

# Quarterly Report 2

for the three-month and six-month periods  
ended June 30, 2024 and 2023



***Cascades***

Source of possibilities

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## FORWARD-LOOKING

The following document is the quarterly financial report and Management's Discussion and Analysis ("MD&A") of the operating results and financial position of Cascades Inc. ("Cascades" or "the Corporation") and should be read in conjunction with the Corporation's Unaudited Condensed Interim Consolidated Financial Statements and accompanying notes for the three-month and six-month periods ended June 30, 2024 and 2023, and the most recent Audited Consolidated Financial Statements. Information contained herein includes any significant developments as of August 7, 2024, the date on which the MD&A was approved by the Corporation's Board of Directors. For additional information, readers are referred to the Corporation's Annual Information Form ("AIF"), which is published separately. Additional information relating to the Corporation is also available on the SEDAR+ website at [www.sedarplus.ca](http://www.sedarplus.ca).

The financial information contained herein, including tabular amounts, is expressed in Canadian dollars, unless otherwise stated, and is prepared, unless otherwise stated in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board (IFRS<sup>®</sup> Accounting Standards). Unless otherwise stated or indicated by the context, the terms "we", "our" and "us" refer to Cascades Inc. and all of its subsidiaries, joint ventures and associates.

This MD&A is intended to provide readers with information that Management believes is necessary to understand of Cascades' current results and to assess the Corporation's future prospects. Consequently, certain statements herein, including statements regarding future results and performance, are forward-looking statements within the meaning of securities legislation, based on current expectations. The accuracy of such statements is subject to a number of risks, uncertainties and assumptions that may cause actual results to differ materially from those projected, including, but not limited to, economic conditions generally, decreases in demand for the Corporation's products, the cost and availability of raw materials, changes in the relative values of certain currencies, fluctuations in selling prices and adverse changes in market and industry conditions generally. Cascades disclaims any intention or obligation to update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise, except as required under the applicable securities legislation. This MD&A also includes price indices, as well as variance and sensitivity analysis that are intended to provide the reader with a better understanding of the trends with respect to our business activities. This information is based on the best estimates available to the Corporation.

# MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION & ANALYSIS

## TO OUR SHAREHOLDERS

### FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT

(in millions of Canadian dollars, unless otherwise noted) (unaudited)	Q2 2024	Q1 2024	Q2 2023
<b>Sales</b>	<b>1,180</b>	1,109	1,168
Operating income	34	9	64
EBITDA (A) <sup>1</sup>	112	103	141
EBITDA (A) as a percentage of sales <sup>1</sup>	9.5%	9.3%	12.1%
Net earnings (loss)			
As reported	1	(20)	22
Adjusted <sup>1</sup>	8	—	26
Net earnings (loss) per common share (basic) (in Canadian dollars)			
As reported	\$0.01	(\$0.20)	\$0.22
Adjusted <sup>1</sup>	\$0.08	\$—	\$0.27
Capital expenditures, net of disposals	23	41	104
Dividends declared per common share (in Canadian dollars)	\$0.12	\$0.12	\$0.12
<b>FINANCIAL POSITION</b>			
Total assets	4,881	4,816	4,912
Net debt <sup>1</sup>	2,093	2,020	2,076
Net debt / EBITDA (A) ratio <sup>1</sup>	4.2x	3.8x	4.1x
Equity attributable to Shareholders	1,729	1,727	1,779
per common share (in Canadian dollars)	\$17.13	\$17.15	\$17.68
Working capital as a percentage of sales <sup>1,3</sup>	9.5%	9.8%	10.6%
<b>KEY INDICATORS</b>			
Total shipments (in '000 of s.t.) <sup>2</sup>	537	527	532
US\$/CAN\$ - Average exchange rate	\$0.73	\$0.74	\$0.74

<sup>1</sup> Some information represents non-IFRS Accounting Standards financial measures, other financial measures or non-IFRS Accounting Standards ratios which are not standardized under IFRS Accounting Standards and therefore might not be comparable to similar financial measures disclosed by other corporations. Please refer to the "Supplemental Information on Non-IFRS Accounting Standards Measures and Other Financial Measures" section for a complete reconciliation.

<sup>2</sup> Shipments do not take into account the elimination of business sector inter-segment shipments. Shipments from our Specialty Products segment are not shown, as different units of measure are used.

<sup>3</sup> Percentage of sales = Average quarterly last twelve months (LTM) working capital / LTM sales.

## SEGMENTED SALES

(in millions of Canadian dollars) (unaudited)	Q2 2024	Q1 2024	Q2 2023
<b>Packaging Products</b>			
Containerboard	585	556	562
Specialty Products	167	160	164
Inter-segment sales	(7)	(7)	(9)
	745	709	717
<b>Tissue Papers</b>	397	367	416
Inter-segment sales, Corporate, Recovery and Recycling activities	38	33	35
<b>Sales</b>	<b>1,180</b>	<b>1,109</b>	<b>1,168</b>

## SEGMENTED OPERATING INCOME (LOSS)

(in millions of Canadian dollars) (unaudited)	Q2 2024	Q1 2024	Q2 2023
<b>Packaging Products</b>			
Containerboard	15	(7)	62
Specialty Products	19	19	19
<b>Tissue Papers</b>	38	31	18
Corporate, Recovery and Recycling activities	(38)	(34)	(35)
<b>Operating income</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>64</b>

## SEGMENTED EBITDA (A)<sup>1</sup>

(in millions of Canadian dollars) (unaudited)	Q2 2024	Q1 2024	Q2 2023
<b>Packaging Products</b>			
Containerboard	60	50	96
Specialty Products	26	25	24
<b>Tissue Papers</b>	54	50	44
Corporate, Recovery and Recycling activities	(28)	(22)	(23)
<b>EBITDA (A)<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>112</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>141</b>

The main variances<sup>2</sup> in EBITDA (A)<sup>1</sup> are shown below:

(in millions of Canadian dollars) (unaudited)	Q2 2024 vs Q1 2024	Q2 2024 vs Q2 2023	2024 vs 2023 (six months)
Price	12	(25)	(89)
Freight and production costs	(6)	4	10
Volume and mix, foreign exchange and others	18	13	36
Raw materials and energy	(15)	(21)	(17)
<b>Variances in EBITDA (A)<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>9</b>	<b>(29)</b>	<b>(60)</b>

The Corporation's second quarter 2024 results increased sequentially on stronger performances from all three business segments. In Tissue Papers, the sequential impact from higher raw material costs was mitigated by favourable volume and lower transportation costs. Higher volume combined with slightly stronger pricing in the Specialty Products business outweighed sequentially higher average raw material costs. The Containerboard segment saw stronger pricing, volume and mix, and lower transportation and energy costs, the combined impact of which offset higher raw material costs and extended downtime at the Greenpac and Bear Island mills following a prolongation of planned maintenance at these facilities, which reduced production capacity in the second quarter by approximately 8,000 tons.

/s/ Hugues Simon  
HUGUES SIMON  
President and Chief Executive Officer  
August 7, 2024

<sup>1</sup> Please refer to the "Supplemental Information on Non-IFRS Accounting Standards Measures and Other Financial Measures" section for a complete reconciliation.

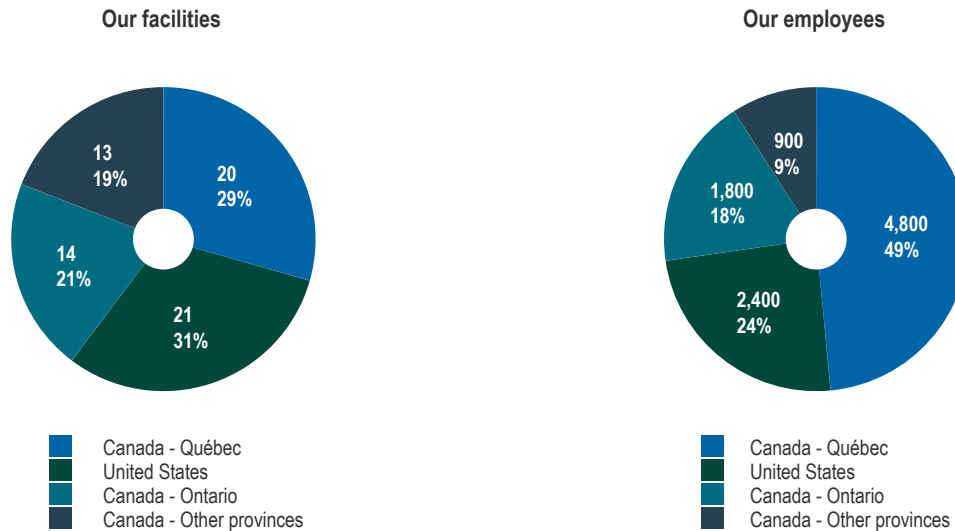
<sup>2</sup> For definitions of certain EBITDA (A)<sup>1</sup> variation categories, please refer to the "Financial Overview" section for more details.

## OUR BUSINESS

Cascades Inc. is a paper and packaging company that produces, converts and sells packaging and tissue products composed primarily of recycled fibres. Established in 1964 in Kingsey Falls, Québec, Canada, the Corporation was founded by the Lemaire brothers, who saw the economic and social potential of building a company focused primarily on the sustainable development principles of reusing, recovering and recycling. Sixty years later, Cascades is a multinational business with nearly 70 operating facilities and approximately 9,900 employees across Canada and the United States<sup>1</sup>. The Corporation currently operates three business segments:

(Business segments) (unaudited)	Number of facilities	Q2 2024 Sales <sup>2</sup> (in \$M)	% of sales	Q2 2024 Operating income (in \$M)	Q2 2024 EBITDA (A) <sup>2,3</sup> (in \$M)	Q2 2024 EBITDA (A) Margin <sup>2,3</sup> (%)	% of EBITDA (A)
<b>PACKAGING PRODUCTS</b>							
Containerboard	23	585	50.9%	15	60	10.3%	42.8%
Specialty Products	17	167	14.5%	19	26	15.6%	18.6%
<b>TISSUE PAPERS</b>	10	397	34.6%	38	54	13.6%	38.6%

Locations of our facilities<sup>4</sup> and employees by geographic segment within North America:



<sup>1</sup> Including 50% owned joint ventures. The Corporation also has 18 Recovery and Recycling facilities which are included in Corporate Activities.

<sup>2</sup> Excluding associates and joint ventures not included in consolidated results. Refer to Note 7 of the 2023 Audited Consolidated Financial Statements for more information on associates and joint ventures.

<sup>3</sup> Please refer to the "Supplemental Information on Non-IFRS Accounting Standards Measures and Other Financial Measures" section for a complete reconciliation.

<sup>4</sup> Excluding sales offices, distribution and transportation hubs, corporate services units and head offices. Including main joint ventures.

## BUSINESS HIGHLIGHTS

### 2022 - 2024 STRATEGIC PLAN

As part of the annual review of its strategy, the Corporation analyzes its overall business and the environment in which it competes, sets objectives for the following year and the years ahead and approves its annual plans, all with a view to enhancing shareholder value. On February 24, 2022, Management and the Board of Directors disclosed the Corporation's 2022 to 2024 Strategic Plan, and subsequently provided an update of the plan in conjunction with the Q1 2023 results on May 11, 2023. The presentation is available on the SEDAR+ website at [www.sedarplus.ca](http://www.sedarplus.ca) and on the Corporation's website at [www.cascades.com/en/investors](http://www.cascades.com/en/investors).

The following is a summary of the 2024 financial targets set out in the Corporation's 2022 to 2024 Strategic Plan in February 2022, and the subsequent update made to these targets in May 2023. Given existing market conditions, most notably in the Containerboard segment, we currently expect to fall short of our \$5.0B consolidated sales objective and targeted ranges for both EBITDA (A)<sup>1</sup> and free cash flow<sup>1</sup>. Given this, our net debt to EBITDA (A) ratio<sup>1</sup> at the end of 2024 is forecasted to be higher than our target of between 2.5x to 3.0x. Ongoing profitability improvement initiatives in all business segments and recent price increases announced in the Containerboard segment will support our future financial performance.

		2024 Financial Targets Presented February 2022	Updated 2024 Financial Targets May 2023	Current Outlook
<b>Financial Targets</b>	1 Sales:	~\$5.0B+ in 2024	~\$5.0B	<\$5.0B
	2 EBITDA (A) Margin <sup>1</sup> :	~13% - 15% in 2024	~12% - 14%	<12%
	3 Capital expenditures (Capex):	~4% of sales in 2023-2024 <sup>2</sup>	~\$175M in 2024 (3.5% of sales)	<\$175M in 2024 (3.5% of sales)
	4 Free cash flow <sup>1,3,4</sup> :	~9% - 11% of sales	~9% - 10% of sales	≤9%
	5 Net debt / EBITDA (A) <sup>1</sup> :	2.0x - 2.5x by the end of 2024	2.5x - 3.0x	>3.0x

### TISSUE PAPERS SEGMENT PROFITABILITY PLAN

On April 25, 2023, the Corporation announced the repositioning of its Tissue Papers operating platform. This decision strengthens the operational, financial and environmental performance of this business segment with the closure of assets that have been underperforming.

These actions simplify operations by concentrating the majority of tissue product operating activities at core, geographically well-positioned, sites that offer opportunities for future development and will further consolidate the Corporation's position as a leading manufacturer of private label tissue products in the North American retail and Away-from-Home markets.

We anticipate that these decisions, combined with the ongoing productivity optimization initiatives will continue to strengthen the performance of our Tissue Papers business going forward, as demonstrated by the solid financial performance since the second half of 2023.

### BEAR ISLAND PROJECT

On May 2, 2023, we announced the production of the first roll of 100% lightweight recycled containerboard at the Bear Island, Virginia mill.

After the commissioning of the Greenpac mill nearly 10 years ago, the start-up of Bear Island marks another historic milestone in the strategic modernization of our containerboard manufacturing network, allowing us to pursue long-term growth in packaging and enhance our portfolio of sustainable packaging solutions for our customers on a North American scale.

The cost of the project amounted to approximately \$690 million (~US\$525 million). The ramp-up of the Bear Island mill is continuing to be advanced, as demonstrated by its monthly production volume levels achieving 75% of its planned capacity.

<sup>1</sup> Please refer to the "Supplemental Information on Non-IFRS Accounting Standards Measures and Other Financial Measures" section for a complete reconciliation.

<sup>2</sup> Excluding strategic projects.

<sup>3</sup> Defined as EBITDA (A)<sup>1</sup> less Capex.

<sup>4</sup> Interests, tax paid, working capital, lease payments, dividends paid to non-controlling interests and other cash flow item requirements are estimated at \$225M - \$250M/year.

## NEW PRESIDENT AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

On May 16, 2024, the Corporation announced the appointment of Mr. Hugues Simon as its new President and CEO. He was previously President of the Wood Products business at Resolute Forest Products. The appointment follows an extensive succession planning and recruitment process, supported by an international firm, in anticipation of Mario Plourde's planned retirement. After more than 11 years at the helm of the Company, Mr. Plourde will support the new President and CEO during a transition period lasting until December 2024, after which he will act as a Special Advisor for an additional 18-month period.

## BUSINESS DEVELOPMENTS

The following transactions should be taken into consideration when reviewing the overall and segmented analysis of the Corporation's 2024 and 2023 results.

### CONTAINERBOARD PACKAGING

- On February 13, 2024, the Corporation announced an important repositioning of its Containerboard operating platform. The Trenton (Ontario) corrugated medium mill was permanently closed, while the Belleville (Ontario) and Newtown (Connecticut) converting plants were permanently closed during the second quarter. The production from these facilities is moved to other plants with available capacity and more modern equipment. In the second quarter of 2024, the Containerboard Packaging segment received \$15 million from the sale of the assets related to Newtown.
- On May 2, 2023, the Corporation announced the permanent closure of the paper machine no. 2 at the plant located in Niagara Falls. The paper machine previously ceased its operations in November 2022.

### SPECIALTY PRODUCTS

- On September 22, 2023, the Corporation announced the consolidation of its isotherm packaging operations, resulting in the closure of its facilities in Tacoma, Washington in October 2023 and Grand Rapids, Michigan in December 2023.

### TISSUE PAPERS

- On April 25, 2023, the Corporation announced an important repositioning of its Tissue Papers operating platform to enhance the performance of the business. In June 2023 and July 2023, Cascades closed its underperforming plants in Barnwell, South Carolina, and Scappoose, Oregon, as well as the virgin paper tissue machine at its St. Helens plant, also in Oregon. On August 10, 2023, the Corporation announced the closing of the second paper machine at its St. Helens plant, resulting in the complete shutdown of the facility. Operations ceased at the beginning of October 2023.

## SIGNIFICANT FACTS

### 2024

- On April 12, 2024, the Corporation entered into an agreement for a \$175 million delayed draw unsecured term loan credit facility to manage upcoming maturities. If drawn, this facility will mature on December 31, 2026 and will bear interest at a variable rate. Transaction fees amounting to \$1 million are to be capitalized in the unamortized financing costs.
- On February 9, 2024, the Corporation entered into an agreement with its lenders to amend and extend the maturity from July 2026 to July 2027 for its existing revolving credit facility. The financial conditions remained unchanged.

### 2023

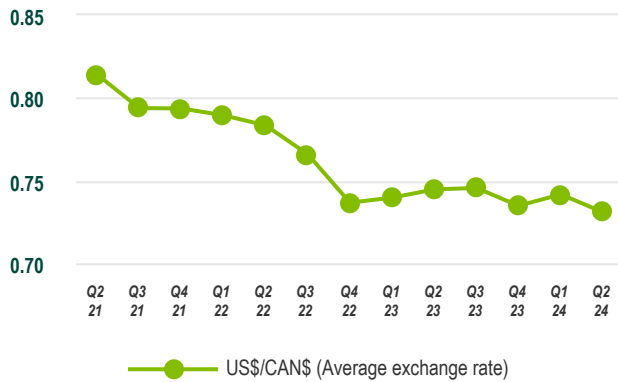
- In the fourth quarter of 2023, the Corporation entered into an agreement for an \$82 million (US\$60 million) monthly rolling receivables' monetization facility without recourse. As of December 31, 2023, the Corporation had unrecognized receivables of \$53 million relating to this facility. Please refer to Note 6 of the Unaudited Condensed Interim Consolidated Financial Statements for the three-month and six-month periods ended June 30, 2024 and 2023 for more details.
- On September 15, 2023, our subsidiary, Greenpac, entered into a 3-year credit agreement with a banking syndicate securing a revolving credit facility authorized at US\$150 million which bears interest at a variable rate based on the level of leverage ratio of the subsidiary. Transaction fees amounting to US\$2 million (\$2 million) were capitalized in other assets.

# BUSINESS DRIVERS

Cascades' results may be impacted by fluctuations in the following areas:

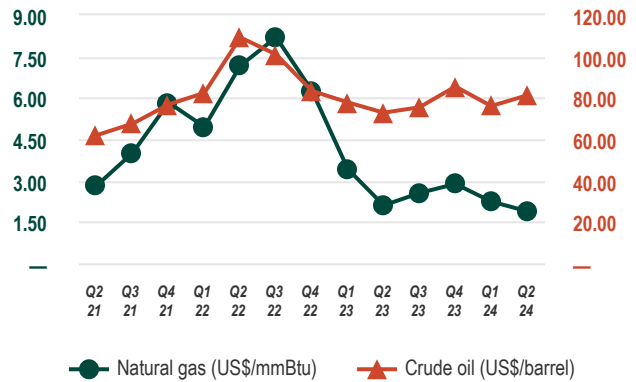
## EXCHANGE RATES<sup>1</sup>

Sequentially, the average exchange rate of the Canadian dollar decreased by 1% compared to the US dollar in the second quarter of 2024. On a year-over-year basis, the average exchange rate of the Canadian dollar decreased by 1% compared to the US dollar.



## ENERGY COSTS<sup>1</sup>

During the second quarter of 2024, the average price of natural gas decreased by 16% sequentially and decreased by 10% compared to the same period last year. In the case of crude oil, the average price was 7% higher sequentially and was 12% higher year-over-year.



