b>(24,322,971)</b>	<b>(31,869,194)</b>
<b>Investing Activities</b>			
Purchase of equipment	6	(71,630)	(2,745,006)
		<b>(71,630)</b>	<b>(2,745,006)</b>
<b>Financing Activities</b>			
Shares issued on bought deal net of expenses		23,494,062	-
Proceeds from exercise of stock options		13,333	793,880
Proceeds from exercise of warrants		162,751	93,213
Proceeds from exercise of compensation options		-	43,093
		<b>23,670,146</b>	<b>930,186</b>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of period</b>		<b>12,003,357</b>	<b>45,687,371</b>
Net (decrease) increase in cash		<b>(724,455)</b>	<b>(33,684,014)</b>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents, end of period</b>		<b>11,278,902</b>	<b>12,003,357</b>

*The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.*

# Sandspring Resources Ltd.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

(Expressed in Canadian Dollars)

Years Ended December 31, 2012 and 2011

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## 1. Nature of Operations and Corporate Information

Sandspring Resources Ltd. (“Sandspring” or “the Company”) is a resource exploration company, incorporated in Canada on September 20, 2006 under the Business Corporations Act (Alberta). The Company continued out of Alberta and into Ontario effective March 31, 2010. Sandspring is focused on the exploration for, and resource expansion of, gold and related minerals in Guyana, South America. Sandspring’s principal place of business is located at 8000 South Chester Street, Suite 375, Centennial, Colorado in the United States of America.

These consolidated financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis, which contemplates that the Company will continue in operation for the foreseeable future and will be able to realize its assets and discharge its liabilities in the normal course of business. As at December 31, 2012, the Company had a deficit of \$90,068,605, incurred losses in 2012 amounting to \$26,047,639 (2011 - \$36,853,412), and had negative cash flows from operating activities of \$24,322,971 (2011 - \$31,869,194). The Company’s ability to continue as a going concern is dependent on the ability of the Company to raise equity financing to fund operating and investing activities. There are no assurances that the Company will be successful in achieving this goal. This condition indicates the existence of a material uncertainty that may cast significant doubt regarding the applicability of the going concern assumption. These consolidated financial statements do not give effect to adjustments that would be necessary to the carrying values and classification of assets and liabilities should the Company be unable to continue as a going concern. These adjustments could be material.

## 2. Basis of Presentation

The consolidated financial statements of the Company are prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS), as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB). The consolidated financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis, under the historical cost convention, except for certain financial instruments that have been measured at fair value. The consolidated financial statements are presented in Canadian dollars, except when otherwise indicated. The Board of Directors approved the consolidated financial statements on April 29<sup>th</sup> 2013.

## 3. Significant Accounting Policies

### Basis of Presentation

These consolidated financial statements have been prepared on a historical cost basis, with the exception of financial instruments classified as at fair value through profit or loss.

### Basis of Consolidation

These consolidated financial statements include the accounts of the Company and its wholly-owned subsidiaries; Sandspring Resources (USA) Ltd. (“Sandspring USA”), GoldHeart Investment Holdings Ltd. (“GoldHeart”) and ETK Inc. (“ETK”). Subsidiaries are fully consolidated from the date of acquisition,



## **Sandspring Resources Ltd.**

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

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being the date on which the Company obtains control, and continue to be consolidated until the date that such control ceases. All inter-Company transactions and balances are eliminated in full.

### Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash equivalents consist of highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and which are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value. Cash equivalents are held for the purpose of meeting short-term cash commitments rather than for investment or other purposes.

### Translation of Foreign Currency

The Company's functional and reporting currency is the Canadian dollar. Functional currency is also determined for each of the Company's subsidiaries, and items included in the financial statements of the subsidiary are measured using that functional currency. The Canadian dollar is the functional currency of all the Company's subsidiaries.

Transactions in currencies other than the functional currency are translated into the functional currency using the exchange rates prevailing at the dates of the transaction. Monetary assets and liabilities not denominated in the functional currency are translated at the period end rates of exchange. Foreign exchange gains and losses are recognized in the statement of operations. Non-monetary items that are measured in terms of historical cost in a foreign currency are not retranslated.

### Equipment

Equipment is measured at cost less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment. Depreciation is based on cost less residual value and provided on a straight-line basis over the following expected useful lives of the assets:

Heavy Equipment – 5 years

Office Furniture and Equipment – 3 years

Camp Equipment – 5 years

Motor Vehicles – 5 years

Other Equipment – 5 years

The depreciation method, residual values, and useful lives of property plant and equipment are reviewed annually and any change in estimate is applied prospectively. The company changed the depreciation estimate in the first quarter of 2012, increasing the rate at which certain assets are depreciated based on the useful lives observed for these assets. The effect of this change was an increase in depreciation for the year ended December 31, 2012 of \$779,328.



## **Sandspring Resources Ltd.**

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

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### Exploration Expenses and Mineral Properties Under Exploration

Exploration expenditures include the costs of acquiring licenses, and costs associated with exploration and evaluation activity. Exploration expenditures are expensed as incurred except for expenditures associated with the acquisition of exploration and evaluation assets, which are recognized at the fair value at the acquisition date.

Once a project has been established as commercially viable and technically feasible, and subject to an impairment analysis, related exploration and evaluation assets and development expenditures are capitalized. This includes costs incurred in preparing the site for mining operations. Capitalization ceases when the mine is capable of commercial production, with the exception of development costs which give rise to a future benefit.

The carrying value of the Company's mineral properties under exploration is assessed, based on guidance in IFRS 6 – Exploration for and evaluation of mineral resources, for impairment when indicators of such impairment exist. If such an indication of impairment exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment, if any.

The recoverable amount is the higher of fair value less costs to sell or value in use. Fair value is determined as the amount that would be obtained from the sale of the asset in an arm's length transaction between knowledgeable and willing parties. In assessing value in use, the estimated future cash flows are discounted at a pre-tax discount rate that reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and the risks specific to the asset. If the recoverable amount of an asset is estimated to be less than its carrying amount, the carrying amount of the asset is reduced to its recoverable amount and the impairment loss is recognized in the statement of operations.

