Clerk of the Superior Court
\*\*\* Electronically Filed \*\*\*
M. King, Deputy
3/22/2019 1:28:00 PM
Filing ID 10279701

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1 2 3 4 5	Keith Beauchamp (012434) Roopali H. Desai (024295) COPPERSMITH BROCKELMAN PLC 2800 North Central Avenue, Suite 1900 Phoenix, Arizona 85004 T: (602) 381-5490 F: (602) 224-6020 kbeauchamp@cblawyers.com	
6 7	rdesai@cblawyers.com  Attorneys for Plaintiff	
8	intermoya jar i tamagj	
	ARIZONA SUPE	RIOR COURT
9	MARICOPA	
0		s the same
1	FIERCE INVESTMENTS LTD.,	) No. CV2018-003675
12	Plaintiff,	) . A DRIVICATION FOR ENTERVOE
13 14 15 16	v.  AZTEC COPPER INC., an Arizona corporation; RON ARNOLD, an individual; and CHRISTINE REEVES, an individual,	APPLICATION FOR ENTRY OF DEFAULT AGAINST DEFENDANT RON ARNOLD  (Assigned to Hon. Daniel Kiley)
17	Defendants.	) \
18		) ·
19	Pursuant to Rule 55, Ariz. R. Civ. P., Plain	ntiff respectfully requests that the Court enter
20	the default of Defendant Ron Arnold ("Arnold").	In support of this Application, counsel for
21	Plaintiff represents as follows:	•
22	1. On August 21, 2018, Plaintiff serve	ed the following documents on Arnold:
23	a. Summons	
24	b. Complaint	
25	c. Certificate of Compulsory A	arbitration
26	d. Corrected Certificate of Ser	vice

{00391409.1 }

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e. Minut	e Entry	(dated	04/03/2018)
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- f. Application for Entry of Default
- g. Motion to Set Default Hearing
- h. Order Setting Default Hearing
- i. Minute Entry (dated 08/02/2018)
- i. Notice of Default Hearing

See Declaration in Support of Application for Entry of Default attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference as Exhibit 1.

- 2. Pursuant to Rule 12(a)(1)(A)(i), Ariz. R. Civ. P., Arnold had until September 20, 2018, to file an answer or otherwise respond to the Complaint.
- 3. Arnold has failed to answer or otherwise respond to the Complaint within the time required. As of today's date, undersigned counsel has not received an answer or other responsive pleading from Arnold, and the Court docket does not reflect that one has been filed by Arnold.
- 4. It is unclear whether Arnold is represented by counsel. The Notice of Appearance filed by Stephen C. Rich on August 20, 2018, states under his contact information in the caption and on the signature block that he is "Attorneys for Defendants." However the text states Mr. Rich "appears on behalf of the Defendant Aztec Copper Inc." In addition, Stephen C. Snyder, a Canadian Barrister/Solicitor, has stated that he represents the individual defendants, so a copy of this Application will be served on Mr. Snyder.
- A copy of this Application will be served on Stephen C. Rich, as well as
   Defendant Arnold at the following addresses:

c/o Stephen C. Snyder Snyder & Associates LLP #2500 Sun Life Place 10123- 99 Street Edmonton AB T5J 3H1 Canada Ron Arnold 16211 – 89 Street Edmonton AB T5Z 3M3 Canada SARAH TAN

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1	WHEREFORE, Plaintiff requests	s that the Clerk of this Court enter the default of
2	Defendant Ron Arnold.	
3		
4	Respectfully submitted 22nd day	of March, 2019.
5		COPPERSMITH BROCKELMAN PLC
6		By /s/ Keith Beauchamp
7		Keith Beauchamp Roopali H. Desai
8	·	Attorneys for Plaintiff
9		
10	ORIGINAL efiled on March 22, 2019.	
11	COPY served via overnight delivery	
12	on March 22, 2019, to:	
13	Stephen C. Rich Stephen C. Rich, PLLC	
14	3401 East Elwood, #101	
15	Phoenix, AZ 85040	
16	Ron Arnold 16211 – 89 Street	
17	Edmonton AB T5Z 3M3	
18	Canada	
19	c/o Stephen C. Snyder Snyder & Associates LLP	
20	#2500 Sun Life Place	
21	10123- 99 Street Edmonton AB T5J 3H1	
22	Canada	
23		
24	/s/ Sheri McAlister	
25		