(unaudited)	2022				YEAR	2023				YEAR	2024		
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		Q1	Q2	YTD <sup>2</sup>
US\$/CAN\$ (Average exchange rate)	\$0.79	\$0.78	\$0.77	\$0.74	\$0.77	\$0.74	\$0.74	\$0.75	\$0.73	\$0.74	\$0.74	\$0.74	
US\$/CAN\$ (End of the period exchange rate)	\$0.80	\$0.78	\$0.72	\$0.74	\$0.74	\$0.74	\$0.76	\$0.74	\$0.76	\$0.76	\$0.74	\$0.73	\$0.73
Natural Gas Henry Hub (US\$/mmBtu)	\$4.95	\$7.17	\$8.20	\$6.26	\$6.64	\$3.42	\$2.10	\$2.55	\$2.88	\$2.74	\$2.24	\$1.89	\$2.07
Crude oil (US\$/barrel)	\$82.49	\$109.25	\$101.05	\$83.39	\$94.04	\$77.85	\$72.87	\$75.49	\$85.54	\$77.94	\$76.07	\$81.26	\$78.67

<sup>1</sup> Source: Bloomberg

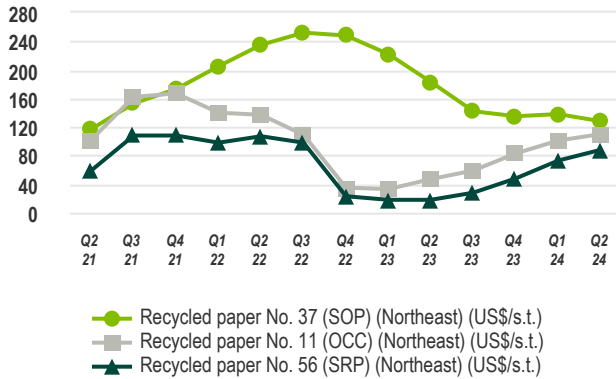
<sup>2</sup> YTD (year-to-date)



## RAW MATERIALS

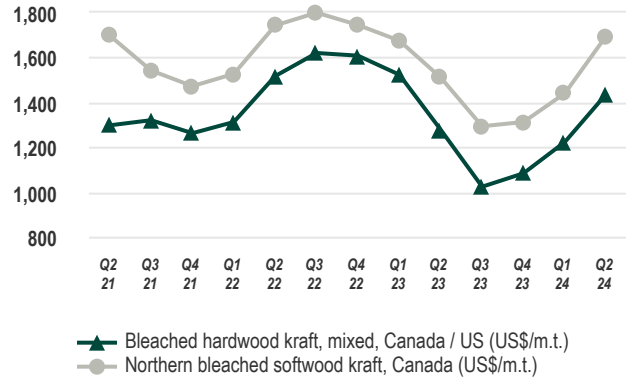
### Reference prices - recycled fibre costs in North America<sup>1</sup>

During the second quarter of 2024, the brown grade recycled paper No. 11 (old corrugated containers, OCC) index price increased by 9% sequentially and increased by 134% year-over-year while the recycled paper No. 56 (sorted residential papers, SRP) index price increased by 21% sequentially and increased by 389% year-over-year. The white grade recycled paper No. 37 (sorted office papers, SOP) index price decreased by 7% sequentially and decreased by 30% year-over-year.



### Reference prices - virgin pulp in North America<sup>1</sup>

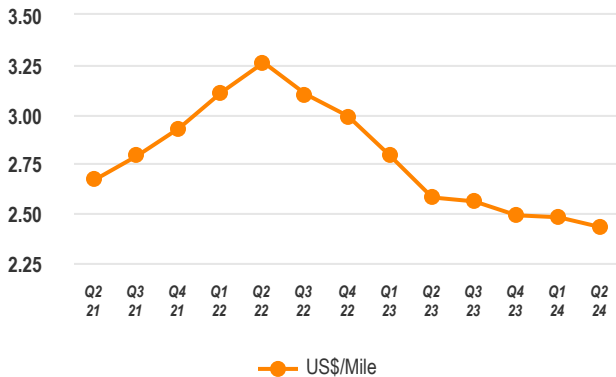
During the second quarter of 2024, the reference price for NBSK and NBHK increased by 18% and 17%, respectively, on a sequential basis and increased by 12% and 13% respectively year-over-year.



## FREIGHT

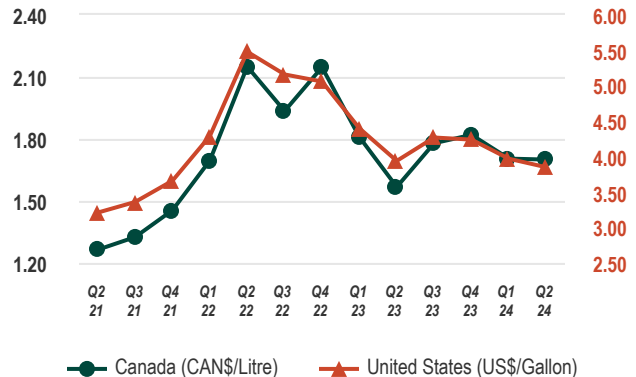
### US national van rates<sup>2</sup>

During the second quarter of 2024, the average national van rate decreased by 2% sequentially and decreased by 6% year-over-year.



### Diesel<sup>3</sup>

During the second quarter of 2024, on a sequential basis, the average price of diesel was stable in Canada and decreased by 3% in the United States. On a year-over-year basis, the average price of diesel increased by 8% in Canada and decreased by 2% in the United States.



(unaudited)	2022				YEAR	2023				YEAR	2024		
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		Q1	Q2	YTD <sup>4</sup>
<b>US national van rates (US\$/Mile)</b>	\$3.11	\$3.26	\$3.10	\$2.99	\$3.11	\$2.79	\$2.58	\$2.56	\$2.49	\$2.61	\$2.48	\$2.43	\$2.46
<b>Diesel Canada (CANS\$/Litre)</b>	\$1.70	\$2.15	\$1.94	\$2.15	\$1.98	\$1.81	\$1.57	\$1.78	\$1.82	\$1.74	\$1.70	\$1.70	\$1.70
<b>Diesel United States (US\$/Gallon)</b>	\$4.29	\$5.48	\$5.16	\$5.06	\$5.00	\$4.40	\$3.94	\$4.27	\$4.24	\$4.21	\$3.97	\$3.85	\$3.91

<sup>1</sup> Source: RISI, excluding mixed papers

<sup>2</sup> Source: DAT Freight and analytics

<sup>3</sup> Sources: In Canada: Canada Natural Resources. In the United States: Energy Information Administration

<sup>4</sup> YTD (year-to-date)

## OPERATIONAL PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

We use several operational performance indicators to monitor our action plan and analyze the progress we are making toward achieving our long-term objectives. These indicators include the following:

(unaudited)	2022					2023					2024		LTM <sup>6</sup>	
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	YEAR	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	YEAR	Q1	Q2		YTD <sup>7</sup>
<b>OPERATIONAL</b>														
<b>Total shipments (in '000 short tons (s.t.))<sup>1</sup></b>														
Packaging Products														
Containerboard	372	379	391	364	1,506	383	398	429	402	1,612	412	415	827	1,658
Tissue Papers	131	133	134	123	521	124	134	134	121	513	115	122	237	492
<b>Total</b>	<b>503</b>	<b>512</b>	<b>525</b>	<b>487</b>	<b>2,027</b>	<b>507</b>	<b>532</b>	<b>563</b>	<b>523</b>	<b>2,125</b>	<b>527</b>	<b>537</b>	<b>1,064</b>	<b>2,150</b>
<b>Integration rate<sup>2</sup></b>														
Containerboard	57%	57%	52%	53%	55%	49%	50%	50%	55%	52%	53%	51%	52%	52%
Tissue Papers	79%	82%	85%	87%	83%	84%	83%	87%	94%	87%	94%	94%	94%	92%
<b>Manufacturing capacity utilization rate<sup>3</sup></b>														
Containerboard	93%	96%	93%	83%	91%	91%	93%	91%	84%	90%	93%	88%	91%	89%
Tissue Papers	84%	81%	88%	81%	83%	81%	86%	92%	96%	91%	95%	93%	94%	94%
<b>FINANCIAL</b>														
<b>Working capital</b>														
In millions of CAN\$, at the end of the period <sup>4</sup>	424	493	561	397	397	487	514	512	318	318	460	474		
As a percentage of sales <sup>4,5</sup>	9.3%	9.6%	10.2%	10.5%	10.5%	10.6%	10.6%	10.3%	9.9%	9.9%	9.8%	9.5%		

1 Shipments do not take into account the elimination of business sector inter-segment shipments. Shipments from our Specialty Products segment are not shown, as different units of measure are used.

2 Defined as: Percentage of manufacturing shipments transferred to our converting operations.

3 Defined as: Manufacturing internal and external shipments/practical capacity. Calculated according to Bear Island's capacity ramp-up plan. Excluding Specialty Products segment manufacturing activities.

4 Some information represents non-IFRS Accounting Standards financial measures, other financial measures or non-IFRS Accounting Standards ratios which are not standardized under IFRS Accounting Standards and therefore might not be comparable to similar financial measures disclosed by other corporations. Please refer to the "Supplemental Information on Non-IFRS Accounting Standards Measures and Other Financial Measures" section for a complete reconciliation.

5 Percentage of sales = Average quarterly last twelve months (LTM) working capital / LTM sales.

6 LTM (last twelve months)

7 YTD (year-to-date)

## HISTORICAL MARKET PRICES OF MAIN PRODUCTS AND RAW MATERIALS

	2022	2023				2024	Q2 2024 vs. Q2 2023		Q2 2024 vs. Q1 2024			
	YEAR	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	YEAR	Q1	Q2	Change	%	Change	%
These indexes should only be used as trend indicators. They may differ from our actual selling prices and purchasing costs. (unaudited)												
<b>Selling prices (average)</b>												
<b>PACKAGING PRODUCTS</b>												
<b>Containerboard (US\$/short ton)</b>												
Linerboard 42-lb. unbleached kraft, Eastern US (open market)	920	872	852	845	832	850	852	878	26	3%	26	3%
Corrugating medium 26-lb. semichemical, Eastern US (open market)	845	762	728	715	702	727	735	768	40	5%	33	4%
<b>Specialty Products (US\$/short ton)</b>												
Uncoated recycled boxboard - bending chip, 20-pt. (series B)	1,073	1,053	1,040	1,040	1,020	1,038	1,020	1,040	—	—%	20	2%
<b>TISSUE PAPERS (US\$/short ton)</b>												
Parent rolls, recycled fibres (transaction)	1,266	1,269	1,233	1,196	1,190	1,222	1,194	1,188	(45)	(4%)	(6)	(1%)
Parent rolls, virgin fibres (transaction)	1,594	1,572	1,489	1,394	1,404	1,465	1,449	1,530	41	3%	81	6%
<b>Raw material prices (average)</b>												
<b>RECYCLED PAPER</b>												
<b>North America (US\$/short ton)</b>												
Sorted residential papers, No. 56 (SRP - Northeast average)	81	18	18	28	48	28	73	88	70	389%	15	21%
Old corrugated containers, No. 11 (OCC - Northeast average)	105	33	47	59	83	55	101	110	63	134%	9	9%
Sorted office papers, No. 37 (SOP - Northeast average)	235	222	183	142	135	170	138	128	(55)	(30%)	(10)	(7%)
<b>VIRGIN PULP (US\$/metric ton)</b>												
Northern bleached softwood kraft, Canada	1,704	1,675	1,510	1,293	1,312	1,448	1,440	1,697	187	12%	257	18%
Bleached hardwood kraft, mixed, Canada/US	1,514	1,523	1,277	1,023	1,083	1,227	1,223	1,437	160	13%	214	17%

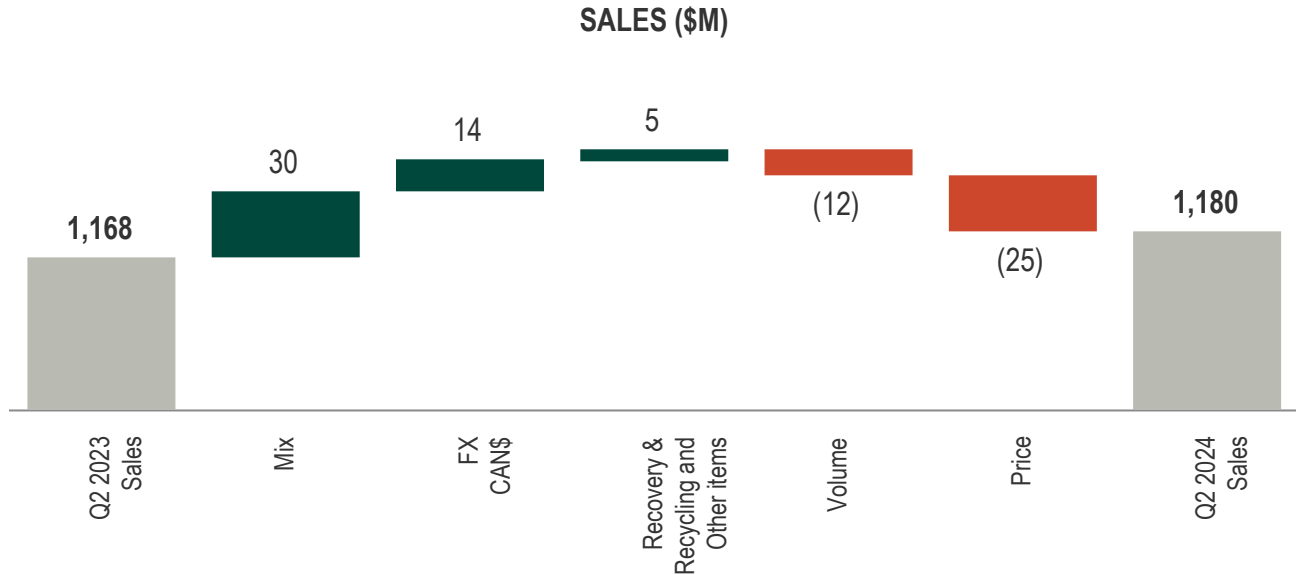
Sources: RISI and Cascades

## FINANCIAL OVERVIEW - 2024

### SALES

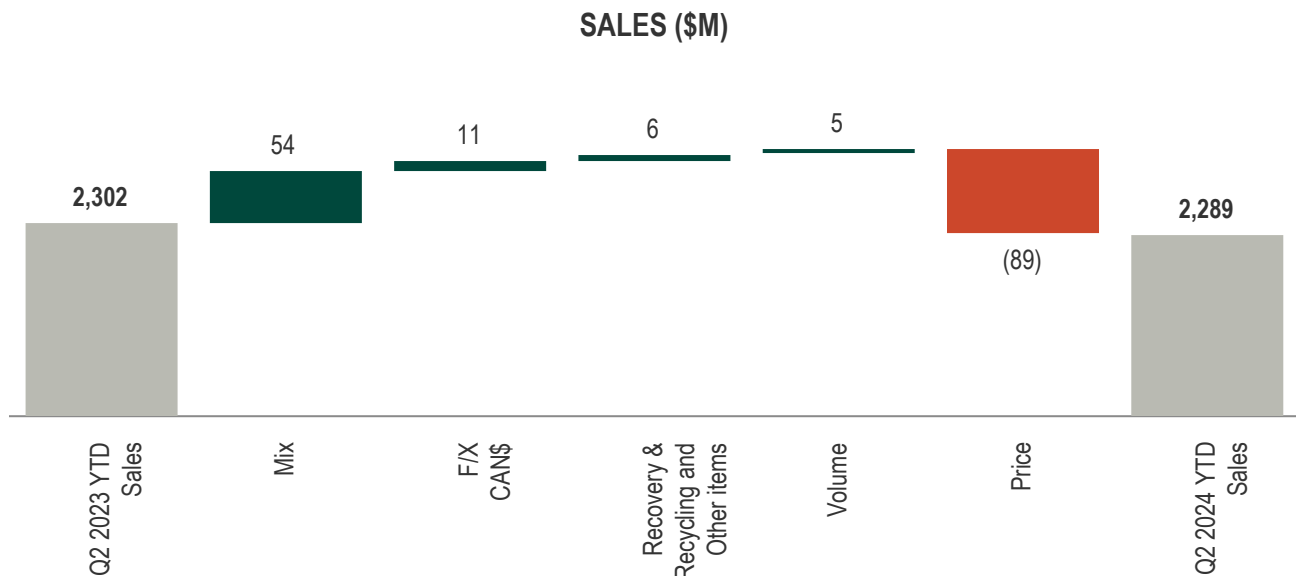
Sales of \$1,180 million increased by \$12 million, or 1%, in the second quarter of 2024 compared to \$1,168 million in the same period of 2023. Sales levels benefited from stronger volumes in the Containerboard Packaging segment. The better sales mix and a favourable foreign exchange rate also had a positive impact on sales. These impacts were partly offset by lower volumes in the Tissue Papers segment and lower selling prices in the Containerboard Packaging and Tissue Papers segments.

The main variances in sales in the second quarter of 2024, compared to the same period of 2023, are shown below:  
(in millions of Canadian dollars)



For the six-month period ended June 30, 2024, consolidated sales totaled \$2,289 million, a decrease of \$13 million, or (1)%, compared to \$2,302 million in the same period of 2023. Sales levels benefited from higher volumes in the Containerboard Packaging segment. The better sales mix and a favourable foreign exchange rate also had a positive impact on sales. The positive impact was more than offset by lower selling prices for all segments and lower volumes in the Tissue Papers segment.

The main variances in sales in the first half of 2024, compared to the same period of 2023, are shown below:  
(in millions of Canadian dollars)



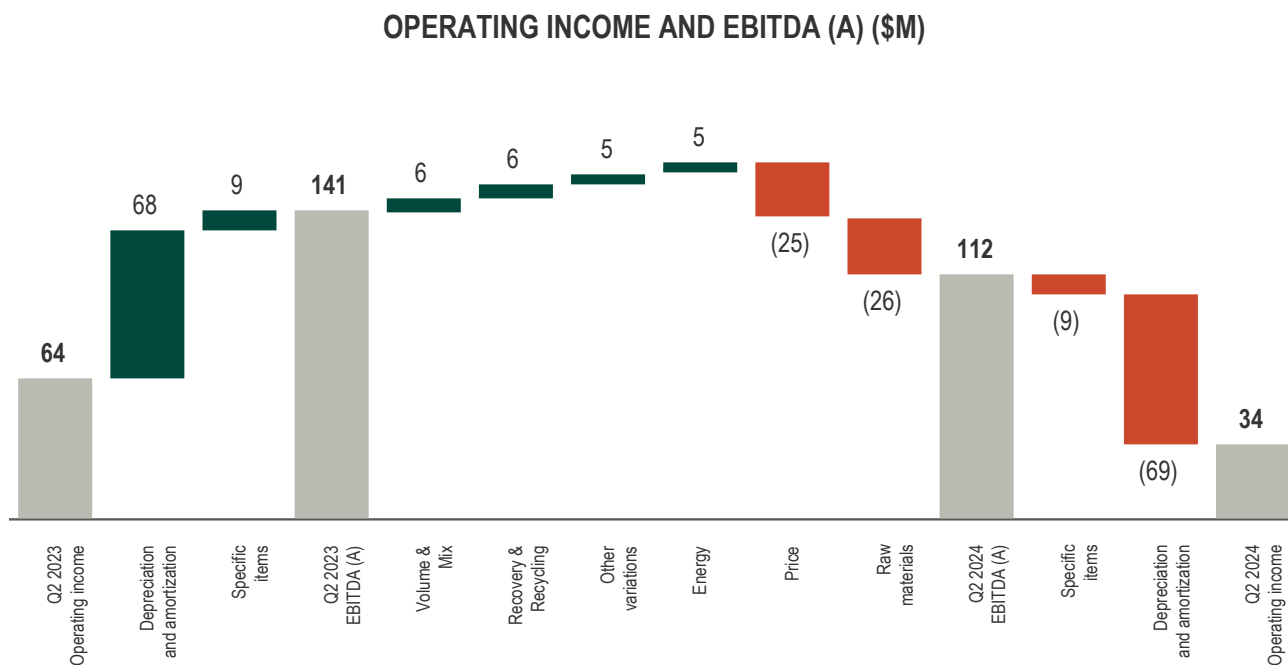
Sales, in the first half of 2024, by geographic segment are as follows:



### OPERATING INCOME (LOSS) AND EBITDA (A)<sup>1</sup>

For the three-month period ended June 30, 2024, the Corporation recorded an operating income of \$34 million, compared to an operating income of \$64 million in the same period of 2023. The Corporation recorded an EBITDA (A)<sup>1</sup> of \$112 million in the second quarter of 2024, compared to \$141 million in the same period of 2023. The Tissue Papers segment performance improved, the Specialty Products segment results were slightly higher and the Containerboard Packaging segment contribution was significantly less. On a consolidated basis, lower selling prices in our Containerboard Packaging and Tissue Papers segments combined with increased raw material costs in our Containerboard Packaging and Specialty Products segments more than offset the positive impact of volumes and lower production, energy and freight costs.