### Stock-based Compensation

The Company offers a stock option plan for its directors, officers, employees and consultants. Stock options granted are settled with shares of the Company. An individual is classified as an employee when the individual is an employee for legal or tax purposes (direct employee) or provides services similar to those performed by a direct employee, including directors of the Company. The expense is determined based on the fair value of the award granted and recognized over the period in which services are received, which is usually the vesting period. Fair value of the awards is measured at the date of grant using the Black-Scholes option pricing model. For awards with graded vesting, the fair value of each tranche is recognized over its respective vesting period. At the end of each reporting period, the Company re-assesses its estimates of the number of awards that are expected to vest and recognizes the impact of the revisions in the statement of operations.



## Sandspring Resources Ltd.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

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### Financial Instruments

The Company recognizes financial assets and financial liabilities when the Company becomes a party to a contract. Financial assets and financial liabilities, with the exception of financial assets classified as at fair value through profit or loss, are measured at fair value plus transaction costs on initial recognition. Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss are measured at fair value on initial recognition and transaction costs are expensed when incurred.

The Company has classified its financial instruments as follows:

<u>Category</u>	<u>Financial Instrument</u>
Fair value through profit or loss	Cash and cash equivalents
Other financial liabilities	Accounts payable and accrued liabilities

Impairment of financial assets:

Financial assets are assessed for indicators of impairment at the end of each reporting period. Financial assets are impaired when there is objective evidence that, as a result of one or more events that occurred after the initial recognition of the financial assets, the estimated future cash flows of the investments have been negatively impacted. Evidence of impairment could include:

- i) significant financial difficulty of the issuer or counterparty; or
- ii) default or delinquency in interest or principal payments; or
- iii) it becoming probable that the borrower will enter bankruptcy or financial re-organization.

If, in a subsequent period, the amount of the impairment loss decreases and the decrease can be related objectively to an event occurring after the impairment was recognized, the previously recognized impairment loss is reversed through profit or loss to the extent that the carrying amount of the investment at the date the impairment is reversed does not exceed what the amortized cost would have been had the impairment not been recognized.

Financial instruments recorded at fair value:

Financial instruments recorded at fair value on the consolidated statement of financial position are classified using a fair value hierarchy that reflects the significance of the inputs used in making the measurements. The fair value hierarchy has the following levels:

- i) Level 1 – valuation based on quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities;
- ii) Level 2 – valuation techniques based on inputs other than quoted prices included in Level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly (i.e. as prices) or indirectly (i.e. derived from prices);



## Sandspring Resources Ltd.

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- iii) Level 3 – valuation techniques using inputs for the asset or liability that are not based on observable market data (unobservable inputs).

Measurement in subsequent periods depends on the classification of the financial instrument:

- i) Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss (FVTPL)

Financial assets are classified as FVTPL when acquired principally for the purpose of trading, if so designated by management (fair value option), or if they are derivative assets. Financial assets classified as FVTPL are measured at fair value, with changes recognized in the consolidated statements of operations.

The Company's financial assets classified as FVTPL include cash and cash equivalents. The Company does not currently hold any derivative instruments.

- ii) Other financial liabilities

Other financial liabilities are financial liabilities that are not classified as FVTPL. Other financial liabilities are initially measured at fair value, net of transaction costs. Subsequent to initial recognition, other financial liabilities are measured at amortized cost using the effective interest method.

Accounts payable and accrued liabilities are classified as other financial liabilities.

The effective interest method is a method of calculating the amortized cost of an instrument and of allocating interest costs over the relevant period. The effective interest rate is the rate that exactly discounts estimated future cash payments (including all fees on points paid or received that form an integral part of the effective interest rate, transaction costs and other premiums or discounts) through the expected life of the financial liability or to the net carrying amount on initial recognition.

### Decommissioning Liabilities

The Company is required to recognize a liability when the Company has a present legal or constructive obligation as a result of a past event, it is probable that an outflow of economic benefits will be required to settle the obligation, and the amount of the obligation can be reliably estimated. If the effect is material, provisions are determined by discounting the expected future cash flows at a pre-tax rate that reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and, where appropriate, the risks specific to the liability. As of December 31, 2012 and December 31, 2011, the Company has not incurred any such obligations.



## **Sandspring Resources Ltd.**

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

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### Impairment of Long-Lived Assets

At each financial position reporting date the carrying amounts of the Company's assets, are reviewed to determine whether there is an indication that those assets are impaired. If such an indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment, if any.

The recoverable amount is the higher of fair value less costs to sell or value in use. Fair value is determined as the amount that would be obtained from the sale of the asset in an arm's length transaction between knowledgeable and willing parties. In assessing value in use, the estimated future cash flows are discounted at a pre-tax discount rate that reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and the risks specific to the asset. If the recoverable amount of an asset is estimated to be less than its carrying amount, the carrying amount of the asset is reduced to its recoverable amount and the impairment loss is recognized in the statement of operations.

### Income Taxes

Income tax expense comprises current and deferred tax. Current tax and deferred tax are recognized in profit or loss except to the extent that it relates to a business combination, or items recognized directly in equity or in other comprehensive income.

Current tax is the expected tax payable or receivable on the taxable income or loss for the year, using tax rates enacted or substantively enacted at the reporting date, and any adjustment to tax payable in respect of previous years.

Deferred tax is recognized in respect of temporary differences between the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities for financial reporting purposes and the amounts used for taxation purposes. Deferred tax is not recognized for the following temporary differences: the initial recognition of assets or liabilities in a transaction that is not a business combination and that affects neither accounting nor taxable profit or loss, and differences relating to investments in subsidiaries and jointly controlled entities to the extent that it is probable that they will not reverse in the foreseeable future. In addition, deferred tax is not recognized for taxable temporary differences arising on the initial recognition of goodwill. Deferred tax is measured at the tax rates that are expected to be applied to temporary differences when they reverse, based on the laws that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the reporting date. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are offset if there is a legally enforceable right to offset current tax liabilities and assets, and they relate to income taxes levied by the same tax authority on the same taxable entity, or on different tax entities, but they intend to settle current tax liabilities and assets on a net basis or their tax assets and liabilities will be realized simultaneously.

A deferred tax asset is recognized for unused tax losses, tax credits and deductible temporary differences, to the extent that it is probable that future taxable profits will be available against which they can be utilized. Deferred tax assets are reviewed at each reporting date and are reduced to the extent that it is no longer probable that the related tax benefit will be realized.