# Exhibit 1

1 2 3 4 5	Keith Beauchamp (012434) Roopali H. Desai (024295)  COPPERSMITH BROCKELMAN PLC 2800 North Central Avenue, Suite 1900 Phoenix, Arizona 85004 T: (602) 381-5490 F: (602) 224-6020 kbeauchamp@cblawyers.com rdesai@cblawyers.com
7	Attorneys for Plaintiff
8	
9	ARIZONA SUPERIOR COURT
10	MARICOPA COUNTY
11	FIERCE INVESTMENTS LTD., ) No. CV2018-003675
12	Plaintiff,
13	DECLARATION IN SUPPORT OF APPLICATION FOR ENTRY OF
14 15	AZTEC COPPER INC., an Arizona corporation; RON ARNOLD, an individual; and CHRISTINE REEVES, an individual,
16	Defendants.  (Assigned to Hon. Daniel Kiley)
17	Defendants.
18	
19	Pursuant to Rule 80(c), Ariz. R. Civ. P., Keith Beauchamp declares as follows:
20	1. I am one of the attorneys for Plaintiff Fierce Investments Ltd. and file this
21	Application in accordance with Rule 55, Ariz. R. Civ. P.
22	2. On August 21, 2018, Plaintiff affected service of the following documents by
23	Lormit Personal Services on Defendant Ron Arnold ("Arnold"):
24	a. Summons
25	b. Complaint
26	c. Certificate of Compulsory Arbitration

{00392521.1}

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1	d. Corrected Certificate of Service
2	e. Minute Entry (dated 04/03/2018)
3	f. Application for Entry of Default
4	g. Motion to Set Default Hearing
5	h. Order Setting Default Hearing
·6	i. Minute Entry (dated 08/02/2018)
7	j. Notice of Default Hearing
8	A copy of the Declaration of Service is attached hereto as Exhibit A.
9	3. Pursuant to Rule 12(a)(1)(A)(i), Ariz. R. Civ. P., Arnold had until September 20,
10	2018, to file an answer or otherwise respond to the Complaint.
11	4. As of today's date, Arnold has not answered or otherwise responded to the
12	Complaint, and the Court docket does not reflect that a response has been filed by Arnold.
13	5. To comply with the requirements of 50 U.S.C. § 520, the undersigned verifies
14	that Arnold is not an infant, incompetent, or in the military service.
15	I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.
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17	EXECUTED this 22nd day of March, 2019.
18	/_/ T
19	/s/ Keith Beauchamp
-20	
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# Exhibit A

	·
1	Keith Beauchamp (012434)
2	Roopali H. Desai (024295)  COPPERSMITH BROCKELMAN PLC
3	2800 North Central Avenue, Suite 1900
4	Phoenix, Arizona 85004 T: (602) 381-5490
5	F: (602) 224-6020
6	kbeauchamp@cblawyers.com rdesai@cblawyers.com
7	Attorneys for Plaintiff
8	
9	ARIZONA SUPERIOR COURT
10	MARICOPA COUNTY
11	FIERCE INVESTMENTS LTD., No. CV2018-003675
12	Plaintiff, (
13	DECLARATION OF SERVICE
14~	AZTEC COPPER INC., an Arizona
15	corporation; RON ARNOLD, an individual; (Assigned to Hon. Daniel Kiley)
16	and CHRISTINE REEVES, an individual,
17.	Defendants.
18	
19	Ron Bayda, the undersigned, certifies under the penalty of perjury:
20	1. I am a licensed private process server in Edmonton, Alberta and I am fully
21	qualified pursuant to the regulations governing Service of Process in Edmonton, Canada to
22	serve process in this case.
23	2. I received for service the following documents in the above action:
24	a. Summons
25	b. Complaint
26	c. Certificate of Compulsory Arbitration
	· ·