The main variances in operating income and in EBITDA (A)<sup>1</sup> in the second quarter of 2024, compared to the same period of 2023, are shown below:  
(in millions of Canadian dollars)

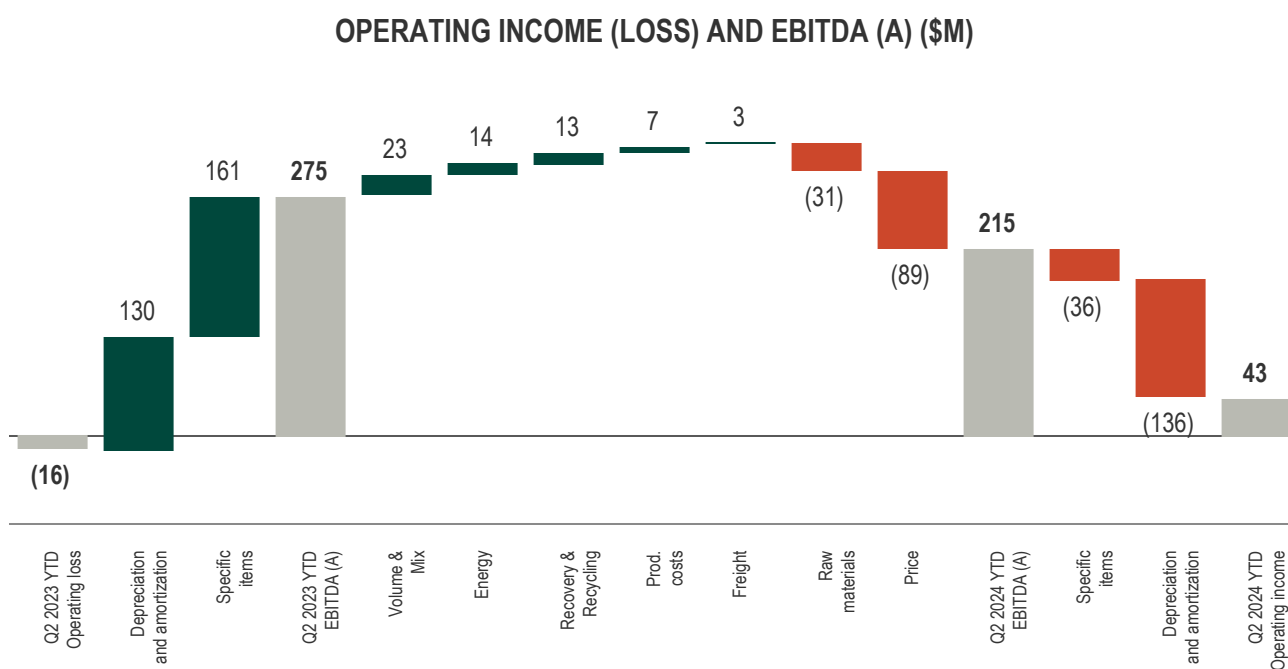


<sup>1</sup> Please refer to the "Supplemental Information on Non-IFRS Accounting Standards Measures and Other Financial Measures" section for a complete reconciliation.

For the six-month period ended June 30, 2024, the Corporation recorded an operating income of \$43 million, compared to an operating loss of \$(16) million in the same period of 2023. The operating income (loss) variance is explained by the specific items loss of \$36 million in the first half of 2024, compared to the significant specific items loss of \$161 million in the same period of 2023. For more details on specific items please refer to the “Segmented Information” section of the Unaudited Condensed Interim Consolidated Financial Statements for the three-month and six-month periods ended June 30, 2024 and 2023.

The Corporation recorded an EBITDA (A)<sup>1</sup> of \$215 million in the first half of 2024, compared to \$275 million in the same period of 2023. The Tissue Papers segment performance was significantly higher, the Specialty Products segment results were stable and the Containerboard Packaging segment contribution was significantly lower. On a consolidated basis, lower selling prices, in all segments, combined with increased raw material costs in our Containerboard Packaging and Specialty Products segments, more than offset the positive impact of volumes and lower production, energy and freight costs.

The main variances in operating income (loss) and in EBITDA (A)<sup>1</sup> in the first half of 2024, compared to the same period of 2023, are shown below:  
(in millions of Canadian dollars)



<b>Raw materials (EBITDA (A)<sup>1</sup>)</b>	<i>The impacts of these estimated costs are based on production costs per unit shipped externally or inter-segment, which are affected by yield, product mix changes, inbound freight costs and transfer prices. In addition to market pulp and recycled fibre, these costs include purchases of external boards and parent rolls for the converting sector, and other raw materials such as plastic and wood chips.</i>
<b>FIX CAN\$ (EBITDA (A)<sup>1</sup>)</b>	<i>The estimated impact of the exchange rate is based on the Corporation's Canadian export sales less purchases, denominated in US\$, affected by exchange rate fluctuations and the conversion of our non-Canadian subsidiaries EBITDA (A)<sup>1</sup> into CAN\$. It also includes the impact of exchange rate fluctuations in currencies other than the CAN\$ on working capital items and cash position of the Corporation's Canadian units, as well as our hedging transactions. It excludes indirect sensitivity (please refer to the "Sensitivity Table" section of our 2023 Annual Report for further details).</i>
<b>Production costs (EBITDA (A)<sup>1</sup>)</b>	<i>These costs include the impact of variable and fixed costs based on production costs per unit shipped externally, which are affected by downtime and efficiency.</i>
<b>Recovery and Recycling activities (Sales and EBITDA (A)<sup>1</sup>)</b>	<i>While this sub-segment is integrated into the other segments of the Corporation, all variations in the results of Recovery and Recycling activities are shown separately and on a global basis in the charts.</i>

The analysis of sales and EBITDA (A)<sup>1</sup> variances by segment is shown in each business segment review (please refer to “Business Segment Review” for more details).

## DEPRECIATION AND AMORTIZATION

The depreciation and amortization expense increased by \$6 million to \$136 million in the first half of 2024 (\$69 million in the second quarter), compared to \$130 million in the same period of 2023 (\$68 million in the second quarter). The increase reflected the depreciation of the Canadian dollar which increased the depreciation cost in the first half of 2024 by \$1 million (\$1 million in the second quarter). The variance was also explained by the start-up of the Bear Island mill in May 2023 which contributed to the increase in the depreciation and amortization expense along with the other investments. The increase was partly offset by a reduction in the depreciation and amortization expense resulting from the plant closures in the last twelve months.

<sup>1</sup> Please refer to the “Supplemental Information on Non-IFRS Accounting Standards Measures and Other Financial Measures” section for a complete reconciliation.

## FINANCING EXPENSE

(in millions of Canadian dollars) (unaudited)	For the 3-month periods ended June 30,		For the 6-month periods ended June 30,	
	2024	2023	2024	2023
Interest on long-term debt (including lease obligations interest (2024 - \$5 million for the 6-month period (\$3 million for the 3-month period); 2023 - \$4 million for the 6-month period (\$2 million for the 3-month period)))	32	31	63	51
Amortization of financing costs	1	—	2	1
Other interest and banking fees	2	2	5	3
Interest expense on employee future benefits	1	1	2	2
Unrealized loss (gain) on interest rate hedge instruments	1	—	(1)	—
Foreign exchange loss (gain) on long-term debt and financial instruments	—	(3)	1	(3)
	37	31	72	54

The financing expense reached \$72 million in the first half of 2024 (\$37 million in the second quarter), compared to \$54 million in the same period of 2023 (\$31 million in the second quarter), an increase of \$18 million.

Higher interest rates and a higher debt level resulted in a variance of \$12 million. The variance was also impacted by the capitalization of the financing expense related to the qualifying assets during the construction of the Bear Island mill, which ended in the second quarter of 2023 and amounted to \$9 million in the first half of 2023. The Corporation also recorded an unrealized gain on interest rate hedge instruments of \$1 million in the first half of 2024 (unrealized loss of \$1 million in the second quarter), compared to an unrealized loss of less than a million dollars in the same period of 2023 (unrealized loss of less than a million dollars in the second quarter).

The variance was also affected by the foreign exchange loss (gain) on long-term debt and financial instruments. In the first half of 2024, the Corporation recorded a loss of \$1 million (loss of less than a million dollars in the second quarter), compared to a gain of \$3 million in the same period of 2023 (gain of \$3 million in the second quarter).

The average interest rate on our revolving credit facility increased to 7.14% as of June 30, 2024 compared to 6.92% at the same date in 2023. As of June 30, 2024, 39% of the Corporation's total long-term debt was at a variable rate and 61% was at a fixed rate. As of June 30, 2024, the Corporation's consolidated debt denominated in US dollar totaled US\$1,335 million.

## SHARE OF RESULTS OF ASSOCIATES AND JOINT VENTURES

Share of results of associates and joint ventures amounted to \$9 million in the first half of 2024 (\$6 million in the second quarter), compared to \$15 million in the same period of 2023 (\$3 million in the second quarter). In the first quarter of 2023, it included a gain of \$9 million on the disposal of a non-significant joint venture. For more information on the share of results of associates and joint ventures please refer to Note 8 of the Unaudited Condensed Interim Consolidated Financial Statements for the three-month and six-month periods ended June 30, 2024 and 2023.

## PROVISION FOR (RECOVERY OF) INCOME TAXES

In the first half of 2024, the Corporation recorded a recovery of income taxes of \$7 million (recovery of income taxes of \$1 million in the second quarter), compared to a recovery of income taxes of \$15 million in the same period of 2023 (provision for income taxes of \$9 million in the second quarter).

Greenpac, which is a limited liability company (LLC) and its partners agreed to account for it as a disregarded entity for tax purposes. As a result, income taxes associated with Greenpac's net earnings are proportionately recorded by each partner based on its respective share in the LLC, and no income tax provision is included in Greenpac's net earnings. So, even though Greenpac's results are fully consolidated in the Corporation's results, only 92% of pre-tax book income is considered for tax provision purposes.

The effective tax rate and income taxes are affected by the results of certain subsidiaries and joint ventures located in countries where the income tax rates are different from those in Canada, in particular, the United States. The normal effective tax rate is expected to be in the range of 21% to 27%. The weighted-average applicable tax rate was 24% in the first half of 2024.

## NET EARNINGS (LOSS)

For the three-month period ended June 30, 2024, the Corporation posted net earnings of \$1 million, or \$0.01 per common share, compared to net earnings of \$22 million, or \$0.22 per common share, in the same period of 2023. On an adjusted basis<sup>1</sup>, the Corporation posted net earnings of \$8 million in the second quarter of 2024, or \$0.08 per common share, compared to net earnings of \$26 million, or \$0.27 per common share, in the same period of 2023.

For the six-month period ended June 30, 2024, the Corporation posted a net loss of \$(19) million, or (\$0.19) per common share, compared to a net loss of \$(53) million, or (\$0.53) per common share, in the same period of 2023. On an adjusted basis<sup>1</sup>, the Corporation posted net earnings of \$8 million in the first half of 2024, or \$0.08 per common share, compared to net earnings of \$59 million, or \$0.59 per common share, in the same period of 2023.

<sup>1</sup> Please refer to the "Supplemental Information on Non-IFRS Accounting Standards Measures and Other Financial Measures" section for a complete reconciliation.

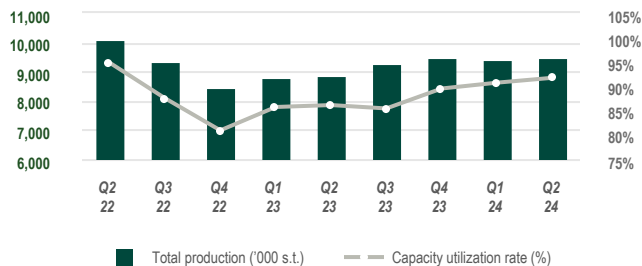
# BUSINESS SEGMENT REVIEW

## PACKAGING PRODUCTS - CONTAINERBOARD

### Our Industry

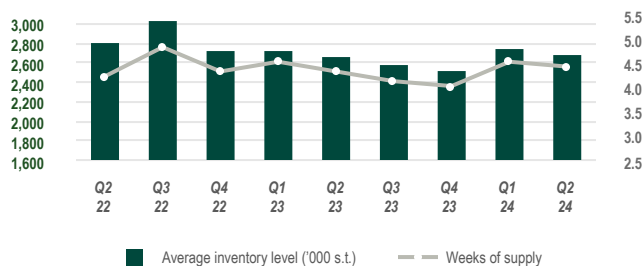
#### US containerboard industry production and capacity utilization rate <sup>1</sup>

During the second quarter of 2024, total US containerboard production amounted to 9.5 million short tons, a sequential increase of 1% and a year-over-year increase of 7%. The industry recorded an average capacity utilization rate of 92% during the quarter.



#### US containerboard inventories at box plants and mills <sup>2</sup>

The average inventory level decreased by 2% sequentially and increased by 1% year-over-year during the second quarter of 2024. Inventory levels stood at approximately 2.7 million short tons at the end of June 2024, representing 4.2 weeks of supply.

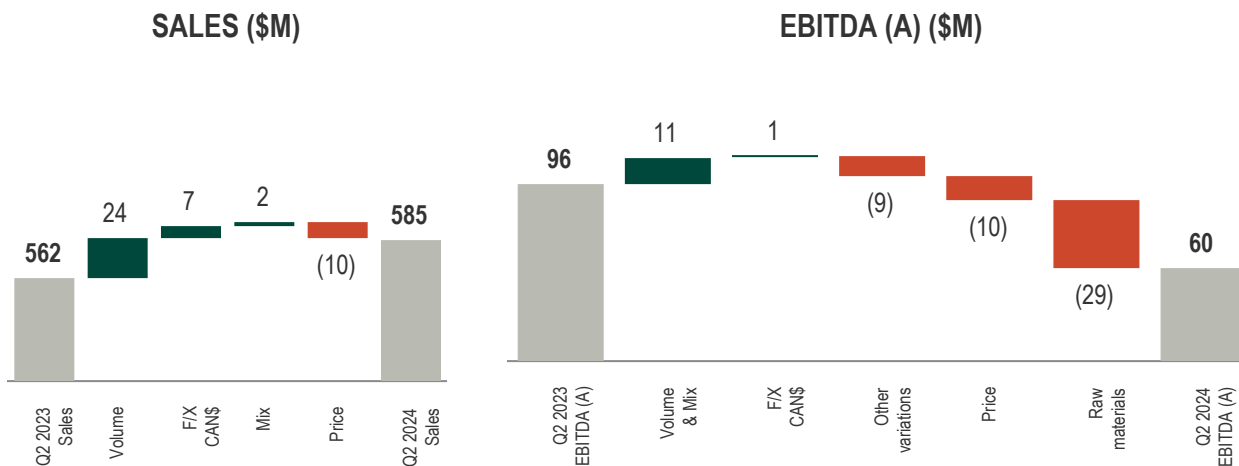


<sup>1</sup> Source: RISI

<sup>2</sup> Source: Fibre Box Association

### Our Performance

The main variances<sup>1</sup> in sales and EBITDA (A)<sup>2</sup> for the Containerboard Packaging segment in the second quarter of 2024, compared to the same period of 2023, are shown below:  
(in millions of Canadian dollars)



<sup>1</sup> For definitions of certain sales and EBITDA (A)<sup>2</sup> variation categories, please refer to the "Financial Overview" section for more details.

<sup>2</sup> Please refer to the "Supplemental Information on Non-IFRS Accounting Standards Measures and Other Financial Measures" section for a complete reconciliation.



Q2 2023	Q2 2024	Change in %
Shipments <sup>2</sup> ('000 s.t.)		
398	415	4%
Average Selling Price (CAN\$/unit)		
1,414	1,410	—%
Sales (\$M)		
562	585	4%
EBITDA (A) <sup>1</sup> (\$M)		
96	60	-38%
% of sales		
17%	10%	

<sup>1</sup> Please refer to the "Supplemental Information on Non-IFRS Accounting Standards Measures and Other Financial Measures" section for a complete reconciliation.

<sup>2</sup> Shipments do not take into account the elimination of business sector inter-segment shipments.

<sup>3</sup> Including sales to other partners in Greenpac.

Shipments increased by 17,000 s.t., or 4%, in the second quarter of 2024 compared to the same period of 2023.

This reflected a 7,000 s.t., or 4%, increase in parent roll shipments compared to the same period of 2023, largely attributable to the added volume of the Bear Island facility as it ramped up production. The mill integration rate increased by 1% to 51% compared to the same period of 2023, with the increase in shipments from converting activities. Including sales to other partners<sup>3</sup>, the integration rate decreased by 1% to 67%, year-over-year. The manufacturing utilization rate decreased by 5% to 88%, which was mainly driven by extended downtime at the Greenpac and Bear Island mills following a prolongation of planned maintenance at these facilities in the second quarter of 2024.

Shipments from converting activities increased by 10,000 s.t., or 5%, compared to the same period of 2023. In square feet, volumes reached 3.7 billion, an increase of 6% year-over-year. Our Canadian converted product shipments increased by 8% year-over-year, which is more than the 6% increase in the market, while our US converted product shipments increased by 1% year-over-year, aligning with the 1% market increase.

The average selling price slightly decreased in the second quarter of 2024 compared to the same period of 2023. This reflected 4% increase for parent rolls and a 3% decrease in converted products, which was partially offset by a favourable product mix with a higher proportion of converted products.

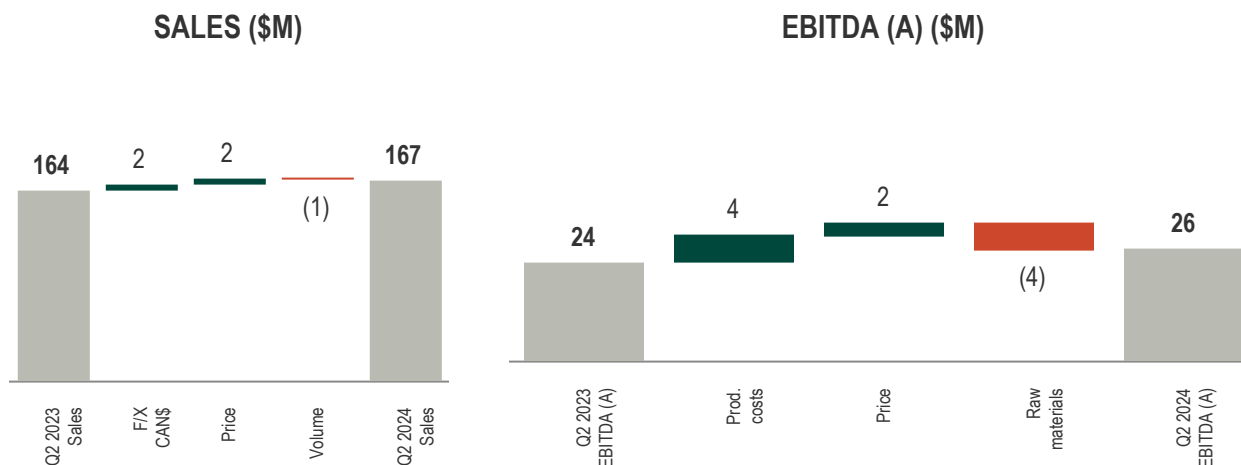
Sales increased by \$23 million in the second quarter of 2024 compared to the same period of 2023. This reflected positive impacts of \$24 million from higher volumes, \$7 million from the 1% average depreciation of the Canadian dollar compared to the US dollar and \$2 million from a favourable mix of products sold. These benefits were offset by a negative \$10 million impact stemming from lower average selling prices.

EBITDA (A)<sup>1</sup> decreased by \$36 million, or 38%, in the second quarter of 2024 compared to the same period of 2023. The decrease in EBITDA (A)<sup>1</sup> mostly reflects headwinds of \$10 million related to lower average selling prices and \$29 million due to higher raw material costs, mainly OCC recycled fibre. Also, a negative impact of \$9 million is explained by higher operational and logistic costs, mainly related to extended downtime at the Greenpac and Bear Island mills following a prolongation of planned maintenance at these facilities. This amount also includes a \$4 million research and development credit. These impacts were partly offset by benefits of \$11 million from higher volumes and a favourable sales mix and \$1 million from the 1% average depreciation of the Canadian dollar compared to the US dollar.

## PACKAGING PRODUCTS - SPECIALTY PRODUCTS

### Our Performance

The main variances<sup>1</sup> in sales and EBITDA (A)<sup>2</sup> for the Specialty Products segment in the second quarter of 2024, compared to the same period of 2023, are shown below:  
(in millions of Canadian dollars)



Q2 2023	Q2 2024	Change in %
<b>Sales (\$M)</b>		
164	167	2%
<b>EBITDA (A)<sup>2</sup> (\$M)</b>		
24	26	8%
<b>% of sales</b>		
15%	16%	

Sales increased by \$3 million, or 2%, in the second quarter of 2024 compared to the same period of 2023. This increase reflects the 1% average depreciation of the Canadian dollar compared to the US dollar and higher selling prices in our molded pulp products partly offset by lower selling prices in our industrial cardboard products. In terms of volumes, shipments for plastic-based products were stronger while industrial cardboard demand was lower.

EBITDA (A)<sup>2</sup> increased by \$2 million, or 8%, in the second quarter of 2024 compared to the same period of 2023. This increase is the result of lower operating costs, which increased results by \$4 million. This impact was partly offset by lower realized spreads of \$2 million reflecting higher raw material costs that were not fully offset by higher selling prices, mainly for industrial cardboard products.

<sup>1</sup> For definitions of certain sales and EBITDA (A)<sup>2</sup> variation categories, please refer to the "Financial Overview" section for more details.

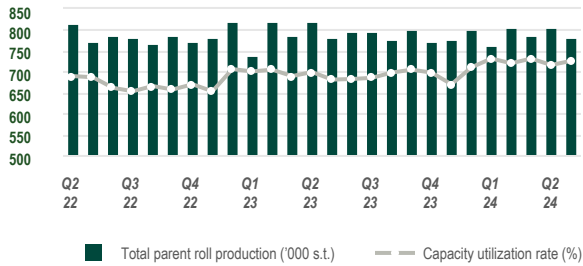
<sup>2</sup> Please refer to the "Supplemental Information on Non-IFRS Accounting Standards Measures and Other Financial Measures" section for a complete reconciliation.