## Sandspring Resources Ltd.

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(Expressed in Canadian Dollars)

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### Loss per Share

The Company presents basic and diluted loss per share data for its common shares, calculated by dividing the loss attributable to common shareholders of the Company by the weighted average number of common shares outstanding during the period. Diluted loss per share is determined by adjusting the loss attributable to common shareholders and the weighted average number of common shares outstanding for the effects of all dilutive potential common shares from the assumed exercised common share purchase warrants and options outstanding, if dilutive.

### Significant Accounting Estimates and Judgments

The preparation of these consolidated financial statements require management to make certain estimates, judgments and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and reported amounts of expenses during the reporting period. Actual outcomes could differ from these estimates. These consolidated financial statements include estimates which, by their nature, are uncertain. The impacts of such estimates are pervasive throughout the financial statements, and may require accounting adjustments based on future occurrences. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognized in the period in which the estimate is revised and future periods if the revision affects both current and future periods. These estimates are based on historical experience, current and future economic conditions, and other factors including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

#### Critical Accounting Estimates

Estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognized prospectively from the period in which the estimates are revised. The following are the key estimate and assumption uncertainties that have a significant risk of resulting in a material adjustment within the next financial year.

i) Impairment of assets

When there are indications that an asset may be impaired, the Company is required to estimate the asset's recoverable amount. Recoverable amount is the greater of value in use and fair value less costs to sell. Determining the value in use requires the Company to estimate expected future cash flows associated with the assets and a suitable discount rate in order to calculate present value. No impairments of non-financial assets have been recorded for the year ended December 31, 2012 (2011 – Nil).

ii) Useful life of equipment

Equipment is amortized over the estimated useful life of the assets. Changes in the estimated useful lives could significantly increase or decrease the amount of depreciation recorded during the year



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and the carrying value of equipment. Total carrying value of equipment at December 31, 2012 was approximately \$2.6 million (December 31, 2011 - \$3.6 million).

### iii) Stock based compensation

Management is required to make certain estimates when determining the fair value of stock option awards, and the number of awards that are expected to vest. These estimates affect the amount recognized as stock based compensation in the statement of operations. For the year ended December 31, 2012 the Company recognized approximately \$2.4 million of stock based compensation expense (2011 – \$3.3 million).

### Critical Accounting Judgments

In the preparation of these consolidated financial statements management has made judgments, aside from those that involve estimates, in the process of applying the accounting policies. These judgments can have an effect on the amounts recognized in the financial statements.

### i) Mineral properties under exploration

Management is required to apply judgment in determining whether technical feasibility and commercial viability can be demonstrated for the mineral properties. Once technical feasibility and commercial viability of a property can be demonstrated, exploration costs will be reclassified to mineral properties under exploration and subject to different accounting treatment. As at December 31, 2012 and 2011 management had determined that no reclassification of exploration expenditures was required.

### ii) Income Taxes

The measurement of income taxes payable and deferred income tax assets and liabilities requires management to make judgments in the interpretation and application of the relevant tax laws. The actual amount of income taxes only becomes final upon filing and acceptance of the tax return by the relevant authorities, which occurs subsequent to the issuance of the financial statements.

### Future Accounting Changes

#### *IFRS 7 Financial Instruments: Disclosures*

In October 2010, the IASB issued amendments to IFRS 7 regarding *Disclosures – Transfer of Financial Assets*, which are effective for annual periods beginning on or after July 1, 2011 with earlier application permitted. These amendments comprise additional disclosures on transfer transactions of financial assets and will not have an impact on the statement of operations or balance sheet of the Company as they are only disclosure requirements. In 2011, the IASB issued amendments to IFRS 7 when offsetting is permitted under IFRS. The disclosure amendments are required to be adopted retrospectively for



## **Sandspring Resources Ltd.**

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periods beginning January 1, 2013. Management is evaluating the impact, if any, the adoption of the amendment of this standard will have on the disclosure in its financial statements.

### *IFRS 9 Financial Instruments*

In November 2009, the IASB issued, and subsequently revised in October 2010, IFRS 9 *Financial Instruments* ("IFRS 9") as part of its ongoing project to replace IAS 39. IFRS 9 will be effective for annual periods beginning on or after January 1, 2015, with earlier application permitted. IFRS 9 uses a single approach to determine whether a financial asset is measured at amortized cost or fair value, based on how an entity manages its financial instruments in the context of its business model and the contractual cash flow characteristics of the financial assets. The new standard also requires a single impairment method to be used, replacing the multiple impairment methods in IAS 39. Management is evaluating the impact, if any, the adoption of this standard will have on the disclosures in its financial statements.

### *IFRS 10 Consolidated Financial Statements*

IFRS 10 replaces parts of IAS 27, *Consolidated and Separate Financial Statements* and all of SIC-12, *Consolidation –Special Purpose Entities*. IFRS 10 builds on existing principles by identifying the concept of control as the determining factor in whether an entity should be included within the consolidated financial statements of the parent company. The remainder of IAS 27, *Separate Financial Statements*, now contains accounting and disclosure requirements for investments in subsidiaries, joint ventures and associates only when an entity prepares separate financial statements and is therefore not currently applicable in the Company's consolidated financial statements. The effective date is for annual periods beginning on January 1, 2013. Management is evaluating the impact, if any, the adoption of this standard will have on the disclosures in its financial statements.

### *IFRS 11 Joint Arrangements*

In May 2011, the IASB issued IFRS 11 Joint Arrangements, which is effective for annual periods beginning on or after January 1, 2013, with early adoption permitted. Under IFRS 11, joint arrangements are classified as either joint operations or joint ventures. IFRS 11 essentially carves out of previous jointly controlled entities, those arrangements which although structured through a separate vehicle, such separation is ineffective and the parties to the arrangement have rights to the assets and obligations for the liabilities and are accounted for as joint operations in a fashion consistent with jointly controlled assets/operations under IAS 31. In addition, under IFRS 11 joint ventures are stripped of the free choice of equity accounting or proportionate consolidation; these entities must now use the equity method. Management is evaluating the impact, if any, the adoption of this standard will have on the disclosures in its financial statements.

### *IFRS 12 Disclosure of Interest in Other Entities*

IFRS 12 establishes disclosure requirements for interests in other entities, such as subsidiaries, joint arrangements, associates, and unconsolidated structured entities. The standard carries forward existing



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disclosures and also introduces significant additional disclosure that address the nature of, and risks associated with, an entity's interests in other entities. The standard includes disclosure requirements for entities covered under IFRS 10 and IFRS 11. The effective date is for annual periods beginning on January 1, 2013. Management is evaluating the impact, if any, the adoption of this standard will have on the disclosures in its financial statements.

### IFRS 13 *Fair Value Measurement*

IFRS 13 provides guidance on how fair value should be applied where its use is already required or permitted by other standards within IFRS, including a precise definition of fair value and a single source of fair value measurement and disclosure requirements for use across IFRS. The effective date is for annual periods beginning on January 1, 2013. Management is evaluating the impact, if any, the adoption of this standard will have on the disclosures in its financial statements.

### IFRIC 20 *Stripping Costs in the Production Phase of a Surface Mine*

In October 2011, the IASB issued IFRIC 20 Stripping Costs in the Production Phase of a Surface Mine. The interpretation, which has an effective date for annual periods beginning on or after January 1, 2013, sets out the accounting for overburden waste removal (stripping) costs in the production phase of a surface mine. The main requirements of the interpretation are as follows:

- Waste removal costs (stripping costs) incurred in the production phase of surface mining are accounted for in accordance with IAS 2 *Inventories* to the extent they relate to current period production.
- Production stripping costs are recognized as a non-current asset ("stripping activity asset") if all the following criteria are met; (i) it is probable that future economic benefits will flow to the entity, (ii) the entity can identify the component of the ore body to which access has been improved, (iii) the costs incurred can be measured reliably. The stripping activity asset is amortized over the useful life of the component of the ore body to which access has been improved.
- When the costs of a stripping activity asset versus current period inventory are not separately identifiable, costs are allocated based on a production method.
- Application of the interpretation is on a prospective basis, with transitional adjustments being recognized in opening retained earnings.

The Company is currently reviewing how this interpretation may impact its record keeping and accounting policies in future periods and has not yet determined the impact.

### IAS 1 *Presentation of Financial Statements*

In June 2011, the IAS issued amendments to IAS 1 that requires an entity to group items presented in the statement of comprehensive income on the basis of whether they may be reclassified to earnings subsequent to initial recognition. For those items presented before taxes, the amendments to IAS 1 also



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require that the taxes related to the two separate groups be presented separately. The amendments are effective for annual periods beginning on or after July 1, 2012, with earlier adoption permitted. The Company does not anticipate the application of the amendments to IAS 1 to have a material impact on its consolidated financial statements.

### *IAS 28 Investments in Associates and Joint Ventures (Amended in 2011)*

IAS 28 (2011), "Investments in Associates and Joint Ventures", supersedes IAS 28 "Investments in Associates" and prescribes the accounting for investments in associates and sets out the requirements for the application of the equity method when accounting for investments in associates and joint ventures. The Standard defines 'significant influence' and provides guidance on how the equity method of accounting is to be applied (including exemptions from applying the equity method in some cases). It also prescribes how investments in associates and joint ventures should be tested for impairment. The amended standard is effective for annual periods beginning on or after January 1, 2013. Entities early adopting this standard must also adopt the other standards included in the 'suite of five' standards on consolidation, joint arrangements and disclosures: IFRS 10, "Consolidated Financial Statements", IFRS 11, "Joint Arrangements", IFRS 12, "Disclosure of Interests in Other Entities" and IAS 27 (2011), "Separate Financial Statements".

### *IAS 32 Offsetting Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities (Amendments to IAS 32)*

On December 16, 2011 the IASB published amendments to IAS 32 Financial Instruments: Presentation to clarify the application of the offsetting requirements. The amendments are effective for annual periods beginning on or after January 1, 2014, with earlier application permitted.

## **4. Capital Management**

The Company manages its capital to ensure that funds are available or are scheduled to be raised to provide adequate funds to carry out the Company's defined exploration programs and to meet its ongoing administrative costs. The Company considers its capital to be total shareholders' equity (managed capital) which at December 31, 2012, totaled \$36,156,536 (December 31, 2011 - \$36,122,255).

This capital management is achieved by the Board of Directors' review and acceptance of exploration budgets that are achievable within existing resources and the timely matching and release of the next stage of expenditures with the resources made available from private placements or other fundraising.

Management reviews its capital management approach on an ongoing basis and believes that this approach, given the relative size of the Company, is appropriate. There were no changes in the Company's approach to capital management during the years ended December 31, 2012 and 2011.

The Company is not subject to any capital requirements imposed by a lending institution.



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### 5. Financial Instruments

The Company's activities potentially expose it to a variety of financial risks including credit risk, liquidity risk, currency risk, and interest rate risk.

#### *Credit Risk*

Credit risk is the risk of financial loss to the Company if the counterparty to a financial instrument fails to meet its contractual obligation. Financial instruments that potentially subject the Company to credit risk consist of cash and cash equivalents. The maximum credit risk represented by the Company's financial assets is represented by their carrying amounts. The Company holds its cash and guaranteed investment certificates with reputable financial institutions, from which management believes the risk of loss to be minimal.

#### *Liquidity Risk and Fair Value Hierarchy*

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Company will not have sufficient cash resources to meet its financial obligations as they come due. The Company's liquidity and operating results may be adversely affected if its access to the capital market is hindered whether as a result of a downturn in stock market conditions generally or as a result of conditions specific to the Company. The Company generates cash primarily through its financing activities. The Company has cash and cash equivalents of \$11,278,902 (December 31, 2011 – \$12,003,357) to settle current liabilities of \$3,057,042 (December 31, 2011 – \$4,712,358). The Company regularly evaluates its cash position to ensure preservation and security of capital as well as maintenance of liquidity (Note 1).

The following table illustrates the classification of the Company's financial instruments within the fair value hierarchy as at December 31, 2012:

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Cash and cash equivalents				
Cash	\$ 1,555,040	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,555,040
Cash equivalents	-	9,723,862	-	9,723,862
	\$ 1,555,040	\$ 9,723,862	\$ -	\$ 11,278,902

- i. Cash equivalents are Canadian guaranteed investment certificates held with a major Canadian financial institution.



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### Currency Risk

The Company's functional and reporting currency is the Canadian dollar and major purchases are transacted in Canadian dollars. The Company funds certain operations, exploration and administrative expenses in Guyana on a cash call basis using US dollar currency converted from its Canadian dollar bank accounts held in Canada. The Company maintains US dollar bank accounts in the United States and Guyana, and Guyanese dollar bank accounts in Guyana. The Company is subject to gains and losses from fluctuations in the US dollar and Guyanese dollar against the Canadian dollar.