# TISSUE PAPERS

## Our Industry

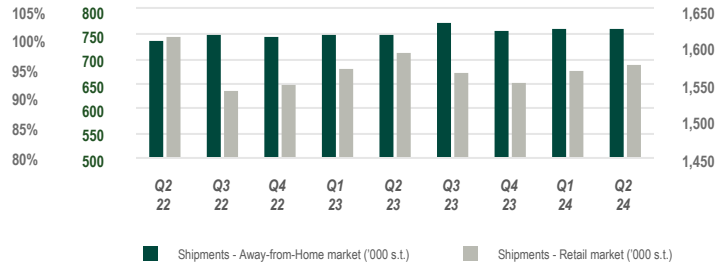
### US tissue paper industry production (parent rolls) and capacity utilization rate<sup>1</sup>

During the second quarter of 2024, parent roll production amounted to 2.4 million tons, stable sequentially and stable compared to the same period last year. The average capacity utilization rate for the quarter stood at 96%, stable sequentially and up 2% compared to the second quarter of 2023.



### US tissue paper industry converted product shipments<sup>1</sup>

Shipments in the Away-from-Home market were stable sequentially and increased by 2% year-over-year in the second quarter of 2024. Shipments in the Retail market increased by 1% compared to the previous quarter and decreased by 1% compared to the same period of 2023.

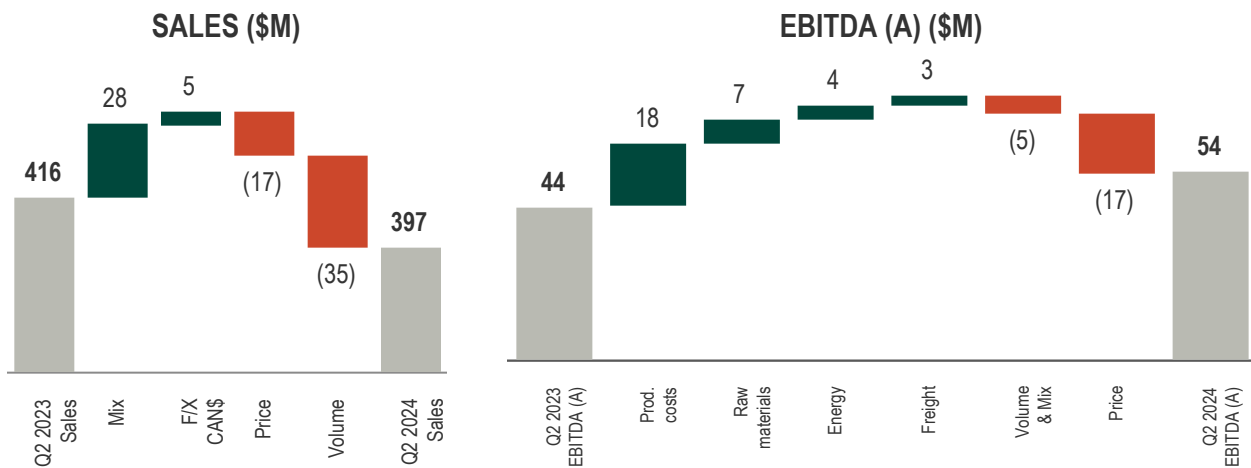


<sup>1</sup> Source: RISI

## Our Performance

The main variances<sup>1</sup> in sales and EBITDA (A)<sup>2</sup> for the Tissue Papers segment in the second quarter of 2024, compared to the same period of 2023, are shown below:

(in millions of Canadian dollars)



<sup>1</sup> For definitions of certain sales and EBITDA (A)<sup>2</sup> variation categories, please refer to the "Financial Overview" section for more details.

<sup>2</sup> Please refer to the "Supplemental Information on Non-IFRS Accounting Standards Measures and Other Financial Measures" section for a complete reconciliation.

Q2 2023	Q2 2024	Change in %
<b>Shipments<sup>2</sup> ('000 s.t.)</b>		
<b>134</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>-9%</b>
<b>Average Selling Price (CAN\$/unit)</b>		
<b>3,114</b>	<b>3,236</b>	<b>4%</b>
<b>Sales (\$M)</b>		
<b>416</b>	<b>397</b>	<b>-5%</b>
<b>EBITDA (A)<sup>1</sup> (\$M)</b>		
<b>44</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>23%</b>
<b>% of sales</b>		
<b>11%</b>	<b>14%</b>	

<sup>1</sup> Please refer to the "Supplemental Information on Non-IFRS Accounting Standards Measures and Other Financial Measures" section for a complete reconciliation.

<sup>2</sup> Shipments do not take into account the elimination of business sector inter-segment shipments.

Shipments decreased by 12,000 s.t., or 9%, in the second quarter of 2024 compared to the same period of 2023.

Converted product shipments increased by 4,000 s.t., or 3%, on a year-over-year basis. This increase was mainly driven by higher volumes in the Consumer Products market (+9%), offset by fewer shipments in the Away-from-Home market (-4%) reflecting lower capacity from plant closures. In terms of cases, shipments increased by 0.5 million cases, or 3%, to 16.1 million cases in the second quarter of 2024. Parent roll shipments decreased by 16,000 s.t., or 76%, in the second quarter of 2024 compared to the same period of 2023 reflecting mill closures and higher internal consumption in line with the improvements made to converting production. As a result, our integration rate increased to 94% from 83%.

The 4% increase in the average selling price was primarily due to a favourable mix of products sold due to a lower proportion of parent rolls and the depreciation of the Canadian dollar compared to the US dollar. These benefits were partly offset by lower selling prices in some product categories.

Sales decreased by \$19 million, or 5%, in the second quarter of 2024 compared to the same period of 2023. This decrease reflects negative impacts of \$7 million associated with mix and volumes, and \$17 million relating to lower selling prices. These were partially offset by a \$5 million positive impact from the depreciation of the Canadian dollar.

EBITDA (A)<sup>1</sup> increased by \$10 million in the second quarter of 2024 compared to the same period of 2023, reflecting a combined positive impact of \$32 million from lower raw materials, energy, transportation and other production costs, the latter of which is attributable to plant closures. These benefits were partly offset by a \$17 million negative impact from lower selling prices and an additional \$5 million net negative impact stemming from lower volumes offset by a more favourable sales mix.

## CORPORATE, RECOVERY AND RECYCLING ACTIVITIES

Corporate, Recovery and Recycling activities recorded an EBITDA (A)<sup>1</sup> of \$(50) million in the first half of 2024 (\$(28) million in the second quarter), compared to \$(58) million in the same period of 2023 (\$(23) million in the second quarter). The Corporate, Recovery and Recycling activities reduce its negative contribution due to improved EBITDA (A)<sup>1</sup> of our Recovery and Recycling activities by \$13 million higher in the first half of 2024 (\$6 million higher in the second quarter), as a result of rising prices for the recycled fibre. While Corporate activities have rather stable recurring operating costs, a one-time compensation expense of \$5 million was recorded in the second quarter results. The compensation expense consists of an 18-month consulting agreement with Mr. Mario Plourde, commencing January 1, 2025, and a grant of deferred share units to Mr. Hugues Simon following his appointment as President and CEO effective June 17, 2024.

### STOCK-BASED COMPENSATION EXPENSE

The stock-based compensation expense recognized in Corporate activities amounted to \$3 million in the first half of 2024 (\$3 million in the second quarter), compared to \$4 million in the same period of 2023 (\$2 million in the second quarter). For more details on stock-based compensation, please refer to Note 20 of the 2023 Audited Consolidated Financial Statements.

## LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES

### CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

Cash flows from operating activities are shown in the following table:

(in millions of Canadian dollars) (unaudited)	For the 3-month periods ended June 30,		For the 6-month periods ended June 30,	
	2024	2023	2024	2023
<b>Operating activities</b>				
Net earnings (loss) attributable to Shareholders for the period	1	22	(19)	(53)
Adjustments for:				
Financing expense	37	31	72	54
Depreciation and amortization	69	68	136	130
Impairment charges	—	2	2	154
Other loss (gain)	—	—	3	(2)
Restructuring costs	10	6	33	7
Unrealized loss (gain) on derivative financial instruments	(1)	1	(2)	2
Provision for (recovery of) income taxes	(1)	9	(7)	(15)
Share of results of associates and joint ventures	(6)	(3)	(9)	(15)
Net earnings attributable to non-controlling interests	3	5	6	13
Net financing expense paid	(18)	(18)	(65)	(62)
Net income taxes received (paid)	2	(5)	(3)	(7)
Dividends received	8	6	9	7
Provisions for contingencies and charges and other liabilities	(26)	(7)	(46)	(7)
	78	117	110	206
Changes in non-cash working capital components	(24)	(30)	(94)	(76)
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>130</b>

Cash flows from operating activities, excluding changes in non-cash working capital components, stood at \$110 million in the first half of 2024 (\$78 million in the second quarter), compared to \$206 million in the same period of 2023 (\$117 million in the second quarter). This cash flow measurement is relevant to the Corporation's ability to pursue its capital expenditure program and reduce its indebtedness.

Cash flows from operating activities generated \$16 million in liquidity in the first half of 2024 (\$54 million generated in the second quarter), compared to \$130 million generated in the same period of 2023 (\$87 million generated in the second quarter). The decrease is driven by lower profitability and higher working capital compared to the same period of 2023. The Corporation paid \$65 million in financing expense in the first half of 2024 (\$18 million in the second quarter), compared to \$62 million in the same period of 2023 (\$18 million in the second quarter). The Corporation also paid \$3 million in income taxes in the first half of 2024 (\$2 million received in the second quarter), compared to \$7 million paid in the same period of 2023 (\$5 million paid in the second quarter). Other items include payments totaling \$31 million in the first half of 2024 (\$17 million in the second quarter) for severances and other restructuring costs related to closures, compared to \$6 million in the same period of 2023 (\$5 million in the second quarter).

<sup>1</sup> Please refer to the "Supplemental Information on Non-IFRS Accounting Standards Measures and Other Financial Measures" section for a complete reconciliation.

Changes in non-cash working capital components used \$94 million in liquidity in the first half of 2024 (\$24 million used in the second quarter), compared to \$76 million used in the same period of 2023 (\$30 million used in the second quarter). The increase comes from higher inventories due to increased direct and indirect production costs, as well as higher prices and quantities of supplies, higher receivable balances that reflect the applied price increase and the tight payment terms for major supply agreements, all of which contributed to the use of the cash flows in the first half of 2024. As of June 30, 2024, average quarterly LTM working capital as a percentage of LTM sales<sup>1</sup> stood at 9.5% compared to 9.9% as of December 31, 2023.

In the first half of 2024, the Corporation had unrecognized receivables of \$41 million (\$53 million in the fourth quarter of 2023) related to its monthly rolling receivable<sup>1</sup> monetization facility, of which the Corporation received a net amount of \$4 million (\$20 million in the fourth quarter of 2023) as the collection agent and recorded the same amount to the transferred assets purchaser. The Corporation recorded \$2 million in interest expenses in the first half of 2024 (less than a million dollars for the year ended December 31, 2023). The interest is charged monthly and paid on the settlement date.

## INVESTING ACTIVITIES

Investing activities are shown in the following table:

(in millions of Canadian dollars) (unaudited)	For the 3-month periods ended June 30,		For the 6-month periods ended June 30,	
	2024	2023	2024	2023
<b>Investing activities</b>				
Disposals in associates and joint ventures	—	—	—	10
Payments for property, plant and equipment	(40)	(104)	(81)	(244)
Proceeds from disposals of property, plant and equipment	17	—	17	3
Change in intangible and other assets	(20)	1	(20)	(1)
<b>Cash flows used by investing activities</b>	<b>(43)</b>	<b>(103)</b>	<b>(84)</b>	<b>(232)</b>

Investing activities used \$84 million in liquidity in the first half of 2024 (\$43 million used in the second quarter), compared to \$232 million used in the same period of 2023 (\$103 million used in the second quarter).

## DISPOSALS IN ASSOCIATES AND JOINT VENTURES

In the first quarter of 2023, the Corporation received \$10 million from the sale of an investment in a non-significant joint venture.

## PAYMENTS FOR PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

(in millions of Canadian dollars) (unaudited)	For the 3-month periods ended June 30,		For the 6-month periods ended June 30,	
	2024	2023	2024	2023
Total additions during the period	88	91	116	196
Variation of payments of acquisitions for property, plant and equipment included in "Trade and other payables"	3	20	19	63
Right-of-use assets acquisitions (non-cash)	(51)	(7)	(54)	(15)
<b>Payments for property, plant and equipment</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>244</b>
<b>Proceeds from disposals of property, plant and equipment</b>	<b>(17)</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>(17)</b>	<b>(3)</b>
<b>Payments for property, plant and equipment net of proceeds from disposals</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>241</b>

<sup>1</sup> Please refer to the "Supplemental Information on Non-IFRS Accounting Standards Measures and Other Financial Measures" section for a complete reconciliation.

New capital expenditure projects, including right-of-use assets, by segment in the first half of 2024 were as follows:  
(in millions of Canadian dollars)



No major capital projects were initiated in the first half of 2024. Additions relate to smaller projects and to maintenance capital expenditures.

### PROCEEDS FROM DISPOSALS OF PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

The main disposals of property, plant and equipment are as follows:

In the second quarter of 2024, the Containerboard Packaging segment received \$15 million from the sale of the assets related to a previously closed plant in the United States.

In the first quarter of 2023, the Tissue Papers segment received \$2 million from the sale of some machinery and equipment related to a previously closed plant in the United States.

### CHANGE IN INTANGIBLE AND OTHER ASSETS

In the second quarter of 2024, the Corporation acquired US\$15 million (\$21 million) of non participating fixed interest bearing preferred shares of a converting paper company. The preferred shares are redeemable at the issuer's option. The preferred shares meet the definition of a financial asset and are measured at amortized cost. The asset is recorded in "Other assets".

In the first half of 2023, the Corporation invested \$1 million in its information technology system and other software developments.

### FINANCING ACTIVITIES

Financing activities are shown in the following table:

(in millions of Canadian dollars) (unaudited)	For the 3-month periods ended June 30,		For the 6-month periods ended June 30,	
	2024	2023	2024	2023
<b>Financing activities</b>				
Bank loans and advances	1	3	3	2
Change in credit facilities	8	44	85	166
Change in credit facilities without recourse to the Corporation	3	—	18	—
Payments of other long-term debt, including lease obligations (2024 - \$35 million for the 6-month period (\$15 million for the 3-month period); 2023 - \$29 million for the 6-month period (\$15 million for the 3-month period))	(16)	(34)	(37)	(91)
Issuance of common shares upon exercise of stock options	2	2	2	2
Dividends paid to non-controlling interests	(5)	(6)	(8)	(9)
Acquisition of non-controlling interests	—	(3)	(3)	(3)
Dividends paid to the Corporation's Shareholders	(12)	(12)	(24)	(24)
<b>Cash flows generated (used) by financing activities</b>	<b>(19)</b>	<b>(6)</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>43</b>

Financing activities generated \$36 million in total liquidity in the first half of 2024 (\$19 million used in the second quarter), compared to \$43 million generated in the same period of 2023 (\$6 million used in the second quarter), including \$24 million in dividend payments to the Corporation's Shareholders in the first halves of 2024 and 2023.

## PAYMENTS OF OTHER LONG-TERM DEBT

The Corporation repaid lease obligations of \$35 million in the first half of 2024 (\$15 million in the second quarter), compared to \$29 million in the same period of 2023 (\$15 million in the second quarter). In the first half of 2023, the Corporation also repaid \$52 million of the other long-term debt.

## ISSUANCE OF COMMON SHARES UPON EXERCISE OF STOCK OPTIONS AND REDEMPTION OF COMMON SHARES

The Corporation issued 292,670 common shares at an average price of \$6.22 as a result of the exercise of stock options in the first half of 2024, which represents an aggregate amount of \$2 million (in the same period of 2023 - \$2 million for 307,684 common shares issued at an average price of \$5.21).

The Corporation purchased no common shares for cancellation in the first half of 2024 (in the same period of 2023 - nil).

## DIVIDENDS PAID TO NON-CONTROLLING INTERESTS AND ACQUISITION OF NON-CONTROLLING INTERESTS

Dividends paid to non-controlling interests in Greenpac and Falcon Packaging (distributor in the Specialty Products segment) amounted to \$8 million in the first half of 2024 (\$9 million in the same period of 2023). In the first half of 2024, the Corporation also increased its participation in Falcon Packaging for a contribution of \$3 million (\$3 million in the same period of 2023).

## CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL POSITION

### AS OF JUNE 30, 2024 AND DECEMBER 2023 AND 2022

The Corporation's financial position and ratios are as follows:

(in millions of Canadian dollars, unless otherwise noted) (unaudited)	June 30, 2024	December 31, 2023	December 31, 2022
Cash and cash equivalents	23	54	102
Total assets	4,881	4,772	5,053
Total debt <sup>1</sup>	2,116	1,936	2,068
Net debt <sup>1</sup>	2,093	1,882	1,966
Equity attributable to Shareholders	1,729	1,739	1,871
Non-controlling interests	41	42	57
Total equity	1,770	1,781	1,928
Total equity and net debt <sup>1</sup>	3,863	3,663	3,894
Ratio of net debt / (total equity and net debt) <sup>1</sup>	54.2%	51.4%	50.5%
Shareholders' equity per common share (in Canadian dollars)	\$17.13	\$17.27	\$18.64

The following table reflects the Corporation's secured debt rating/corporate rating/unsecured debt rating:

Credit rating (outlook)	MOODY'S	STANDARD & POOR'S
December 31, 2023	Baa3/Ba2/Ba3 (stable)	BB+/BB-/BB- (stable)
June 30, 2024	Baa3/Ba2/Ba3 (stable)	BB+/BB-/BB- (stable)

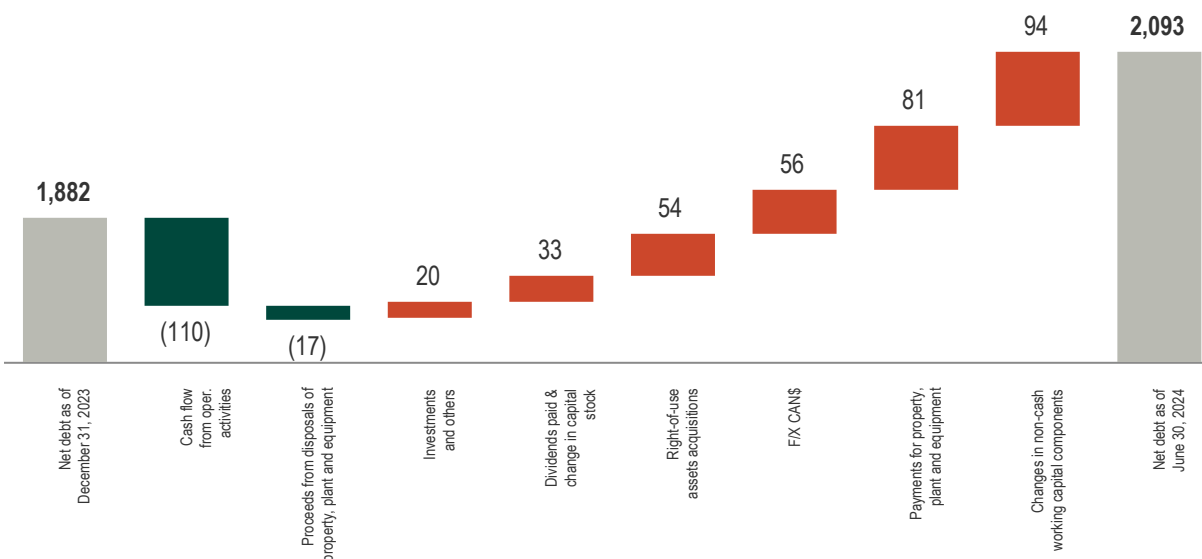
<sup>1</sup> Some information represents non-IFRS Accounting Standards financial measures, other financial measures or non-IFRS Accounting Standards ratios which are not standardized under IFRS Accounting Standards and therefore might not be comparable to similar financial measures disclosed by other corporations. Please refer to the "Supplemental Information on Non-IFRS Accounting Standards Measures and Other Financial Measures" section for a complete reconciliation.