The following table summarizes, in Canadian dollar equivalents, the Company's major foreign currency exposures as of December 31, 2012 to the US dollar. The Company's exposure to the currency risk of Guyanese dollars is not material.

Cash	\$	1,382,693
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities		1,233,415
Net exposure to US dollar	\$	149,278

The table below summarizes a sensitivity analysis for significant unsettled currency risk exposure with respect to the Company's financial instruments as at December 31, 2012 with all other variables held constant. It shows how comprehensive loss would have been affected by changes in the relevant risk variable that were reasonably possible at that date.

	Sensitivity Analysis, Change in USD	Increase (decrease) in net income
Decrease in Net Income	-1%	\$ (1,493)
Increase in Net Income	1%	\$ 1,493

### Interest Rate Risk

Interest rate risk is the impact that changes in interest rates could have on the Company's earnings and assets. In the normal course of business, the Company is exposed to interest rate fluctuations as a result of cash equivalents being invested in interest-bearing instruments. Interest rate risk is minimal as the Company's interest-bearing instruments have fixed interest rates.

### Fair Value

As at December 31, 2012, the carrying and fair value amounts of the Company's financial instruments were approximately equivalent due to their short term maturities



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### 6. Equipment

	Camp Equipment	Heavy Equipment	Other Equipment	Vehicles	Furniture and Office Equipment	Total
<b>Cost</b>						
As at December 31, 2010	\$ 63,839	\$ 635,965	\$ 124,062	\$ 80,328	\$ 179,303	\$1,083,497
Additions	9,774	2,236,378	167,876	69,277	261,701	2,745,006
As at December 31, 2011	\$ 73,613	\$2,872,343	\$ 291,938	\$ 149,605	\$ 441,004	\$3,828,503
Additions	-	19,795	8,035	-	34,233	62,063
As at December 31, 2012	\$ 73,613	\$2,892,138	\$ 299,973	\$ 149,605	\$ 475,237	\$3,890,566
<b>Accumulated Depreciation</b>						
As at December 31, 2010	\$ 6,568	\$ 44,682	\$ 3,637	\$ 4,160	\$ 11,186	\$ 70,233
Charge for the year	6,041	129,338	17,052	7,048	36,221	195,700
As at December 31, 2011	\$ 12,609	\$ 174,020	\$ 20,689	\$ 11,208	\$ 47,407	\$ 265,933
Charge for the year	19,307	686,291	68,656	37,999	218,285	1,030,538
As at December 31, 2012	\$ 31,916	\$ 860,311	\$ 89,345	\$ 49,207	\$ 265,692	\$1,296,471
<b>Net Book Value</b>						
As at December 31, 2011	\$ 61,004	\$2,698,323	\$ 271,249	\$ 138,397	\$ 393,597	\$3,562,570
As at December 31, 2012	\$ 41,697	\$2,031,827	\$ 210,628	\$ 100,398	\$ 209,545	\$2,594,095



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### **7. Mineral Properties Under Exploration**

The Company holds a 242,690.8 acre (98,214 hectare) mineral exploration concession area in the Upper Puruni River Area, Region 7 of northwestern Guyana, South America referred to as the “Upper Puruni Property”. The Upper Puruni Property consists of seven small scale claims, 167 contiguous medium scale prospecting permits (“PPMSs”) and 13 medium scale mining permits (“MPs”) that together cover an area of 184,693 acres (74,742 hectares) and five contiguous prospecting licenses (“PLs”) that cover an area of 57,997 acres (23,471 hectares). The Upper Puruni Property is currently the Company’s sole resource property, which is held and operated through ETK, the Company’s wholly-owned subsidiary.

ETK has rights to 148 PPMSs, ten MPs and seven small scale claims pursuant to a joint venture agreement between ETK and Mr. Alfro Alphonso (the “Upper Puruni Joint Venture Agreement”). The Toroparu Project is subject to the terms of the Upper Puruni Joint Venture Agreement. In 2004, in anticipation of the test mining to be conducted by ETK, ETK requested that Mr. Alphonso seek the permission of GGMC to convert certain PPMSs into the ten MPs.

The Upper Puruni Joint Venture Agreement stipulates that ETK is the sole operator and has the sole decision-making discretion in all matters related to the conduct of prospecting, exploration, development activities, and mining activities for the recovery of gold or other metals, minerals or gemstones from the joint venture lands. An in-kind royalty of 6% is payable to Mr. Alphonso on all gold production from the claims subject to the Upper Puruni Joint Venture Agreement and ETK paid Mr. Alphonso during its test and alluvial mining operations. As production was not achieved by January 1, 2013, the Upper Puruni Joint Venture Agreement requires that ETK pay a penalty of US\$250,000 per year until commercial production is achieved. The Company has paid this penalty for 2013.

The Upper Puruni Joint Venture Agreement also gives ETK the option of purchasing 100% of Mr. Alphonso’s interest in the Upper Puruni Property for the sum of US\$20 million. This buy-out option does not have an expiry date. The right of the Company to continue development of the PPMSs and MPs could be impacted if the buy-out option is exercised prior to the conversion of the PPMSs and MPs to large scale licenses. There are no credits against the US\$20 million option price for royalty or other payments made by ETK to Mr. Alphonso.



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As at December 31, 2012, the carrying amount of the Company's interest in mineral properties is as follows:

	December 31, 2012	December 31, 2011
Toroparu	\$ 25,061,071	\$ 25,061,071

The carrying value of mineral properties under exploration represents the cost of acquired properties. All costs related to exploration activities are expensed as incurred. Mineral properties under exploration are not depreciated, and will be reclassified once technical feasibility and commercial viability can be demonstrated. The following table sets forth a breakdown of material components of the Company's exploration expenditures for the years ended December 31, 2012 and 2011.

	Year ended	
	12/31/2012	12/31/2011
Upper Puruni Exploration Costs		
Camp Expenses	\$ 3,742,322	\$ 5,223,301
Consulting	666,787	841,329
Depreciation	730,977	166,235
Drilling Costs	4,852,336	10,330,863
Engineering Studies	1,856,219	1,952,887
Lab Fees	1,469,647	2,529,329
Office and Administrative Costs	739,297	1,893,204
Salaries and Benefits	4,564,999	3,757,156
Travel and Accommodation	758,301	1,236,163
Prospecting Licenses	702,136	738,813
Total Exploration Costs	\$ 20,083,021	\$ 28,669,280



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### 8. Share Capital

The Company is authorized to issue an unlimited amount of common shares. The issued and outstanding common shares consist of the following:

	Number of Common Shares	Amount
Balance December 31, 2010	107,748,227	\$ 91,627,363
Issued on exercise of options	692,000	793,880
Value of options exercised	-	470,419
Issued on exercise of warrants	186,425	93,213
Value of warrants exercised	-	46,435
Issued per compensation options	123,120	43,092
Value allocated to warrants	-	(43,092)
Balance, December 31, 2011	108,749,772	\$ 93,031,310
Issued on exercise of options	133,334	13,333
Value of options exercised	-	-
Issued on exercise of warrants	325,500	162,751
Value of warrants exercised	-	215,986
Issued on bought deal private placement <sup>(i)</sup>	23,150,000	25,002,000
Share issue expense	-	(1,507,938)
Tax component of warrant expiry	-	182,203
Balance, December 31, 2012	132,358,606	\$ 117,099,645

- i. On March 30, 2012 the Company completed a bought deal offering of 23,150,000 Common Shares with a syndicate of underwriters co-led by RBC Capital Markets and Scotiabank at a price of \$1.08 per Common Share for gross proceeds of \$25,002,000.



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### 9. Warrants

As at December 31, 2012, the Company did not have any warrants outstanding. The following table shows the continuity of warrants during the year:

	Number of Warrants	Allocated Value	Weighted Average Exercise Price
Balance, December 31, 2010	5,611,382	\$ 1,594,443	\$ 0.50
Exercise of warrants	(186,425)	(46,435)	0.50
Issued per Compensation Options	61,560	43,093	0.50
Balance, December 31, 2011	5,486,517	\$ 1,591,101	\$ 0.50
Exercise of warrants	(325,500)	(215,986)	0.50
Warrants expired <sup>(i)</sup>	(5,161,017)	(1,375,115)	0.50
Balance, December 31, 2012	-	\$ -	\$ -

- i. All of the Company's outstanding warrants expired on November 24, 2012. The allocated value of \$1,375,115 was credited to contributed surplus (\$1,192,912) and a tax component (\$182,203) was credited to share capital.

### 10. Stock Options

The Company's stock option plan was established by the shareholders of the Company on March 16, 2007, for the purpose of advancing the interests of the Company by encouraging the directors, officers, and employees of the Company, and of its subsidiaries and affiliates, to acquire common shares in the share capital of the Company, thereby increasing their interest in the Company, encouraging them to remain associated with the Company and furnishing them with additional incentive in their efforts on behalf of the Company in the conduct of its affairs. The number of stock options that may be granted under the plan is limited to not more than 10% of the issued common shares of the Company at the time of the stock option grant. The exercise price of stock options granted in accordance with the plan will be not less than the closing price of the common shares on the trading day immediately prior to the effective date of grant.

The Company records a charge to the statement of operations and comprehensive loss account using the Black-Scholes fair valuation option pricing model. The valuation is dependent on a number of estimates, including the risk free interest rate, the level of stock volatility, together with an estimate of the level of forfeiture. The level of stock volatility is calculated with reference to the historic traded daily closing share price at the date of issue. Due to the Company's small sample of historic share price, the Company also references the volatility of the closing share price of a group of industry peers in its calculation of volatility.



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The following table shows the continuity of stock options during the period:

	Number of Options	Allocated Value of Vested Options	Weighted Average Exercise Price
Balance, December 31, 2010	5,253,434	\$ 2,735,101	\$ 0.96
Value of options vested during the year	-	252,516	-
Granted (i, ii, iii, iv, v)	2,450,000	3,003,612	2.51
Exercised	(692,000)	(470,419)	1.15
Balance, December 31, 2011	7,011,434	\$ 5,520,810	\$ 1.49
Value of options vested during the year	-	512,194	-
Granted (vi, vii, viii)	3,953,000	2,163,352	1.14
Forfeited	(435,250)	(263,772)	-
Expired	(653,000)	(869,947)	-
Exercised (ix)	(133,334)	-	0.10
Balance, December 31, 2012	9,742,850	\$ 7,062,637	\$ 1.32

- i. On January 6, 2011, the Company granted 125,000 stock options to a director of the Company exercisable for one common share each at a price of \$3.54 per share for a five year period. These stock options vested immediately. The grant date fair value of \$262,388 was assigned to the stock options as estimated by using the Black-Scholes valuation model with the following assumptions: a five year expected term; 70% volatility; risk-free rate of 2.51% per annum; and a dividend rate of nil. For the year ended December 31, 2012, \$Nil was expensed to stock-based compensation (year ended December 31, 2011 - \$262,388, cumulative to December 31, 2012 - \$262,388).
- ii. On January 24, 2011, the Company granted 125,000 stock options to a director of the Company exercisable for one common share each at a price of \$3.10 per share for a five year period. These stock options vested immediately. The grant date fair value of \$230,100 was assigned to the stock options as estimated by using the Black-Scholes valuation model with the following assumptions: a five year expected term; 70% volatility; risk-free rate of 2.59% per annum; and a dividend rate of nil. For the year ended December 31, 2012, \$Nil was expensed to stock-based compensation (year ended December 31, 2011 - \$230,100, cumulative to December 31, 2012 - \$230,100).
- iii. On February 25, 2011, the Company granted 525,000 stock options to directors of the Company exercisable for one common share each at a price of \$2.70 per share for a five year period. These stock options vested immediately. The grant date fair value of \$841,575 was assigned to the stock options as estimated by using the Black-Scholes valuation model with the following assumptions: a five year expected term; 70% volatility; risk-free rate of 2.58% per annum; and a



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dividend rate of nil. For the year ended December 31, 2012, \$Nil was expensed to stock-based compensation (year ended December 31, 2011 - \$841,575, cumulative to December 31, 2012 - \$841,575). The Company also granted 940,000 stock options to officers and employees of the Company exercisable for one common share each at a price of \$2.70 per share for a five year period. These stock options will vest 25% 5 months after the date of grant and 25% at each of 12, 17, and 24 months after the date of grant. The grant date fair value of \$1,506,820 was assigned to the stock options as estimated by using the Black-Scholes valuation model with the following assumptions: a five year expected term; 70% volatility; risk-free rate of 2.58% per annum; and a dividend rate of nil. For the year ended December 31, 2012, \$379,293 was expensed to stock-based compensation prior to the effect of forfeitures of \$90,441 (year ended December 31, 2011 - \$1,073,873, cumulative to December 31, 2012 - \$1,453,166).