## NET DEBT<sup>1</sup> RECONCILIATION

The variance in the net debt<sup>1</sup> (total debt<sup>1</sup> less cash and cash equivalents) in the first half of 2024 are shown below, with the applicable financial ratios included:

(in millions of Canadian dollars)



558	EBITDA (A) <sup>1</sup> (last twelve months) (\$M)	498
3.4x	Net debt / EBITDA (A) ratio <sup>1</sup>	4.2x

Liquidity available through the Corporation's credit facilities, cash and cash equivalent balance and the anticipated cash flow generated by its operating activities will provide sufficient funds to meet our financial obligations and fulfill our capital expenditure program for the next twelve months. Capital expenditures for 2024 are forecasted to be below \$175 million. As of June 30, 2024, the Corporation had \$391 million (net of letters of credit in the amount of \$12 million) available on its \$750 million credit facility (excluding the credit facilities of our subsidiary Greenpac). Cash and cash equivalents as of June 30, 2024 consisted of \$7 million in the parent company and restricted subsidiaries (as defined in the credit agreement) and \$16 million in unrestricted subsidiaries.

## 2024 THIRD QUARTER OUTLOOK

In my first eight weeks at Cascades, I have been inspired by the Company-wide drive to create meaningful value for our customers and shareholders. We expect consolidated third quarter results to be stronger sequentially, driven by improved Containerboard results as price increases are implemented and production efficiency levels are normalized following planned maintenance in the second quarter, and the unplanned extended downtime at Bear Island and Greenpac. Consolidated results are also expected to benefit from stable results in the Specialty Packaging business. At the same time, higher pulp prices and softer pricing due largely to a less favourable sales mix are expected to translate into lower results from the Tissue Papers segment. More broadly, the ongoing Bear Island facility ramp-up remains a priority, as is the roll-out of announced price increases in Containerboard and continued focus on profitability, efficiency and productivity initiatives throughout our operations.

<sup>1</sup> Please refer to the "Supplemental Information on Non-IFRS Accounting Standards Measures and Other Financial Measures" section for a complete reconciliation.

## CAPITAL STOCK INFORMATION

### STOCK MARKET TRANSACTIONS

Cascades' common shares are traded on the Toronto Stock Exchange (TSX) under the ticker symbol "CAS". From January 1, 2024 to June 30, 2024, Cascades' common share price fluctuated between \$8.96 and \$14.94. During the same period, 26.8 million Cascades common shares were traded on the Toronto Stock Exchange. On June 30, 2024, Cascades' common shares closed at \$9.03. This compares with a closing price of \$11.69 on the same closing day last year.

### COMMON SHARES OUTSTANDING

As of June 30, 2024, the Corporation's issued and outstanding capital stock consisted of 100,988,040 common shares (100,695,370 as of December 31, 2023) and 3,890,181 issued and outstanding stock options (3,172,527 as of December 31, 2023). In 2024, the Corporation purchased no common shares for cancellation, while 292,670 stock options were exercised, 1,020,319 stock options were granted and 9,995 stock options were forfeited.

On August 7, 2024, issued and outstanding capital stock consisted of 100,988,040 common shares and 3,888,804 stock options.

### NORMAL COURSE ISSUER BID PROGRAM

The Corporation did not renew its normal course issuer bid program since its expiry on March 18, 2023.

### DIVIDEND POLICY

On August 7, 2024, Cascades' Board of Directors declared a quarterly dividend of \$0.12 per common share to be paid on September 5, 2024 to shareholders of record at the close of business on August 22, 2024. On August 7, 2024, the dividend yield was 5.0%.

TSX ticker symbol: CAS	2022				2023				2024	
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2
Common shares outstanding (in millions) <sup>1</sup>	100.5	100.8	100.4	100.4	100.4	100.7	100.7	100.7	100.7	101.0
Closing price (in Canadian dollars) <sup>1</sup>	\$12.82	\$10.13	\$8.04	\$8.46	\$10.99	\$11.69	\$12.27	\$12.73	\$9.89	\$9.03
Average daily volume <sup>2</sup>	250,944	299,332	293,260	259,071	225,154	139,265	121,774	119,877	232,147	213,037
Dividend yield <sup>1</sup>	3.7%	4.7%	6.0%	5.7%	4.4%	4.1%	3.9%	3.8%	4.9%	5.3%

<sup>1</sup> On the last day of the quarter

<sup>2</sup> Average daily volume on the Toronto Stock Exchange

### CASCADES' COMMON SHARE PRICE FOR THE PERIOD FROM JANUARY 1, 2022 TO JUNE 30, 2024

(in Canadian dollars)



## **SUMMARY OF MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES AND CRITICAL ACCOUNTING ESTIMATES AND JUDGMENTS**

For all the details for this section, please refer to the notes to the Unaudited Condensed Interim Consolidated Financial Statements.

### **CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES**

#### **EVALUATION OF THE EFFECTIVENESS OF DISCLOSURE CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES AND INTERNAL CONTROLS OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING**

The Corporation's President and Chief Executive Officer and its Vice-President and Chief Financial Officer have designed, or caused to be designed under their supervision, disclosure controls and procedures (DC&P) and internal controls over financial reporting (ICFR), as defined in National Instrument 52-109, "Certification of Disclosure in Issuer's Annual and Interim Filings".

The purpose of internal controls over financial reporting (ICFR) is to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of the Corporation's financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements in accordance with IFRS Accounting Standards. The President and Chief Executive Officer and the Vice-President and Chief Financial Officer certify disclosures in annual and interim filings under Regulation 52-109 using the internal control framework issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO).

During the three-month period ended June 30, 2024, there were no changes in the Corporation's ICFR that materially affected or are reasonably likely to materially affect the Corporation's ICFR.

### **RISK FACTORS**

In the normal course of business, the Corporation is exposed to certain market risks, including risks ensuing from changes in selling prices for its principal products, raw material costs, interest rates and foreign currency exchange rates, all of which impact the Corporation's financial position, operating results and cash flows. The Corporation manages its exposure to these and other market risks through regular operating and financing activities and, on a limited basis, through the use of derivative financial instruments. The Corporation uses these derivative financial instruments as risk management tools, not for speculative investment purposes.

Pages 37 to 46 of our Annual Report for the year ended December 31, 2023 contain a discussion of the key areas of the Corporation's business risks and uncertainties and its mitigating strategies. This information on the Corporation's business risks and risk management remains substantially unchanged. Please refer to our 2023 Annual Report for further details.

## SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION ON NON-IFRS ACCOUNTING STANDARDS MEASURES AND OTHER FINANCIAL MEASURES

### SPECIFIC ITEMS

The Corporation incurs some specific items that adversely or positively affect its operating results. We believe it is useful for readers to be aware of these items as they provide additional information to measure performance, compare the Corporation's results between periods, and assess operating results and liquidity, notwithstanding these specific items. Management believes these specific items are not necessarily reflective of the Corporation's underlying business operations in measuring and comparing its performance and analyzing future trends. Our definition of specific items may differ from that of other corporations and some of these items may arise in the future and may reduce the Corporation's available cash.

They include, but are not limited to, charges for (reversals of) impairment of assets, restructuring gains or costs, loss on refinancing and repurchase of long-term debt, some deferred tax asset provisions or reversals, premiums paid on repurchase of long-term debt, gains or losses on the acquisition or sale of a business unit, gains or losses on the share of results of associates and joint ventures, unrealized gains or losses on derivative financial instruments that do not qualify for hedge accounting, unrealized gains or losses on interest rate hedge instruments and option fair value revaluation, foreign exchange gains or losses on long-term debt and financial instruments, fair value revaluation gains or losses on investments, specific items of discontinued operations and other significant items of an unusual, non-cash or non-recurring nature.

### RECONCILIATION AND USES OF NON-IFRS ACCOUNTING STANDARDS MEASURES AND OTHER FINANCIAL MEASURES

To provide more information for evaluating the Corporation's performance, the financial information included in this analysis contains certain data that are not performance measures under IFRS Accounting Standards ("non-IFRS Accounting Standards measures"), which are also calculated on an adjusted basis to exclude specific items. We believe that providing certain key performance and capital measures, as well as non-IFRS Accounting Standards measures, is useful to both Management and investors, as they provide additional information to measure the performance and financial position of the Corporation. This also increases the transparency and clarity of the financial information. The following non-IFRS Accounting Standards measures and other financial measures are used in our financial disclosures:

#### Non-IFRS Accounting Standards measures

- Adjusted earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization or EBITDA (A): represents the operating income (as published in the Consolidated Statement of Earnings (Loss) of the Consolidated Financial Statements) before depreciation and amortization excluding specific items. Measure used to assess recurring operating performance and the contribution of each segment on a comparable basis.
- Adjusted net earnings: Measure used to assess the Corporation's consolidated financial performance on a comparable basis.
- Adjusted cash flow: Measure used to assess the Corporation's capacity to generate cash flows to meet financial obligations and/or discretionary items such as share repurchases, dividend increases and strategic investments.
- Free cash flow: Measure used to calculate the excess cash the Corporation generates by subtracting capital expenditures (excluding strategic projects) from the EBITDA (A).
- Working capital: Measure used to assess the short-term liquidity of the Corporation.

#### Other financial measures

- Total debt: Measure used to calculate all the Corporation's debt, including long-term debt and bank loans. Often put in relation to equity to calculate the debt-to-equity ratio.
- Net debt: Measure used to calculate the Corporation's total debt less cash and cash equivalents. Often put in relation to EBITDA (A) to calculate net debt to EBITDA (A) ratio.

#### Non-IFRS Accounting Standards ratios

- Net debt to EBITDA (A) ratio: Ratio used to assess the Corporation's ability to pay its debt and evaluate financial leverage.
- EBITDA (A) margin: Ratio used to assess operating performance and the contribution of each segment on a comparable basis calculated as a percentage of sales.
- Adjusted net earnings per common share: Ratio used to assess the Corporation's consolidated financial performance on a comparable basis.
- Net debt / Net debt + Shareholders' equity: Ratio used to evaluate the Corporation's financial leverage and the risk to Shareholders.
- Working capital as a percentage of sales: Ratio used to assess the Corporation's operating liquidity performance.
- Adjusted cash flow per common share: Ratio used to assess the Corporation's financial flexibility.

- Free cash flow ratio: Ratio used to measure the liquidity and efficiency of how much more cash the Corporation generates than it uses to run the business by subtracting capital expenditures (excluding strategic projects) from the EBITDA (A) calculated as a percentage of sales.

Non-IFRS Accounting Standards measures and other financial measures are mainly derived from the consolidated financial statements, but do not have meanings prescribed by IFRS Accounting Standards. These measures have limitations as an analytical tool and should not be considered on their own or as a substitute for an analysis of our results as reported under IFRS Accounting Standards. In addition, our definitions of non-IFRS Accounting Standards measures and other financial measures may differ from those of other corporations. Any such modification or reformulation may be significant.

The chief operating decision-maker (CODM) assesses the performance of each reportable segment based on sales and earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization, adjusted to exclude specific items (EBITDA (A)). The CODM considers EBITDA (A) to be the best performance measure of the Corporation's activities.

EBITDA (A) by business segment is reconciled to IFRS Accounting Standards measure, namely operating income (loss), and is shown in the following table:

For the 3-month period ended June 30, 2024					
(in millions of Canadian dollars) (unaudited)	Containerboard	Specialty Products	Tissue Papers	Corporate, Recovery and Recycling activities	Consolidated
<b>Operating income (loss)</b>	15	19	38	(38)	34
Depreciation and amortization	38	6	13	12	69
Restructuring costs	6	1	3	—	10
Unrealized loss (gain) on derivative financial instruments	1	—	—	(2)	(1)
<b>EBITDA (A)</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>(28)</b>	<b>112</b>

For the 3-month period ended June 30, 2023					
(in millions of Canadian dollars) (unaudited)	Containerboard	Specialty Products	Tissue Papers	Corporate, Recovery and Recycling activities	Consolidated
<b>Operating income (loss)</b>	62	19	18	(35)	64
Depreciation and amortization	34	5	18	11	68
Impairment charges	—	—	2	—	2
Restructuring costs	—	—	6	—	6
Unrealized loss on derivative financial instruments	—	—	—	1	1
<b>EBITDA (A)</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>(23)</b>	<b>141</b>

For the 6-month period ended June 30, 2024					
(in millions of Canadian dollars) (unaudited)	Containerboard	Specialty Products	Tissue Papers	Corporate, Recovery and Recycling activities	Consolidated
<b>Operating income (loss)</b>	8	38	69	(72)	43
Depreciation and amortization	75	12	26	23	136
Impairment charges	2	—	—	—	2
Other loss	3	—	—	—	3
Restructuring costs	22	1	9	1	33
Unrealized gain on derivative financial instruments	—	—	—	(2)	(2)
<b>EBITDA (A)</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>(50)</b>	<b>215</b>

For the 6-month period ended June 30, 2023

(in millions of Canadian dollars) (unaudited)	Containerboard	Specialty Products	Tissue Papers	Corporate, Recovery and Recycling activities	Consolidated
<b>Operating income (loss)</b>	100	40	(74)	(82)	(16)
Depreciation and amortization	64	10	35	21	130
Impairment charges	59	1	94	—	154
Other gain	—	—	(2)	—	(2)
Restructuring costs	—	—	7	—	7
Unrealized loss (gain) on derivative financial instruments	(1)	—	—	3	2
<b>EBITDA (A)</b>	222	51	60	(58)	275

The following table reconciles net earnings (loss) and net earnings (loss) per common share, as reported, with adjusted net earnings and adjusted net earnings per common share:

(in millions of Canadian dollars, except per common share amounts and number of common shares) (unaudited)	NET EARNINGS (LOSS)				NET EARNINGS (LOSS) PER COMMON SHARE <sup>1</sup>			
	For the 3-month periods ended June 30,		For the 6-month periods ended June 30,		For the 3-month periods ended June 30,		For the 6-month periods ended June 30,	
	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023
<b>As reported</b>	1	22	(19)	(53)	\$0.01	\$0.22	(\$0.19)	(\$0.53)
Specific items:								
Impairment charges	—	2	2	154	—	\$0.02	\$0.01	\$1.16
Other loss (gain)	—	—	3	(2)	—	—	\$0.02	(\$0.01)
Restructuring costs	10	6	33	7	\$0.07	\$0.04	\$0.25	\$0.05
Unrealized loss (gain) on derivative financial instruments	(1)	1	(2)	2	(\$0.01)	\$0.01	(\$0.02)	\$0.01
Unrealized loss (gain) on interest rate hedge instruments	1	—	(1)	—	\$0.01	—	—	—
Foreign exchange loss (gain) on long-term debt and financial instruments	—	(3)	1	(3)	—	(\$0.02)	\$0.01	(\$0.02)
Share of results of associates and joint ventures	—	—	—	(9)	—	—	—	(\$0.07)
Tax effect on specific items, other tax adjustments and attributable to non-controlling interests <sup>1</sup>	(3)	(2)	(9)	(37)	—	—	—	—
	7	4	27	112	\$0.07	\$0.05	\$0.27	\$1.12
<b>Adjusted</b>	8	26	8	59	\$0.08	\$0.27	\$0.08	\$0.59
<b>Weighted average basic number of common shares outstanding</b>					100,781,388	100,447,357	100,742,283	100,404,729

The following table reconciles cash flow from operating activities with EBITDA (A):

(in millions of Canadian dollars) (unaudited)	For the 3-month periods ended June 30,		For the 6-month periods ended June 30,	
	2024	2023	2024	2023
<b>Cash flow from operating activities</b>	54	87	16	130
Changes in non-cash working capital components	24	30	94	76
Net income taxes paid (received)	(2)	5	3	7
Net financing expense paid	18	18	65	62
Provisions for contingencies and charges and other liabilities, net of dividends received	18	1	37	—
<b>EBITDA (A)</b>	112	141	215	275

<sup>1</sup> Specific amounts per common share are calculated on an after-tax basis and are net of the portion attributable to non-controlling interests. Per common share amounts in line item "Tax effect on specific items, other tax adjustments and attributable to non-controlling interests" only include the effect of tax adjustments.

The following table reconciles cash flow from operating activities with cash flow from operating activities (excluding changes in non-cash working capital components) and adjusted cash flow from operating activities. It also reconciles adjusted cash flow from operating activities to adjusted cash flow generated (used), which is also calculated on a per common share basis:

(in millions of Canadian dollars, except per common share amounts or as otherwise noted) (unaudited)	For the 3-month periods ended June 30,		For the 6-month periods ended June 30,	
	2024	2023	2024	2023
<b>Cash flow from operating activities</b>	54	87	16	130
Changes in non-cash working capital components	24	30	94	76
<b>Cash flow from operating activities (excluding changes in non-cash working capital components)</b>	78	117	110	206
Restructuring costs paid	17	5	31	6
<b>Adjusted cash flow from operating activities</b>	95	122	141	212
Payments for property, plant and equipment	(40)	(104)	(81)	(244)
Change in intangible and other assets	(20)	1	(20)	(1)
Lease obligation payments	(15)	(15)	(35)	(29)
Proceeds from disposals of property, plant and equipment	17	—	17	3
Dividends paid to non-controlling interests	37	4	22	(59)
Dividends paid to the Corporation's Shareholders	(5)	(6)	(8)	(9)
	(12)	(12)	(24)	(24)
<b>Adjusted cash flow generated (used)</b>	20	(14)	(10)	(92)
<b>Adjusted cash flow generated (used) per common share (in Canadian dollars)</b>	\$0.20	(\$0.14)	(\$0.10)	(\$0.92)
<b>Weighted average basic number of common shares outstanding</b>	100,781,388	100,447,357	100,742,283	100,404,729

The following table reconciles payments for property, plant and equipment, excluding strategic projects and free cash flow. It also provides these two metrics as a percentage of sales:

(in millions of Canadian dollars) (unaudited)	June 30, 2024 (LTM) <sup>3</sup>	December 31, 2023	June 30, 2023 (LTM) <sup>3</sup>
<b>Sales<sup>1</sup></b>	4,625	4,638	4,611
<b>EBITDA (A)<sup>1</sup></b>	498	558	502
Payments for property, plant and equipment <sup>1</sup>	187	350	526
Less: strategic projects included above <sup>2</sup>	(38)	(205)	(357)
<b>Payments for property, plant and equipment, excluding strategic projects</b>	149	145	169
<b>Free cash flow: EBITDA (A) less payments for property, plant and equipment, excluding strategic projects</b>	349	413	333
<b>Free cash flow / Sales</b>	7.5%	8.9%	7.2%
<b>Payments for property, plant and equipment, excluding strategic projects / Sales</b>	3.2%	3.1%	3.7%

The following table reconciles working capital as reported:

(in millions of Canadian dollars) (unaudited)	June 30, 2024	December 31, 2023	December 31, 2022
Accounts receivable	493	453	556
Inventories	641	568	587
Trade and other payables	(660)	(703)	(746)
<b>Working capital</b>	474	318	397

<sup>1</sup> Please refer to the "Historical Financial Information" section for a complete reconciliation.

<sup>2</sup> Strategic projects include the investment in the Bear Island construction project until December 31, 2023.

<sup>3</sup> LTM (last twelve months)

The following table reconciles total debt and net debt with the ratio of net debt to adjusted earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization (EBITDA (A)):

(in millions of Canadian dollars, except ratios) (unaudited)	June 30, 2024	December 31, 2023	December 31, 2022
Long-term debt	1,878	1,869	1,931
Current portion of Unsecured senior notes of \$175 million to be refinanced	175	—	—
Current portion of long-term debt	60	67	134
Bank loans and advances	3	—	3
<b>Total debt</b>	<b>2,116</b>	<b>1,936</b>	<b>2,068</b>
Less: Cash and cash equivalents	(23)	(54)	(102)
<b>Net debt as reported</b>	<b>2,093</b>	<b>1,882</b>	<b>1,966</b>
Last twelve months EBITDA (A)	498	558	376
<b>Net debt / EBITDA (A) ratio</b>	<b>4.2x</b>	<b>3.4x</b>	<b>5.2x</b>

## SPECIFIC ITEMS

The Corporation incurred the following specific items in the first halves of 2024 and 2023:

### IMPAIRMENT CHARGES

#### 2024

In the first quarter, the Containerboard Packaging segment recorded an impairment charge of \$2 million on inventories related to the closure of a plant in Ontario, Canada.

#### 2023

In the first quarter, the Containerboard Packaging segment recorded an impairment charge of \$59 million on some land (\$3 million), building (\$22 million) and equipment (\$34 million) of a CGU (cash generating unit) subsequent to the permanent closure of one paper machine in the United States. The decision was the result of competitive market conditions, which make the CGU less profitable. The recoverable amount of the assets in operation, totaling \$39 million, was determined using fair value less the cost of disposal based on the market approach of comparable assets on the market.

In the first quarter, the Specialty Products segment recorded an impairment charge of \$1 million on some equipment related to a closed plant in the United States. The recoverable amount was determined using fair value less the cost of disposal based on the market approach of comparable assets on the market.

In the first half, the Tissue Papers segment recorded an impairment charge of \$14 million (\$2 million in the second quarter) on spare parts and \$80 million on some buildings (\$10 million) and equipment (\$70 million) following the strategic repositioning of its operating platform. The decision includes the permanent closure of three plants in the United States. The recoverable amount of \$130 million for these three CGUs was determined using fair value less cost of disposal based on the market approach of comparable assets on the market, as well, for one of the plants, the recoverable amount of the real estate was established using the income method over a period of 20 years and a capitalization rate of 7.25%, no impairment recognized for the latest.