- iv. On August 1, 2011, the Company granted 235,000 stock options to employees of the Company exercisable for one common share each at a price of \$2.52 per share for a five year period. These stock options will vest 25% 6 months after the date of grant and 25% at each of 12, 18, and 24 months after the date of grant. The grant date fair value of \$347,088 was assigned to the stock options as estimated by using the Black-Scholes valuation model with the following assumptions: a five year expected term; 70% volatility; risk-free rate of 1.86% per annum; and a dividend rate of nil. For the year ended December 31, 2012, \$132,901 was expensed to stock-based compensation prior to the effect of forfeitures of \$64,541 (year ended December 31, 2011 - \$150,646, cumulative to December 31, 2012 - \$283,548).
- v. On September 29, 2011, the Company granted 500,000 stock options to directors of the Company exercisable for one common share each at a price of \$1.53 per share for a five year period. These stock options vested immediately. The grant date fair value of \$445,030 was assigned to the stock options as estimated by using the Black-Scholes valuation model with the following assumptions: a five year expected term; 70% volatility; risk-free rate of 1.45% per annum; and a dividend rate of nil. For the year ended December 31, 2012, \$Nil was expensed to stock-based compensation (year ended December 31, 2011 - \$445,030, cumulative to December 31, 2012 - \$445,030).
- vi. On January 10, 2012, the Company granted 1,192,000 stock options to employees of the Company exercisable for one common share each at a price of \$1.26 per share for a five year period. These stock options will vest at the rate of 25% at each of 6, 12, 18, and 24 months after the date of grant. The grant date fair value of \$871,114 was assigned to the stock options as estimated by using the Black-Scholes valuation model with the following assumptions: a five year expected term; 70% volatility; risk-free rate of 1.29% per annum; and a dividend rate of nil. For the year ended December 31, 2012, \$633,085 was expensed to stock-based compensation prior to the effect of forfeitures of \$108,790.
- vii. On January 16, 2012, the Company granted 625,000 stock options to officers and employees of the Company exercisable for one common share each at a price of \$1.38 per share for a five year period. These stock options will vest at the rate of 25% at each of 6, 12, 18 and 24 months



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after the date of grant. The grant date fair value of \$500,188 was assigned to the stock options as estimated by using the Black-Scholes valuation model with the following assumptions: a five year expected term; 70% volatility; risk-free rate of 1.28% per annum; and a dividend rate of nil. For the year ended December 31, 2012, \$384,328 was expensed to stock-based compensation. The Company also granted 1,125,000 stock options to directors of the Company exercisable for one common share each at a price of \$1.38 per share for a five year period. These stock options vested immediately. The grant date fair value of \$900,338 was assigned to the stock options as estimated by using the Black-Scholes valuation model described above. For the year ended December 31, 2012, \$900,338 was expensed to stock-based compensation.

- viii. On September 6, 2012, the Company granted 1,000,000 stock options to an officer of the Company exercisable for one common share each at a price of \$0.60 per share for a five year period. These stock options will vest at the rate of 50% immediately, and 16.67% at each of 6, 12, and 18 months after the date of grant. The grant date fair value of \$348,700 was assigned to the stock options as estimated by using the Black-Scholes valuation model with the following assumptions: a five year expected term; 70% volatility; risk-free rate of 1.40% per annum; and a dividend rate of nil. For the year ended December 31, 2012, \$241,829 was expensed to stock-based compensation. The Company also granted 10,000 stock options to consultants of the Company exercisable for one common share each at a price of \$0.60 per share for a five year period. These stock options vested immediately. The grant date fair value of \$3,487 was assigned to the stock options as estimated by using the Black-Scholes valuation model described above. For the year ended December 31, 2012, \$3,487 was expensed to stock-based compensation. The Company also granted 1,000 stock options to a consultant of the Company exercisable for one common share each at a price of \$0.60 per share for a five year period. These stock options will vest at the rate of 50% immediately and 50% at 6 months after the date of grant. The grant date fair value of \$349 was assigned to the stock options as estimated by using the Black-Scholes valuation model described above. For the year ended December 31, 2012, \$285 was expensed to stock-based compensation.
- ix. The 133,334 options exercised during the year were not assigned any value upon their issuance in 2007. They were part of an option grant to the founders of the Company prior to the Company's outstanding common shares being traded on the TSX Venture Exchange. These options have all been exercised.
- x. The weighted average grant date fair value of the total options granted during the year ended December 31, 2012 was \$0.67 (December 31, 2011 – \$2.51).
- xi. The weighted average share price on the date of exercise during the year ended December 31, 2012 was \$0.67 (December 31, 2011 – \$2.25).



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The following are the stock options outstanding as at December 31, 2012:

Expiry Date	Options Outstanding	Exercise Price	Remaining Contractual Life (Yrs)	Options Exercisable
November 24, 2014	2,803,100	\$ 0.50	1.90	2,803,100
January 8, 2015	50,000	\$ 1.25	2.02	50,000
February 8, 2015	65,000	\$ 1.44	2.11	65,000
March 29, 2015	615,000	\$ 1.60	2.24	615,000
July 7, 2015	295,000	\$ 1.24	2.52	295,000
January 6, 2016	125,000	\$ 3.54	3.02	125,000
January 24, 2016	125,000	\$ 3.10	3.07	125,000
February 25, 2016	1,347,500	\$ 2.70	3.15	1,155,000
August 1, 2016	152,500	\$ 2.52	3.59	85,000
September 29, 2016	500,000	\$ 1.53	3.75	500,000
January 10, 2017	903,750	\$ 1.26	4.03	262,500
January 16, 2017	1,750,000	\$ 1.38	4.05	1,281,250
September 6, 2017	1,011,000	\$ 0.60	4.68	510,500
	9,742,850		3.14	7,872,350

### 11. Loss per Share

The calculation of basic and diluted loss per share for the year ended December 31, 2012 was based on the loss attributable to common shareholders of \$26,047,639 (December 31, 2011 - \$36,853,412) and the weighted average number of common shares outstanding of 126,337,061 (December 31, 2011 - 108,186,371). Diluted loss per share did not include the effect of 9,742,850 (December 31, 2011 - 7,011,434) share purchase options as they are anti-dilutive.