### OTHER LOSS (GAIN)

#### 2024

In the first half, the Containerboard Packaging segment recorded an environmental cost of \$4 million (\$1 million in the second quarter) related to the closure of a plant in Ontario, Canada.

In the second quarter, the Containerboard Packaging segment recorded a \$1 million gain from the sale of some assets related to a previously closed plant in the United States.

#### 2023

In the first quarter, the Tissue Papers segment recorded a \$2 million gain from the sale of some machinery and equipment related to a previously closed plant in the United States.



## RESTRUCTURING COSTS

### 2024

In the first half, the Containerboard Packaging segment recorded costs totaling \$22 million (\$6 million in the second quarter) related to closed plants in Canada and in the United States, severances and the redeployment of equipment within the network.

In the second quarter, the Specialty Products segment recorded costs totaling \$1 million related to closed plants in the United States.

In the first half, the Tissue Papers segment recorded costs totaling \$9 million (\$3 million in the second quarter) related to the closures of the plants in the United States and the redeployment of equipment within the network.

In the first quarter, the Recovery and Recycling activities recorded costs totaling \$1 million related to the non-renewal of a service contract in Canada.

### 2023

In the first half, the Tissue Papers segment recorded costs totaling \$7 million (\$6 million in the second quarter) related to the closures of the plants in the United States and severances.

## UNREALIZED LOSS (GAIN) ON DERIVATIVE FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The Corporation is exposed to commodity price risk on steam and natural gas. The Corporation uses derivative commodity contracts to help manage its production costs. The Corporation may designate these derivatives as cash flow hedges of anticipated purchases of energy. Gains or losses from these derivative financial instruments designated as hedges are recorded in "Accumulated other comprehensive income", net of related income taxes, and are reclassified to earnings as adjustments to "Supply chain and logistic" in the same period, as the respective hedged item affects earnings.

(in millions of Canadian dollars) (unaudited)	For the 3-month periods ended June 30,		For the 6-month periods ended June 30,	
	2024	2023	2024	2023
<b>Containerboard Packaging segment</b>				
Steam contract embedded derivatives related to our Niagara Falls containerboard complex	1	—	—	(1)
<b>Corporate activities</b>				
Financial hedging contracts for natural gas purchases.	(2)	1	(2)	3
<b>Unrealized loss (gain) on derivative financial instruments</b>	<b>(1)</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>(2)</b>	<b>2</b>

## UNREALIZED LOSS (GAIN) ON INTEREST RATE HEDGE INSTRUMENTS

The Corporation's interest rate risk arises from long-term borrowings. Borrowings issued at variable rates expose the Corporation to cash flow interest rate risk. When appropriate, the Corporation analyzes its interest rate risk exposure and considers hedging. The fair value of the outstanding interest rate hedge instruments is as follows:

(in millions of Canadian dollars) (unaudited)	For the 3-month periods ended June 30,		For the 6-month periods ended June 30,	
	2024	2023	2024	2023
<b>Unrealized loss (gain) on interest rate hedge instruments</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>(1)</b>	<b>—</b>

## FOREIGN EXCHANGE LOSS (GAIN) ON LONG-TERM DEBT AND FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The foreign exchange loss (gain) on long-term debt and financial instruments is composed of foreign exchange forward contracts not designated for hedge accounting.

(in millions of Canadian dollars) (unaudited)	For the 3-month periods ended June 30,		For the 6-month periods ended June 30,	
	2024	2023	2024	2023
<b>Foreign exchange loss (gain) on long-term debt and financial instruments</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>(3)</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>(3)</b>

## SHARE OF RESULTS OF ASSOCIATES AND JOINT VENTURES

In the first quarter of 2023, the Corporation recorded a \$9 million gain on line item "Share of results of associates and joint ventures" of the consolidated statement of earnings from the sale of an investment in a non-significant joint venture.

## HISTORICAL FINANCIAL INFORMATION

(in millions of Canadian dollars, unless otherwise noted) (unaudited)	2022					2023					2024			LTM <sup>2</sup>
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	YEAR	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	YEAR	Q1	Q2	YTD <sup>3</sup>	
<b>Sales</b>														
Packaging Products														
Containerboard	534	569	595	567	2,265	561	562	593	561	2,277	556	585	1,141	2,295
Specialty Products	157	168	168	161	654	161	164	157	160	642	160	167	327	644
Inter-segment sales	(8)	(10)	(11)	(7)	(36)	(7)	(9)	(7)	(8)	(31)	(7)	(7)	(14)	(29)
	683	727	752	721	2,883	715	717	743	713	2,888	709	745	1,454	2,910
Tissue Papers	314	342	382	384	1,422	387	416	422	390	1,615	367	397	764	1,576
Inter-segment sales, Corporate, Recovery and Recycling activities	41	50	40	30	161	32	35	33	35	135	33	38	71	139
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,038</b>	<b>1,119</b>	<b>1,174</b>	<b>1,135</b>	<b>4,466</b>	<b>1,134</b>	<b>1,168</b>	<b>1,198</b>	<b>1,138</b>	<b>4,638</b>	<b>1,109</b>	<b>1,180</b>	<b>2,289</b>	<b>4,625</b>
<b>Operating income (loss)</b>	(4)	32	25	(20)	33	(80)	64	80	(24)	40	9	34	43	99
<b>EBITDA (A)<sup>1</sup></b>														
Packaging Products														
Containerboard	80	99	103	119	401	126	96	101	67	390	50	60	110	278
Specialty Products	22	25	25	20	92	27	24	21	19	91	25	26	51	91
	102	124	128	139	493	153	120	122	86	481	75	86	161	369
Tissue Papers	(17)	(8)	4	8	(13)	16	44	61	61	182	50	54	104	226
Corporate, Recovery and Recycling activities	(27)	(25)	(21)	(31)	(104)	(35)	(23)	(22)	(25)	(105)	(22)	(28)	(50)	(97)
<b>Total</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>376</b>	<b>134</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>161</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>558</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>215</b>	<b>498</b>
<b>Margin (EBITDA (A) / Sales) (%)<sup>1</sup></b>	5.6%	8.1%	9.5%	10.2%	8.4%	11.8%	12.1%	13.4%	10.7%	12.0%	9.3%	9.5%	9.4%	10.8%
<b>Net earnings (loss)</b>	(15)	10	(2)	(27)	(34)	(75)	22	34	(57)	(76)	(20)	1	(19)	(42)
Adjusted <sup>1</sup>	(15)	10	20	22	37	33	26	45	5	109	—	8	8	58
<b>Net earnings (loss) per common share (in Canadian dollars)</b>														
Basic	(\$0.15)	\$0.10	(\$0.02)	(\$0.27)	(\$0.34)	(\$0.75)	\$0.22	\$0.34	(\$0.57)	(\$0.76)	(\$0.20)	\$0.01	(\$0.19)	(\$0.42)
Diluted	(\$0.15)	\$0.10	(\$0.02)	(\$0.27)	(\$0.34)	(\$0.75)	\$0.22	\$0.34	(\$0.57)	(\$0.76)	(\$0.20)	\$0.01	(\$0.19)	(\$0.42)
Basic, adjusted <sup>1</sup>	(\$0.15)	\$0.10	\$0.20	\$0.22	\$0.37	\$0.32	\$0.27	\$0.44	\$0.05	\$1.08	\$—	\$0.08	\$0.08	\$0.57
<b>Cash flow from operating activities (excluding changes in non-cash working capital components)</b>	19	81	60	100	260	89	117	100	91	397	32	78	110	301
<b>Payments for property, plant and equipment</b>	(102)	(117)	(122)	(160)	(501)	(140)	(104)	(59)	(47)	(350)	(41)	(40)	(81)	(187)
<b>Net debt<sup>1</sup></b>	1,549	1,712	2,011	1,966	1,966	2,070	2,076	2,088	1,882	1,882	2,020	2,093	2,093	
<b>Net debt / EBITDA (A) (LTM) ratio<sup>1</sup></b>	4.8x	5.4x	6.2x	5.2x	5.2x	4.6x	4.1x	3.8x	3.4x	3.4x	3.8x	4.2x	4.2x	

<sup>1</sup> Please refer to the "Supplemental Information on Non-IFRS Accounting Standards Measures and Other Financial Measures" section for a complete reconciliation.

<sup>2</sup> LTM (last twelve months)

<sup>3</sup> YTD (year-to-date)

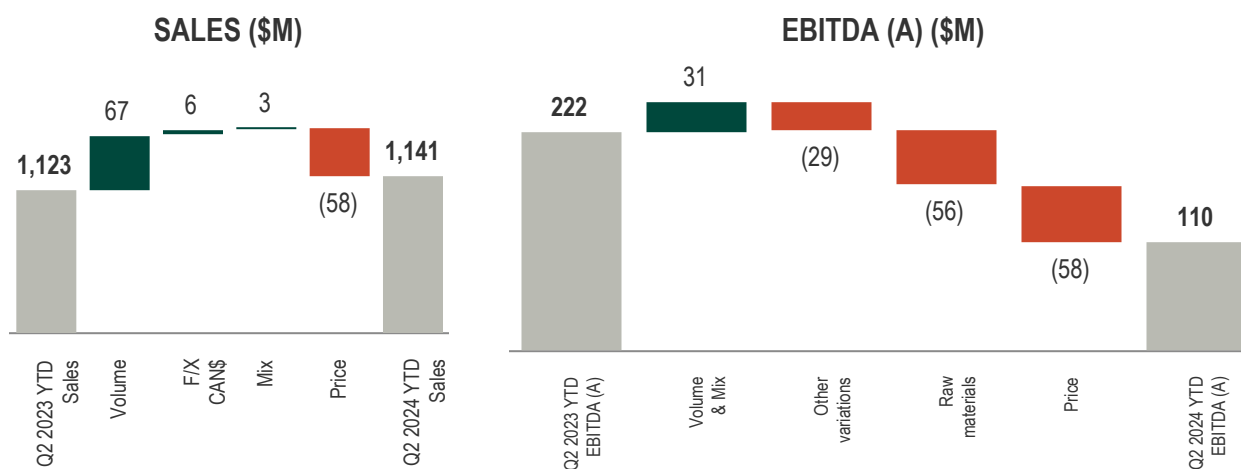
# APPENDIX INFORMATION FOR THE SIX-MONTH PERIODS ENDED JUNE 30, 2024 AND 2023

## BUSINESS SEGMENT REVIEW

### PACKAGING PRODUCTS - CONTAINERBOARD

#### Our Performance (Q2 2023 YTD vs. Q2 2024 YTD)

The main variances<sup>1</sup> in sales and EBITDA (A)<sup>2</sup> for the Containerboard Packaging segment in the first half of 2024, compared to the same period of 2023, are shown below:  
(in millions of Canadian dollars)



<sup>1</sup> For definitions of certain sales and EBITDA (A)<sup>2</sup> variation categories, please refer to the "Financial Overview" section for more details.

<sup>2</sup> Please refer to the "Supplemental Information on Non-IFRS Accounting Standards Measures and Other Financial Measures" section for a complete reconciliation.

Q2 2023 YTD	Q2 2024 YTD	Change in %
<b>Shipments<sup>2</sup> ('000 s.t.)</b>		
<b>781</b>	<b>827</b>	<b>6%</b>
<b>Average Selling Price</b> (CAN\$/unit)		
<b>1,438</b>	<b>1,379</b>	<b>-4%</b>
<b>Sales (\$M)</b>		
<b>1,123</b>	<b>1,141</b>	<b>2%</b>
<b>EBITDA (A)<sup>1</sup> (\$M)</b>		
<b>222</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>-50%</b>
<b>% of sales</b>		
<b>20%</b>	<b>10%</b>	

<sup>1</sup> Please refer to the "Supplemental Information on Non-IFRS Accounting Standards Measures and Other Financial Measures" section for a complete reconciliation.

<sup>2</sup> Shipments do not take into account the elimination of business sector inter-segment shipments.

<sup>3</sup> Including sales to other partners in Greenpac.

Total shipments increased by 46,000 s.t., or 6%, in 2024 compared to 2023.

Parent roll shipments increased by 21,000 s.t., or 5%, in the first half of 2024 compared to 2023. This increase reflects the added volume associated with the Bear Island facility ramping up production. Higher converting volumes increased the mill integration rate by 2% to 52%. Including sales to other partners<sup>3</sup>, the integration rate was 67% in 2024, which was stable compared to 2023. The manufacturing utilization rate decreased by 1% to 91%, which includes the impact of the start-up of Bear Island.

Shipments from converting activities increased by 25,000 s.t., or 7% compared to 2023. In square feet, volume increased by 8% from 6.8 billion in 2023 to 7.4 billion in 2024. This reflects an 8% increase in our Canadian converted products shipments, which is greater than the 4% increase for the Canadian industry. Our US converted product shipments increased by 8% year-over-year in 2024, outperforming the stable market performance.

The average selling price decreased by 4% in 2024, reflecting a 4% decrease for parent rolls and a 4% decrease for converted products.

Sales increased by \$18 million, or 2%, in 2024 compared to 2023. Higher volume and the 1% average depreciation of the Canadian dollar compared to the US dollar added \$67 million and \$6 million to sales, respectively, while a more favourable sales mix added another \$3 million. These positive impacts were offset by a lower average selling price which subtracted \$58 million from sales.

EBITDA (A)<sup>1</sup> decreased by \$112 million, or 50%, from 2023. This reflects negative impacts of \$58 million from a lower average selling price, \$56 million from higher raw material costs and \$33 million due to higher production and freight costs, including a \$7 million impact from an insurance settlement related to the water effluent treatment system at our Niagara Falls, NY complex received during the first quarter of 2023, and costs related to the closure of the Trenton mill at the beginning of the year. Results also include costs associated with the Bear Island mill commissioning and start-up in May 2023, and extended downtime at the Greenpac and Bear Island mills following a prolongation of planned maintenance at these facilities in second quarter of 2024. These headwinds were partially offset by a beneficial impact of \$31 million from higher volumes and a more favourable sales mix. In addition, a \$4 million research and development credit was recorded in the second quarter of 2024.

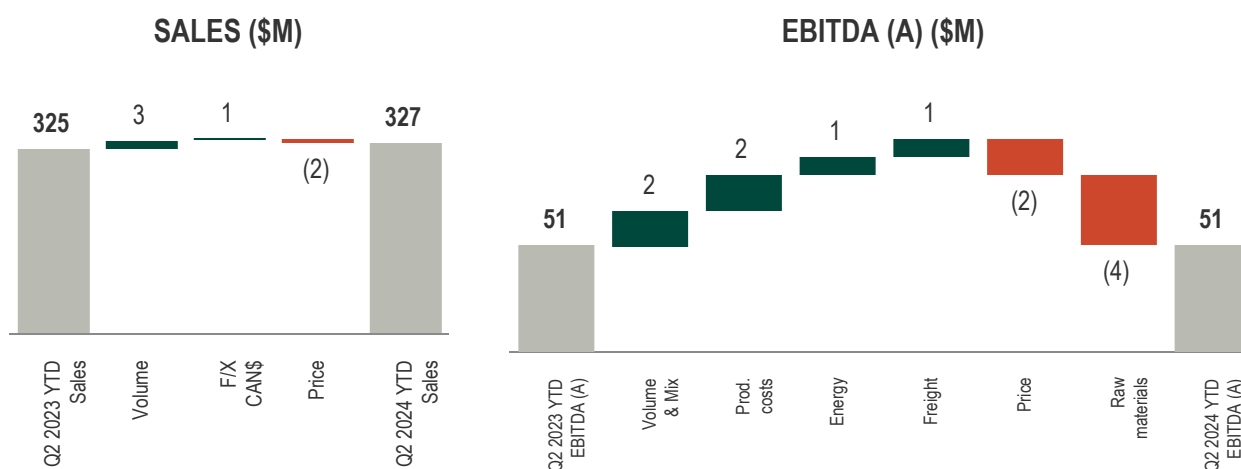
## BUSINESS SEGMENT REVIEW

### PACKAGING PRODUCTS - SPECIALTY PRODUCTS

#### Our Performance (Q2 2023 YTD vs. Q2 2024 YTD)

The main variances<sup>1</sup> in sales and EBITDA (A)<sup>2</sup> for the Specialty Products segment in the first half of 2024, compared to the same period of 2023, are shown below:

(in millions of Canadian dollars)



Q2 2023 YTD	Q2 2024 YTD	Change in %
<b>Sales (\$M)</b>		
325	327	1%
<b>EBITDA (A)<sup>2</sup> (\$M)</b>		
51	51	—%
<b>% of sales</b>		
16%	16%	

Sales increased by \$2 million, or 1%, in the first half of 2024 compared to 2023. Total volume increased, driven by higher shipment levels in plastic products, partially offset by lower demand for industrial cardboard and molded pulp products. In addition, the 1% average depreciation of the Canadian dollar compared to the US dollar added \$1 million to sales. The impact of lower average selling prices for industrial packaging and plastic products was partially offset by higher selling prices in molded pulp products, resulting in a net negative impact of \$2 million on sales.

Year-to-date EBITDA (A)<sup>2</sup> remained stable in 2024 compared to 2023. This performance reflects the beneficial impacts from lower labour, maintenance, energy and freight costs and higher production efficiency, which had a combined positive impact on results of \$4 million. In addition, higher volume increased results by \$2 million. These benefits were offset by the impact of lower realized spreads (selling price less raw materials), mainly for industrial cardboard products, which reduced EBITDA (A)<sup>2</sup> levels by \$6 million.

<sup>1</sup> For definitions of certain sales and EBITDA (A)<sup>2</sup> variation categories, please refer to the "Financial Overview" section for more details.

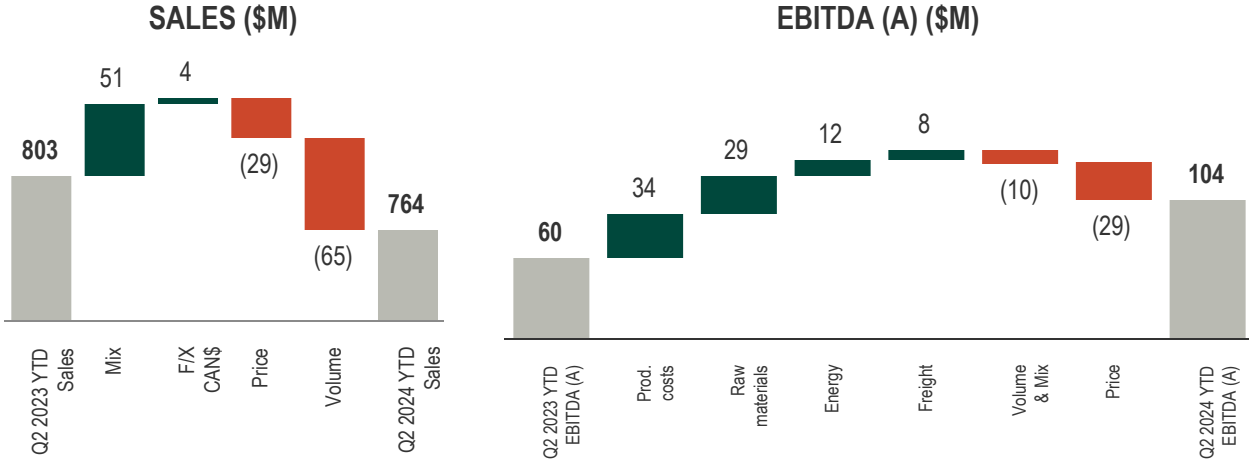
<sup>2</sup> Please refer to the "Supplemental Information on Non-IFRS Accounting Standards Measures and Other Financial Measures" section for a complete reconciliation.

# BUSINESS SEGMENT REVIEW

## TISSUE PAPERS

### Our Performance (Q2 2023 YTD vs. Q2 2024 YTD)

The main variances<sup>1</sup> in sales and EBITDA (A)<sup>2</sup> for the Tissue Papers segment in the first half of 2024, compared to the same period of 2023, are shown below:  
(in millions of Canadian dollars)



<sup>1</sup> For definitions of certain sales and EBITDA (A)<sup>2</sup> variation categories, please refer to the "Financial Overview" section for more details.

<sup>2</sup> Please refer to the "Supplemental Information on Non-IFRS Accounting Standards Measures and Other Financial Measures" section for a complete reconciliation.

Q2 2023 YTD	Q2 2024 YTD	Change in %
<b>Shipments<sup>2</sup> ('000 s.t.)</b>		
<b>258</b>	<b>237</b>	<b>-8%</b>
<b>Average Selling Price (CAN\$/unit)</b>		
<b>3,115</b>	<b>3,222</b>	<b>3%</b>
<b>Sales (\$M)</b>		
<b>803</b>	<b>764</b>	<b>-5%</b>
<b>EBITDA (A)<sup>1</sup> (\$M)</b>		
<b>60</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>73%</b>
<b>% of sales</b>		
<b>7%</b>	<b>14%</b>	

<sup>1</sup> Please refer to the "Supplemental Information on Non-IFRS Accounting Standards Measures and Other Financial Measures" section for a complete reconciliation.