## Sandspring Resources Ltd.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

(Expressed in Canadian Dollars)

Years Ended December 31, 2012 and 2011

### 12. Income Tax

A reconciliation between tax expense and the product of accounting loss multiplied by the Company's domestic tax rate is as follows:

	2012	2011
Net Income (loss) before tax	\$ (26,047,639)	\$ (36,853,412)
Statutory tax rate	26.50%	28.25%
Tax benefit of statutory tax rate	(6,902,624)	(10,411,089)
Differences in foreign and statutory income tax rates	(1,873,384)	(2,367,163)
Changes in substantive enacted tax rates	(117,072)	-
Deductible temporary differences not tax benefited	4,198,189	5,688,462
Non-deductible expenses	5,027,502	7,639,598
Under (over) provided for in prior years	(115,210)	(85,964)
Other	(217,401)	(463,844)
Total tax expense	\$ -	\$ -

The 2012 statutory tax rate of 26.50% differs from the 2011 statutory tax rate of 28.25% because of a decrease in the federal rate of 1.5% and a decrease in the Ontario rate of 0.25%.

The Company offsets tax assets and liabilities if and only if it has a legally enforceable right to set off the current tax assets and current tax liabilities or deferred tax assets and liabilities and they relate to taxes levied by the same tax authority.



## Sandspring Resources Ltd.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

(Expressed in Canadian Dollars)

Years Ended December 31, 2012 and 2011

The tax benefit of the following unused tax losses and deductible temporary differences have not been recognized in the financial statements due to the unpredictability of future earnings.

	December 31, 2011		
	Canada	Guyana	US
Tax loss carry-forwards	\$ 8,996,432	\$ 1,588,654	\$ 3,809,053
Exploration and development	-	11,548,532	-
Share issue costs	2,625,033	-	-
Property plant and equipment	13,152	67,235	7,977
Deductible temporary differences associated with investment in subsidiaries	11,441,629	-	-
Other deductible temporary differences	-	-	-
	<b>\$ 23,076,246</b>	<b>\$ 13,204,421</b>	<b>\$ 3,817,030</b>

	December 31, 2012		
	Canada	Guyana	US
Tax loss carry-forwards	\$ 10,260,555	\$ 19,297,388	\$ 6,682,297
Exploration and development	-	-	-
Share issue costs	2,908,190	-	-
Property plant and equipment	79,354	178,837	57,646
Deductible temporary differences associated with investment in subsidiaries	19,938,902	-	-
Other deductible temporary differences	840,481	-	-
	<b>\$ 34,027,482</b>	<b>\$ 19,476,225</b>	<b>\$ 6,739,943</b>

At December 31, 2012, the Company has the unclaimed non-capital losses that expire as follows:

Expiry Date	Amount	Amount	Amount
	Canada	Guyana	US
2027 to 2032	\$ 10,260,555	\$ -	\$ 6,682,297
Indefinite	-	19,297,388	-
	<b>\$ 10,260,555</b>	<b>\$ 19,297,388</b>	<b>\$ 6,682,297</b>



## Sandspring Resources Ltd.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

(Expressed in Canadian Dollars)

Years Ended December 31, 2012 and 2011

### 13. Related Party Transactions

The Company's transactions are in the normal course of business and are recorded at the exchange amount. All amounts due to related parties are non-interest bearing and payable on demand.

- a) Included in accounts payable and accrued liabilities are the following amounts due to related parties:

	12/31/2012	12/31/2011
Travel expenses reimbursed to officers and directors of the Company,	\$ 33,114	\$ 24,519
Administrative expenses reimbursed to officers and directors of the Company,	2,597	191
Administrative, occupancy and salary expenses reimbursable to a company controlled by a Vice President of the Company, P. Greg Barnes	21,616	72,480
	\$ 57,327	\$ 97,190

- b) The Company had the following related party transactions during the year ended December 31, 2012 and 2011.

	12/31/2012	12/31/2011
Travel expenses reimbursed to officers and directors of the Company,	\$ 206,401	\$ 302,446
Administrative expenses reimbursed to officers and directors of the Company,	17,165	30,285
Administrative, occupancy and salary expenses reimbursable to a company controlled by a Vice President of the Company, P. Greg Barnes	354,711	688,581
	\$ 578,277	\$ 1,021,312

- c) Remuneration of directors and key management of the Company was as follows.

	12/31/2012	12/31/2011
Salaries and benefits for management	\$ 1,771,783	\$ 1,818,827
Directors fees	182,980	115,000
Share based payments	1,759,554	2,459,719
	\$ 3,714,317	\$ 4,393,546



## Sandspring Resources Ltd.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

(Expressed in Canadian Dollars)

Years Ended December 31, 2012 and 2011

### 14. Segmented Information

The Company primarily operates in one reportable operation segment, being the development of its property for production of gold and copper in Guyana. The Company has administrative offices in Toronto, Canada and Centennial, U.S.A. Segmented information on a geographic basis is as follows:

December 31, 2011				
	Canada	United States	Guyana	Total
Current assets	\$ 10,228,770	\$ 1,698,429	\$ 283,773	\$ 12,210,972
Non-current assets	84,172	96,822	28,442,647	28,623,641
	\$ 10,312,942	\$ 1,795,251	\$ 28,726,420	\$ 40,834,613

  

December 31, 2012				
	Canada	United States	Guyana	Total
Current assets	\$ 9,910,389	\$ 1,221,138	\$ 427,128	\$ 11,558,655
Non-current assets	17,970	62,835	27,574,361	27,655,166
	\$ 9,928,359	\$ 1,283,973	\$ 28,001,489	\$ 39,213,821

### 15. Commitments

The Alphonso joint venture provides that ETK shall commence commercial production, defined as production of 50,000 ounces of gold per year, beginning on January 1, 2013 or in lieu thereof pay Mr. Alphonso an annual sum of the Guyana dollar equivalent of USD \$250,000 in years 2013, 2014 and 2015 if commercial production is not commenced. If commercial production has not been commenced by 2017, Mr. Alphonso may declare a default under the agreement unless the Company has exercised its option to purchase Mr. Alphonso's interest in the joint venture for the sum of USD \$20,000,000.

### 16. Subsequent Events

On February 10, 2013 the Company granted 2,410,000 stock options to purchase common shares of the Company to officers, directors and employees. The stock options are exercisable at \$0.41 per share and will expire on February 7, 2018.