<sup>2</sup> Shipments do not take into account the elimination of business sector inter-segment shipments.

Shipments decreased by 21,000 s.t., or 8%, in 2024 compared to 2023.

Converted product shipments increased by 7,000 s.t., or 3%. This reflects a 9% increase in shipments of Consumer Products partially offset by a 4% decrease in Away-from-Home product shipments. In cases, shipments increased by 1.1 million cases, or 4%, to 31.2 million cases in 2024 compared to 2023. Parent roll shipments decreased by 28,000 s.t., or 69%, in 2024 compared to 2023 mainly due to the closure of our mills in Oregon and in South Carolina during 2023. Network optimization also contributed to higher integration of parent rolls. The integration rate increased to 94% during the period from 84% in 2023.

The 3% increase in the average selling price was primarily due to a favourable mix of products sold due to a lower proportion of parent rolls, and the depreciation of the Canadian dollar compared to the US dollar. These benefits were partly offset by lower selling prices.

Sales decreased by \$39 million, or 5%, in 2024 compared to 2023. This was driven by impacts of \$14 million from lower volume and sales mix related to the paper machine closures, and \$29 million from a lower average selling price. These were partially offset by \$4 million related to the favourable exchange rate.

EBITDA (A)<sup>1</sup> increased by \$44 million mainly due to a combined \$83 million positive impact from lower raw material, energy, transportation and other production costs, the latter of which is a reflection of plant closures. These benefits were partly offset by a \$29 million negative impact from lower selling prices and a \$10 million net negative combined impact of lower volumes and a favourable sales mix.

## CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

(in millions of Canadian dollars)	NOTE	June 30, 2024	December 31, 2023
<b>Assets</b>			
<b>Current assets</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents		23	54
Accounts receivable		493	453
Current income tax assets		7	12
Inventories	2	641	568
Current portion of financial assets	6	—	1
		<b>1,164</b>	<b>1,088</b>
<b>Long-term assets</b>			
Investments in associates and joint ventures	8	94	94
Property, plant and equipment <sup>1</sup>	2	2,795	2,808
Intangible assets with finite useful life		48	55
Financial assets	6	1	—
Other assets	6	106	78
Deferred income tax assets		182	167
Goodwill and other intangible assets with indefinite useful life		491	482
		<b>4,881</b>	<b>4,772</b>
<b>Liabilities and Equity</b>			
<b>Current liabilities</b>			
Bank loans and advances		3	—
Trade and other payables		660	703
Current income tax liabilities		4	6
Current portion of Unsecured senior notes of \$175 million to be refinanced	5	175	—
Current portion of long-term debt	5	60	67
Current portion of provisions for contingencies and charges		18	14
Current portion of financial liabilities and other liabilities	6	25	29
		<b>945</b>	<b>819</b>
<b>Long-term liabilities</b>			
Long-term debt	5	1,878	1,869
Provisions for contingencies and charges		62	61
Financial liabilities	6	1	5
Other liabilities		89	94
Deferred income tax liabilities		136	143
		<b>3,111</b>	<b>2,991</b>
<b>Equity</b>			
Capital stock	7	616	613
Contributed surplus		15	15
Retained earnings		1,059	1,096
Accumulated other comprehensive income		39	15
<b>Equity attributable to Shareholders</b>		<b>1,729</b>	<b>1,739</b>
Non-controlling interests		41	42
<b>Total equity</b>		<b>1,770</b>	<b>1,781</b>
		<b>4,881</b>	<b>4,772</b>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these Unaudited Condensed Interim Consolidated Financial Statements.

<sup>1</sup> Please refer to the "Segmented Information" section for more information.



## CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF EARNINGS (LOSS)

(in millions of Canadian dollars, except per common share amounts and number of common shares) (unaudited)	NOTE	For the 3-month periods ended June 30,		For the 6-month periods ended June 30,	
		2024	2023	2024	2023
<b>Sales</b>		<b>1,180</b>	1,168	<b>2,289</b>	2,302
Supply chain and logistic		722	690	1,390	1,353
Wages and employee benefits expenses		275	270	542	543
Depreciation and amortization		69	68	136	130
Maintenance and repair		60	60	122	118
Other operational costs		11	7	20	13
Impairment charges		—	2	2	154
Other loss (gain)		—	—	3	(2)
Restructuring costs		10	6	33	7
Unrealized loss (gain) on derivative financial instruments		(1)	1	(2)	2
<b>Operating income (loss)</b>		<b>34</b>	64	<b>43</b>	(16)
Financing expense	9	37	31	72	54
Share of results of associates and joint ventures	8	(6)	(3)	(9)	(15)
<b>Earnings (loss) before income taxes</b>		<b>3</b>	36	<b>(20)</b>	(55)
<b>Provision for (recovery of) income taxes</b>		<b>(1)</b>	9	<b>(7)</b>	(15)
<b>Net earnings (loss) including non-controlling interests for the period</b>		<b>4</b>	27	<b>(13)</b>	(40)
<b>Net earnings attributable to non-controlling interests</b>		<b>3</b>	5	<b>6</b>	13
<b>Net earnings (loss) attributable to Shareholders for the period</b>		<b>1</b>	22	<b>(19)</b>	(53)
<b>Net earnings (loss) per common share</b>					
Basic		\$0.01	\$0.22	(\$0.19)	(\$0.53)
Diluted		\$0.01	\$0.22	(\$0.19)	(\$0.53)
<b>Weighted average basic number of common shares outstanding</b>		<b>100,781,388</b>	100,447,357	<b>100,742,283</b>	100,404,729
<b>Weighted average number of diluted common shares</b>		<b>100,870,224</b>	100,860,684	<b>101,043,122</b>	100,781,402

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these Unaudited Condensed Interim Consolidated Financial Statements.

## CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME (LOSS)

(in millions of Canadian dollars) (unaudited)	For the 3-month periods ended June 30,		For the 6-month periods ended June 30,	
	2024	2023	2024	2023
<b>Net earnings (loss) including non-controlling interests for the period</b>	4	27	(13)	(40)
<b>Other comprehensive income (loss)</b>				
<b>Items that may be reclassified subsequently to earnings</b>				
<b>Translation adjustments</b>				
Change in foreign currency translation of foreign subsidiaries	12	(22)	38	(24)
Change in foreign currency translation related to net investment hedging activities	(5)	8	(15)	9
<b>Cash flow hedges</b>				
Change in fair value of commodity derivative financial instruments	—	1	—	(5)
<b>Recovery of (provision for) income taxes</b>	1	(1)	2	—
	8	(14)	25	(20)
<b>Items that are not released to earnings</b>				
Actuarial gain on employee future benefits	4	2	11	3
Provision for income taxes	(1)	(1)	(3)	(1)
	3	1	8	2
<b>Other comprehensive income (loss)</b>	11	(13)	33	(18)
<b>Comprehensive income (loss) including non-controlling interests for the period</b>	15	14	20	(58)
<b>Comprehensive income attributable to non-controlling interests for the period</b>	3	5	7	13
<b>Comprehensive income (loss) attributable to Shareholders for the period</b>	12	9	13	(71)

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these Unaudited Condensed Interim Consolidated Financial Statements.

## CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF EQUITY

For the 6-month period ended June 30, 2024

(in millions of Canadian dollars) (unaudited)	CAPITAL STOCK	CONTRIBUTED SURPLUS	RETAINED EARNINGS	ACCUMULATED OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME	TOTAL EQUITY ATTRIBUTABLE TO SHAREHOLDERS	NON- CONTROLLING INTERESTS	TOTAL EQUITY
<b>Balance - Beginning of period</b>	<b>613</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>1,096</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>1,739</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>1,781</b>
Comprehensive income (loss)							
Net earnings (loss)	—	—	(19)	—	(19)	6	(13)
Other comprehensive income	—	—	8	24	32	1	33
Dividends	—	—	(11)	24	13	7	20
Stock options expense	—	—	(24)	—	(24)	(8)	(32)
Issuance of common shares upon exercise of stock options	—	1	—	—	1	—	1
Acquisition of non-controlling interests	3	(1)	—	—	2	—	2
Acquisition of non-controlling interests	—	—	(2)	—	(2)	—	(2)
<b>Balance - End of period</b>	<b>616</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>1,059</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>1,729</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>1,770</b>

For the 6-month period ended June 30, 2023

(in millions of Canadian dollars) (unaudited)	CAPITAL STOCK	CONTRIBUTED SURPLUS	RETAINED EARNINGS	ACCUMULATED OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME	TOTAL EQUITY ATTRIBUTABLE TO SHAREHOLDERS	NON- CONTROLLING INTERESTS	TOTAL EQUITY
<b>Balance - Beginning of period</b>	<b>611</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>1,212</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>1,871</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>1,928</b>
Comprehensive income (loss)							
Net earnings (loss)	—	—	(53)	—	(53)	13	(40)
Other comprehensive income (loss)	—	—	2	(20)	(18)	—	(18)
Dividends	—	—	(51)	(20)	(71)	13	(58)
Stock options expense	—	—	(24)	—	(24)	(9)	(33)
Issuance of common shares upon exercise of stock options	2	—	—	—	2	—	2
Acquisition of non-controlling interests	—	—	1	—	1	(1)	—
<b>Balance - End of period</b>	<b>613</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>1,138</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>1,779</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>1,839</b>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these Unaudited Condensed Interim Consolidated Financial Statements.

## CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS

(in millions of Canadian dollars) (unaudited)	NOTE	For the 3-month periods ended June 30,		For the 6-month periods ended June 30,	
		2024	2023	2024	2023
<b>Operating activities</b>					
Net earnings (loss) attributable to Shareholders for the period		1	22	(19)	(53)
Adjustments for:					
Financing expense	9	37	31	72	54
Depreciation and amortization		69	68	136	130
Impairment charges		—	2	2	154
Other loss (gain)		—	—	3	(2)
Restructuring costs		10	6	33	7
Unrealized loss (gain) on derivative financial instruments		(1)	1	(2)	2
Provision for (recovery of) income taxes		(1)	9	(7)	(15)
Share of results of associates and joint ventures	8	(6)	(3)	(9)	(15)
Net earnings attributable to non-controlling interests		3	5	6	13
Net financing expense paid		(18)	(18)	(65)	(62)
Net income taxes received (paid)		2	(5)	(3)	(7)
Dividends received	8	8	6	9	7
Provisions for contingencies and charges and other liabilities		(26)	(7)	(46)	(7)
		78	117	110	206
Changes in non-cash working capital components	9	(24)	(30)	(94)	(76)
		54	87	16	130
<b>Investing activities</b>					
Disposals in associates and joint ventures	8	—	—	—	10
Payments for property, plant and equipment		(40)	(104)	(81)	(244)
Proceeds from disposals of property, plant and equipment		17	—	17	3
Change in intangible and other assets	6	(20)	1	(20)	(1)
		(43)	(103)	(84)	(232)
<b>Financing activities</b>					
Bank loans and advances		1	3	3	2
Change in credit facilities		8	44	85	166
Change in credit facilities without recourse to the Corporation	5	3	—	18	—
Payments of other long-term debt, including lease obligations (2024 - \$35 million for the 6-month period (\$15 million for the 3-month period); 2023 - \$29 million for the 6-month period (\$15 million for the 3-month period))	5	(16)	(34)	(37)	(91)
Issuance of common shares upon exercise of stock options	7	2	2	2	2
Dividends paid to non-controlling interests		(5)	(6)	(8)	(9)
Acquisition of non-controlling interests		—	(3)	(3)	(3)
Dividends paid to the Corporation's Shareholders		(12)	(12)	(24)	(24)
		(19)	(6)	36	43
<b>Net change in cash and cash equivalents during the period</b>		<b>(8)</b>	<b>(22)</b>	<b>(32)</b>	<b>(59)</b>
<b>Currency translation on cash and cash equivalents</b>		<b>—</b>	<b>(1)</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>(2)</b>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents - Beginning of the period</b>		<b>31</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>102</b>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents - End of the period</b>		<b>23</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>41</b>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these Unaudited Condensed Interim Consolidated Financial Statements.

## SEGMENTED INFORMATION

The Corporation's operations are managed in three segments: Containerboard and Specialty Products (these two segments constitute the Corporation's Packaging Products) and Tissue Papers. The accounting policies of the reportable segments are the same as the Corporation's accounting policies described in the most recent Audited Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended December 31, 2023.

The Corporation's operating segments are reported in a manner consistent with the internal reporting provided to the chief operating decision-maker (CODM). The Chief Executive Officer has authority for resource allocation and management of the Corporation's performance and is therefore the CODM. The CODM assesses the performance of each reportable segment based on sales and earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization, adjusted to exclude specific items (EBITDA (A)). The CODM considers EBITDA (A) to be the best performance measure of the Corporation's activities.

Sales for each segment are prepared on the same basis as those of the Corporation. Inter-segment operations are recorded on the same basis as sales to third parties, which are at fair market value.

EBITDA (A) does not have a standardized meaning under IFRS<sup>®</sup> Accounting Standards; accordingly, it may not be comparable to similarly named measures used by other companies. Investors should not view EBITDA (A) as an alternative measure to, for example, net earnings, or as a measure of operating results, which are IFRS Accounting Standards measures.

**Sales by country by business segment are shown in the following table:**

(in millions of Canadian dollars) (unaudited)	SALES TO							
	For the 3-month periods ended June 30,							
	Canada		United States		Other countries		Total	
	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023
<b>Packaging Products</b>								
Containerboard	346	329	238	233	1	—	585	562
Specialty Products	66	58	99	105	2	1	167	164
Inter-segment sales	(5)	(4)	(2)	(5)	—	—	(7)	(9)
	407	383	335	333	3	1	745	717
<b>Tissue Papers</b>								
Tissue Papers	133	136	264	280	—	—	397	416
Inter-segment sales, Corporate, Recovery and Recycling activities	30	23	8	7	—	5	38	35
	570	542	607	620	3	6	1,180	1,168

(in millions of Canadian dollars) (unaudited)	SALES TO							
	For the 6-month periods ended June 30,							
	Canada		United States		Other countries		Total	
	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023
<b>Packaging Products</b>								
Containerboard	668	658	470	464	3	1	1,141	1,123
Specialty Products	126	114	199	209	2	2	327	325
Inter-segment sales	(8)	(8)	(6)	(8)	—	—	(14)	(16)
	786	764	663	665	5	3	1,454	1,432
<b>Tissue Papers</b>								
Tissue Papers	268	262	496	541	—	—	764	803
Inter-segment sales, Corporate, Recovery and Recycling activities	56	48	15	13	—	6	71	67
	1,110	1,074	1,174	1,219	5	9	2,289	2,302

**EBITDA (A) by business segment is reconciled to IFRS Accounting Standards measure, namely operating income (loss), and is shown in the following table:**

For the 3-month period ended June 30, 2024

(in millions of Canadian dollars) (unaudited)	Containerboard	Specialty Products	Tissue Papers	Corporate, Recovery and Recycling activities	Consolidated
<b>Operating income (loss)</b>	15	19	38	(38)	34
Depreciation and amortization	38	6	13	12	69
Restructuring costs	6	1	3	—	10
Unrealized loss (gain) on derivative financial instruments	1	—	—	(2)	(1)
<b>EBITDA (A)</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>(28)</b>	<b>112</b>

For the 3-month period ended June 30, 2023

(in millions of Canadian dollars) (unaudited)	Containerboard	Specialty Products	Tissue Papers	Corporate, Recovery and Recycling activities	Consolidated
<b>Operating income (loss)</b>	62	19	18	(35)	64
Depreciation and amortization	34	5	18	11	68
Impairment charges	—	—	2	—	2
Restructuring costs	—	—	6	—	6
Unrealized loss on derivative financial instruments	—	—	—	1	1
<b>EBITDA (A)</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>(23)</b>	<b>141</b>

For the 6-month period ended June 30, 2024

(in millions of Canadian dollars) (unaudited)	Containerboard	Specialty Products	Tissue Papers	Corporate, Recovery and Recycling activities	Consolidated
<b>Operating income (loss)</b>	8	38	69	(72)	43
Depreciation and amortization	75	12	26	23	136
Impairment charges	2	—	—	—	2
Other loss	3	—	—	—	3
Restructuring costs	22	1	9	1	33
Unrealized gain on derivative financial instruments	—	—	—	(2)	(2)
<b>EBITDA (A)</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>(50)</b>	<b>215</b>

For the 6-month period ended June 30, 2023

(in millions of Canadian dollars) (unaudited)	Containerboard	Specialty Products	Tissue Papers	Corporate, Recovery and Recycling activities	Consolidated
<b>Operating income (loss)</b>	100	40	(74)	(82)	(16)
Depreciation and amortization	64	10	35	21	130
Impairment charges	59	1	94	—	154
Other gain	—	—	(2)	—	(2)
Restructuring costs	—	—	7	—	7
Unrealized loss (gain) on derivative financial instruments	(1)	—	—	3	2
<b>EBITDA (A)</b>	<b>222</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>(58)</b>	<b>275</b>

## **IMPAIRMENT CHARGES**

### **2024**

In the first quarter, the Containerboard Packaging segment recorded an impairment charge of \$2 million on inventories related to the closure of a plant in Ontario, Canada.

### **2023**

In the first quarter, the Containerboard Packaging segment recorded an impairment charge of \$59 million on some land (\$3 million), building (\$22 million) and equipment (\$34 million) of a CGU (cash generating unit) subsequent to the permanent closure of one paper machine in the United States. The decision was the result of competitive market conditions, which make the CGU less profitable. The recoverable amount of the assets in operation, totaling \$39 million, was determined using fair value less the cost of disposal based on the market approach of comparable assets on the market.

In the first quarter, the Specialty Products segment recorded an impairment charge of \$1 million on some equipment related to a closed plant in the United States. The recoverable amount was determined using fair value less the cost of disposal based on the market approach of comparable assets on the market.

In the first half, the Tissue Papers segment recorded an impairment charge of \$14 million (\$2 million in the second quarter) on spare parts and \$80 million on some buildings (\$10 million) and equipment (\$70 million) following the strategic repositioning of its operating platform. The decision includes the permanent closure of three plants in the United States. The recoverable amount of \$130 million for these three CGUs was determined using fair value less cost of disposal based on the market approach of comparable assets on the market, as well, for one of the plants, the recoverable amount of the real estate was established using the income method over a period of 20 years and a capitalization rate of 7.25%, no impairment recognized for the latest.

## **OTHER LOSS (GAIN)**

### **2024**

In the first half, the Containerboard Packaging segment recorded an environmental cost of \$4 million (\$1 million in the second quarter) related to the closure of a plant in Ontario, Canada.

In the second quarter, the Containerboard Packaging segment recorded a \$1 million gain from the sale of some assets related to a previously closed plant in the United States.

### **2023**

In the first quarter, the Tissue Papers segment recorded a \$2 million gain from the sale of some machinery and equipment related to a previously closed plant in the United States.

## **RESTRUCTURING COSTS**

### **2024**

In the first half, the Containerboard Packaging segment recorded costs totaling \$22 million (\$6 million in the second quarter) related to closed plants in Canada and in the United States, severances and the redeployment of equipment within the network.

In the second quarter, the Specialty Products segment recorded costs totaling \$1 million related to closed plants in the United States.

In the first half, the Tissue Papers segment recorded costs totaling \$9 million (\$3 million in the second quarter) related to the closures of the plants in the United States and the redeployment of equipment within the network.

In the first quarter, the Recovery and Recycling activities recorded costs totaling \$1 million related to the non-renewal of a service contract in Canada.

### **2023**

In the first half, the Tissue Papers segment recorded costs totaling \$7 million (\$6 million in the second quarter) related to the closures of the plants in the United States and severances.

## UNREALIZED LOSS (GAIN) ON DERIVATIVE FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The Containerboard Packaging segment recorded an unrealized gain of less than a million dollars in the first half of 2024 (unrealized loss of \$1 million in the second quarter) compared to an unrealized gain of \$1 million in the same period of 2023 (unrealized loss of less than a million dollars in the second quarter), from a steam contract embedded derivatives related to our Niagara Falls containerboard complex.

Corporate activities recorded an unrealized gain of \$2 million in the first half of 2024 (unrealized gain of \$2 million in the second quarter) compared to an unrealized loss of \$3 million in the same period of 2023 (unrealized loss of \$1 million in the second quarter) due to the financial hedging contracts for natural gas purchases.

**Payments for property, plant and equipment by business segment are shown in the following table:**

(in millions of Canadian dollars) (unaudited)	PAYMENTS FOR PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT			
	For the 3-month periods ended June 30,		For the 6-month periods ended June 30,	
	2024	2023	2024	2023
<b>Packaging Products</b>				
Containerboard	58	66	69	155
Specialty Products	5	7	8	11
	63	73	77	166
<b>Tissue Papers</b>	12	8	20	17
<b>Corporate, Recovery and Recycling activities</b>	13	10	19	13
<b>Total acquisitions</b>	88	91	116	196
Right-of-use assets acquisitions (non-cash)	(51)	(7)	(54)	(15)
	37	84	62	181
Acquisitions for property, plant and equipment included in "Trade and other payables"				
Beginning of the period	29	63	45	106
End of the period	(26)	(43)	(26)	(43)
<b>Payments for property, plant and equipment</b>	40	104	81	244
<b>Proceeds from disposals of property, plant and equipment</b>	(17)	—	(17)	(3)
<b>Payments for property, plant and equipment net of proceeds from disposals</b>	23	104	64	241



# NOTES TO THE CONDENSED INTERIM CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(UNAUDITED)

(Tabular amounts are shown in millions of Canadian dollars, except amounts per common share and number of common shares.)

## NOTE 1 GENERAL INFORMATION

Cascades Inc. and its subsidiaries (together “Cascades” or the “Corporation”) produce, convert and market packaging and tissue products composed mainly of recycled fibres. Cascades Inc. is incorporated and domiciled in Québec, Canada. The address of its registered office is 404 Marie-Victorin Boulevard, Kingsey Falls. Its common shares are traded on the Toronto Stock Exchange under the ticker symbol “CAS”.

The Board of Directors approved the Unaudited Condensed Interim Consolidated Financial Statements on August 7, 2024.

## NOTE 2 SUMMARY OF MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES

These Unaudited Condensed Interim Consolidated Financial Statements were prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board (IFRS<sup>®</sup> Accounting Standards) applicable to the preparation of interim financial statements, including *IAS 34 Interim Financial Reporting*. The Unaudited Condensed Interim Consolidated Financial Statements should be read in conjunction with the Audited Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended December 31, 2023, which were prepared in accordance with Canadian Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) as set forth in Part I of the Chartered Professional Accountants of Canada (CPA Canada) Handbook – Accounting, which incorporates IFRS Accounting Standards as issued by the IASB<sup>®</sup>.

The accounting policies applied in these Unaudited Condensed Interim Consolidated Financial Statements are the same as those applied in the Audited Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended December 31, 2023, except as discussed below.

The income taxes in the interim periods are accrued using the tax rate that would be applicable to the expected annual earnings or losses for each jurisdiction.

On January 1, 2024, a prospective refinement to the Corporation’s existing accounting policy for the classification and initial recognition of manufacturing spare parts resulted in a one time transfer of unamortized spare parts from “Property, plant and equipment” to “Inventories” in the amount of \$43 million.

## NOTE 3 CHANGES IN ACCOUNTING POLICY AND DISCLOSURES

### A. NEW IFRS ACCOUNTING STANDARDS ADOPTED

#### ***International Tax Reform—Pillar Two Model Rules, amendments to IAS 12 Income Taxes***

On May 23, 2023, the IASB published an amendment to *IAS 12* to introduce a mandatory temporary exemption to the accounting for deferred taxes arising from jurisdictional tax law enacted or substantively enacted to implement the Pillar Two Model Rules that were published by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and new disclosure requirements for affected entities.

The Global Anti-Base Erosion Rules (GloBE) are a key component of the Pillar Two Model Rules and ensure large multinational enterprises pay a minimum level of tax on the income arising in each of the jurisdictions where they operate. On June 20, 2024, legislation was enacted in Canada to implement the Pillar Two Model rules, including GloBE, effective January 1, 2024. Accordingly, the Corporation is applying the *IAS 12* exception to recognizing and disclosing information about deferred tax assets and liabilities related to Pillar Two income taxes for annual reporting periods beginning on or after January 1, 2024, and interim financial statements for periods beginning on or after April 1, 2024. In addition, the Corporation has estimated that the weighted average effective tax rate for its operations in the United States exceeds 15%. Therefore, no current tax expense related to Pillar Two income taxes has been recognized in the first half of 2024.

### B. RECENT IFRS ACCOUNTING STANDARDS NOT YET ADOPTED

#### ***IFRS 18 Presentation and Disclosure in Financial Statements***

On April 9, 2024, the IASB issued a new standard - *IFRS 18 Presentation and Disclosure in Financial Statements*. The new requirements introduced in *IFRS 18* will help to achieve comparability of the financial performance of similar entities, especially related to how operating profit or loss is defined. The new disclosures required for some management-defined performance measures will also enhance transparency.

The new standard will be effective for annual reporting periods beginning on or after January 1, 2027, including for interim financial statements. Retrospective application is required, and so comparative information needs to be prepared under *IFRS 18*. The Corporation is currently evaluating the impact of this standard on its Consolidated Financial Statements.

#### ***IFRS 19 Subsidiaries without Public Accountability: Disclosures***

On May 9, 2024, the IASB issued a new standard - *IFRS 19 Subsidiaries without Public Accountability: Disclosures*. *IFRS 19* specifies reduced disclosure requirements that an eligible entity is permitted to apply instead of the disclosure requirements in other IFRS Accounting Standards.

The new standard will be effective for annual reporting periods beginning on or after January 1, 2027. The Corporation is currently evaluating the impact of this standard on its Consolidated Financial Statements.

#### ***Amendments to IFRS 9 and IFRS 7 - Amendments to the Classification and Measurement of Financial Instruments***

On May 30, 2024, the IASB issued targeted amendments to *IFRS 9 Financial Instruments* and *IFRS 7 Financial Instruments: Disclosures*. These amendments address diversity in accounting practice by making the requirements more understandable and consistent.

These amendments are effective for annual reporting periods beginning on or after January 1, 2026. Earlier application is permitted. The Corporation is currently evaluating the impact of this standard on its Consolidated Financial Statements.

## **NOTE 4 CRITICAL ACCOUNTING ESTIMATES AND JUDGMENTS**

The preparation of Unaudited Condensed Interim Consolidated Financial Statements requires Management to make judgments, estimates and assumptions that affect the application of accounting policies and reported amounts of assets and liabilities, income and expenses. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

Further information on critical accounting estimates and judgments is detailed in the Audited Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended December 31, 2023.

## **NOTE 5 LONG-TERM DEBT**

(in millions of Canadian dollars)	NOTE	MATURITY	June 30, 2024	December 31, 2023
Revolving credit facility, weighted average interest rate of 7.14% as of June 30, 2024 and consists of \$5 million and US\$250 million (December 31, 2023 - US\$190 million)	5(b)	2027	347	252
5.125% Unsecured senior notes of \$175 million	5(c)	2025	175	175
5.125% Unsecured senior notes of US\$206 million		2026	281	272
5.375% Unsecured senior notes of US\$445 million and \$5 million of unamortized premium as of June 30, 2024 (December 31, 2023 - US\$445 million and \$5 million of unamortized premium)		2028	614	595
Term loan of US\$260 million, interest rate of 7.44% as of June 30, 2024		2027	356	344
Lease obligations with recourse to the Corporation			199	174
Other debts with recourse to the Corporation			21	23
Lease obligations without recourse to the Corporation			12	15
Revolving credit facility without recourse to the Corporation, weighted average interest rate of 7.05% as of June 30, 2024 and consists of US\$83 million (December 31, 2023 - US\$70 million)	5(d)	2026	114	93
			<b>2,119</b>	<b>1,943</b>
Less: Unamortized financing costs			6	7
Total long-term debt			<b>2,113</b>	<b>1,936</b>
Less:				
Current portion of Unsecured senior notes	5(c)		175	—
Current portion of lease obligations with recourse to the Corporation			45	51
Current portion of other debts with recourse to the Corporation			7	8
Current portion of lease obligations without recourse to the Corporation			8	8
			<b>60</b>	<b>67</b>
			<b>1,878</b>	<b>1,869</b>

- a. As of June 30, 2024, the long-term debt had a fair value of \$2,086 million (December 31, 2023 – \$1,918 million).
- b. On February 9, 2024, the Corporation entered into an agreement with its lenders to amend and extend the maturity from July 2026 to July 2027 for its existing revolving credit facility. The financial conditions remained unchanged.
- c. On April 12, 2024, the Corporation entered into an agreement for a \$175 million delayed draw unsecured term loan credit facility to manage upcoming maturities. If drawn, this facility will mature on December 31, 2026 and will bear interest at a variable rate. Transaction fees amounting to \$1 million are to be capitalized in the unamortized financing costs.
- d. In the third quarter of 2023, the loan scheduled to mature on December 11, 2023 was fully repaid. On September 15, 2023, our subsidiary, Greenpac, entered into a 3-year credit agreement with a banking syndicate securing a revolving credit facility authorized at US\$150 million which bears interest at a variable rate based on the level of leverage ratio of the subsidiary. Transaction fees amounting to US\$2 million (\$2 million) were capitalized in other assets.

## NOTE 6 FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

### 6.1 FAIR VALUE OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The classification of financial instruments as of June 30, 2024 and December 31, 2023, along with the respective carrying amounts and fair values, is as follows:

(in millions of Canadian dollars)	NOTE	June 30, 2024		December 31, 2023	
		CARRYING AMOUNT	FAIR VALUE	CARRYING AMOUNT	FAIR VALUE
<b>Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss</b>					
Derivatives		1	1	1	1
Equity investments		3	3	3	3
<b>Financial assets at amortized cost</b>					
Preferred shares	6.1 A	21	21	—	—
<b>Financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss</b>					
Derivatives		(8)	(8)	(9)	(9)
<b>Financial liabilities at amortized cost</b>					
Long-term debt		(2,113)	(2,086)	(1,936)	(1,918)
<b>Derivatives designated as hedge</b>					
Liability derivatives		—	—	(1)	(1)

- A. In the second quarter of 2024, the Corporation acquired US\$15 million (\$21 million) of non participating fixed interest bearing preferred shares of a converting paper company. The preferred shares are redeemable at the issuer's option. The preferred shares meet the definition of a financial asset and are measured at amortized cost. The asset is recorded in "Other assets".

### 6.2 DETERMINING THE FAIR VALUE OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The fair value of a financial instrument is the amount of consideration that would be received upon the sale of an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants as of the measurement date.

- i. The fair value of cash and cash equivalents, accounts receivable, notes receivable, bank loans and advances, trade and other payables and provisions approximates their carrying amounts due to their relatively short maturities.
- ii. The fair value of investment in shares is based on observable market data and is traded on the Toronto Stock Exchange and classified as level 1.
- iii. The fair value of long-term debt and some other liabilities is based on observable market data and on the calculation of discounted cash flows. Discount rates were determined based on local government bond yields adjusted for the risks specific to each of the borrowings and the credit market liquidity conditions, and are classified as levels 1 and 3.
- iv. The fair value of derivative instruments, which include forward contracts, swap agreements and embedded derivatives accounted for separately, is calculated as the present value of the estimated future cash flows using an appropriate interest rate yield curve and a forward foreign exchange rate. Assumptions are based on market conditions prevailing at each reporting date and are classified as level 2. The fair value of derivative instruments reflects the estimated amounts that the Corporation would receive or pay to settle the contracts at the reporting date.

### 6.3 HIERARCHY OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND LIABILITIES MEASURED AT FAIR VALUE

The following table presents information about the Corporation's financial assets and financial liabilities measured at fair value on a recurring basis as of June 30, 2024 and December 31, 2023 and indicates the fair value hierarchy of the Corporation's valuation techniques to determine such fair value. Three levels of inputs that may be used to measure fair value are:

Level 1 – Quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities.

Level 2 – Observable inputs other than quoted prices in active markets for identical assets and liabilities, quoted prices for identical or similar assets or liabilities in inactive markets, or other inputs that are observable or can be corroborated by observable market data for almost all of the full term of the assets or liabilities.

Level 3 – Inputs that are generally unobservable and typically reflect Management's estimates of assumptions that market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability.

For commodity derivative financial instruments and foreign currency forward contracts, the Corporation classifies the fair value measurement as level 2, as they are based mainly on observable market data. The fair value of commodity derivative financial instruments is determined using expected future cash flows based on observable data and notional quantity, with the resulting value discounted using a curve that reflects the credit risk of the Corporation or the counterparty, as applicable. The fair value of foreign currency forward contracts is determined using quoted forward exchange rates at the measurement date, with the resulting value discounted back to present values using a curve that reflects the credit risk of the Corporation or the counterparty, as applicable.

As of June 30, 2024				
(in millions of Canadian dollars)	CARRYING AMOUNT	QUOTED PRICES IN ACTIVE MARKETS FOR IDENTICAL ASSETS (LEVEL 1)	SIGNIFICANT OBSERVABLE INPUTS (LEVEL 2)	SIGNIFICANT UNOBSERVABLE INPUTS (LEVEL 3)
Financial assets				
Equity investments	3	—	—	3
Derivative financial assets	1	—	1	—
	4	—	1	3
Financial liabilities				
Derivative financial liabilities	(8)	—	(8)	—
	(8)	—	(8)	—

As of December 31, 2023				
(in millions of Canadian dollars)	CARRYING AMOUNT	QUOTED PRICES IN ACTIVE MARKETS FOR IDENTICAL ASSETS (LEVEL 1)	SIGNIFICANT OBSERVABLE INPUTS (LEVEL 2)	SIGNIFICANT UNOBSERVABLE INPUTS (LEVEL 3)
Financial assets				
Equity investments	3	—	—	3
Derivative financial assets	1	—	1	—
	4	—	1	3
Financial liabilities				
Derivative financial liabilities	(10)	—	(10)	—
	(10)	—	(10)	—

### 6.4 FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT

#### A. OTHER RISKS

##### MONETIZATION OF ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE

In the fourth quarter of 2023, the Corporation entered into an agreement for an \$82 million (US\$60 million) monthly rolling receivables' monetization facility without recourse. Under this agreement the Corporation considers the receivables transferred and accounts for as a sale. The Corporation's continuing involvement in the transferred assets is limited to servicing the receivables.

In the first half of 2024, the Corporation had unrecognized receivables of \$41 million (\$53 million in the fourth quarter of 2023) related to this facility, of which the Corporation received a net amount of \$4 million (\$20 million in the fourth quarter of 2023) as the collection agent and recorded the same amount to the transferred assets purchaser. The Corporation recorded \$2 million in interest expenses in the first half of 2024 (less than a million dollars for the year ended December 31, 2023). The interest is charged monthly and paid on the settlement date.

## NOTE 7 CAPITAL STOCK

### REDEMPTION OF COMMON SHARES

The Corporation did not renew its normal course issuer bid program since its expiry on March 18, 2023.

## NOTE 8 SHARE OF RESULTS OF ASSOCIATES AND JOINT VENTURES

(in millions of Canadian dollars)	For the 3-month periods ended June 30,		For the 6-month periods ended June 30,	
	2024	2023	2024	2023
Non-significant associates	1	—	1	1
Non-significant joint ventures	1	1	1	1
Significant joint ventures	4	2	7	4
Gain from the sale of an investment in a non-significant joint venture	—	—	—	9
	6	3	9	15

The Corporation received dividends of \$9 million from these associates and joint ventures in the first half of 2024 (\$8 million in the second quarter), compared to \$7 million in the same period of 2023 (\$6 million in the second quarter).

In the first quarter of 2023, the Corporation recorded a \$9 million gain on line item "Share of results of associates and joint ventures" of the consolidated statement of earnings from the sale of an investment in a non-significant joint venture. The Corporation received \$10 million from this sale.

## NOTE 9 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

### A. CHANGES IN NON-CASH WORKING CAPITAL COMPONENTS ARE SHOWN AS FOLLOWS:

(in millions of Canadian dollars)	For the 3-month periods ended June 30,		For the 6-month periods ended June 30,	
	2024	2023	2024	2023
Accounts receivable	(24)	1	(33)	13
Current income tax assets	—	—	(1)	—
Inventories	7	(6)	(21)	(45)
Trade and other payables	(7)	(25)	(39)	(44)
	(24)	(30)	(94)	(76)

### B. FINANCING EXPENSE

(in millions of Canadian dollars)	For the 3-month periods ended June 30,		For the 6-month periods ended June 30,	
	2024	2023	2024	2023
Interest on long-term debt (including lease obligations interest (2024 - \$5 million for the 6-month period (\$3 million for the 3-month period); 2023 - \$4 million for the 6-month period (\$2 million for the 3-month period)))	32	31	63	51
Amortization of financing costs	1	—	2	1
Other interest and banking fees	2	2	5	3
Interest expense on employee future benefits	1	1	2	2
Unrealized loss (gain) on interest rate hedge instruments	1	—	(1)	—
Foreign exchange loss (gain) on long-term debt and financial instruments	—	(3)	1	(3)
	37	31	72	54

#### **UNREALIZED LOSS (GAIN) ON INTEREST RATE HEDGE INSTRUMENTS**

In the first half of 2024, the Corporation recorded an unrealized gain on interest rate hedge instruments of \$1 million (unrealized loss of \$1 million in the second quarter), compared to an unrealized loss of less than a million dollars in the same period of 2023 (unrealized gain of less than a million dollars in the second quarter).

#### **FOREIGN EXCHANGE LOSS (GAIN) ON LONG-TERM DEBT AND FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS**

In the first half of 2024, the Corporation recorded a loss of \$1 million (loss of less than a million dollars in the second quarter) on its US\$ denominated debt and related financial instruments, compared to a gain of \$3 million in the same period of 2023 (gain of \$3 million in the second quarter). The foreign exchange loss (gain) on long-term debt and financial instruments is composed of foreign exchange forward contracts not designated for hedge accounting.

## **NOTE 10 COMMITMENTS**

#### **CAPITAL EXPENDITURES**

Major capital expenditures contracted at the end of the reporting period but not yet incurred totaled \$19 million.

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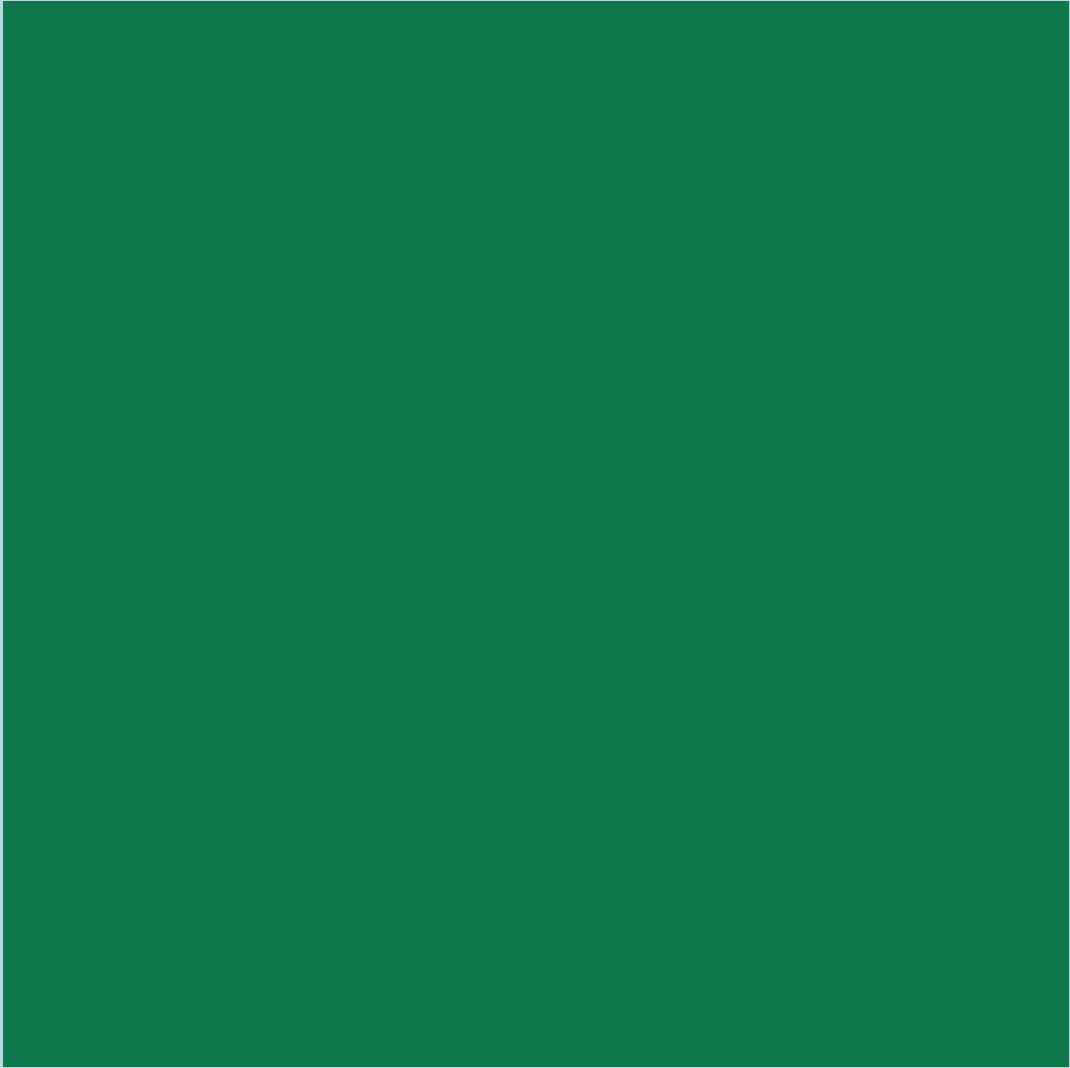
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