{00384809,1}

1	d. Corrected Certificate of Service
2	e. Minute Entry (dated 04/03/2018)
3	f. Application for Entry of Default
4	g. Motion to Set Default Hearing
5	h. Order Setting Default Hearing
6	i. Minute Entry (dated 08/02/2018)
7	j. Notice of Default Hearing
8	from Keith Beauchamp (Bar No. 012434) with Coppersmith Brockelman PLC located in
9	Phoenix, Arizona, on August 10, 2018.
10	3. I personally served copies of the documents listed above on the individual and in
11	the manner, date and time listed below.
12	INDIVIDUAL: Ron Arnold
13	DATE & TIME: August 21, 2018 at 7:7:16 p.m.
14	ADDRESS: 16211 – 89 Street, Edmonton, AB T5Z 3M3
15	MANNER: Personally
16	DESCRIPTION: Male, 70 yrs old, 275 lbs, white hair, glasses
17	NOTES:
18	
19	DATED this 22nd day of August, 2018.
20	LORMIT
21	
22	By: RON BAYDA
23	PROCESS SERVER
24	
25	
26	
	FF.

Clerk of the Superior Court
\*\*\* Electronically Filed \*\*\*
T. Hays, Deputy
3/20/2019 4:13:00 PM
Filing ID 10272671

Keith Beauchamp (012434)	
Roopali H. Desai (024295)  COPPERSMITH BROCKELMAN PLC	
2800 North Central Avenue, Suite 1900	
Phoenix, Arizona 85004	
T: (602) 381-5490	
F: (602) 224-6020	
kbeauchamp@cblawyers.com rdesai@cblawyers.com	
Attorneys for Plaintiff	
ARIZONA SUP	ERIOR COURT
MARICOPA	A COUNTY
FIERCE INVESTMENTS LTD.,	) No. CV2018-003675
Plaintiff,	
<b>V.</b>	) MOTION FOR CONTEMPT
	) }
AZTEC COPPER INC., an Arizona corporation; RON ARNOLD, an individual;	(Assigned to Hon. Daniel J. Kiley)
and CHRISTINE REEVES, an individual,	)
Defendants.	
	_)

Pursuant to Rule 37 of the Arizona Rules of Civil Procedure, and the inherent power of this Court, Plaintiff Fierce Investments Ltd. ("Fierce") moves for an order holding Defendants Aztec Copper Inc. ("Aztec") and Christine Reeves in contempt for failing to comply with the Judgment entered in this matter on December 4, 2018.

The Judgment ordered Defendants to produce and/or make available for inspection the books and records of Aztec within ten days at the offices of Fierce's counsel in Phoenix, Arizona. The Judgment also ordered that Defendants Ron Arnold and Christine Reeves, the directors and officers of Aztec, appear for depositions in Arizona within thirty days (*i.e.*, by January 4, 2019).

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Defendants failed to comply with either of those directives, despite numerous written requests by Fierce's counsel that they do so. Accordingly, Fierce moves to hold Aztec and Ms. Reeves in contempt.<sup>1</sup> This motion is supported by the Declaration of Keith Beauchamp ("Beauchamp Decl.") filed herewith and the exhibits to that Declaration. A proposed form of order is submitted herewith.

#### **BACKGROUND**

Since January 2018, Fierce has sought to exercise its statutory right to inspect the books and records of Aztec. Following multiple exchanges of correspondence, in which Aztec's Canadian counsel offered various excuses but never supplied the requested records, Fierce filed this litigation. Aztec initially declined to appear, and then hired Arizona counsel to contest (unsuccessfully) the entry of default.

On December 4, 2018, Judgment was entered in this matter. The Judgment orders that "Aztec, its counsel, and all those acting in concert with it . . . produce and/or make available for inspection the books and records of the Company to Fierce within ten (10) days." [See Exhibit 1 to Beauchamp Decl.] Aztec's books and records were to be made available at "the offices of Fierce's counsel in Phoenix, Arizona." [Id.]

The Judgment also ordered "that Aztec shall make its director and officer of record—Ron Arnold and Christine Reeves—available for deposition in Arizona . . . within thirty days . . . to answer questions relevant to this action (including enforcement of this Judgment) and to the related lawsuit filed by Fierce against Aztec in this Court which seeks, *inter alia*, an order requiring Aztec [to] hold its annual shareholder meeting pursuant to Arizona law." [Id.] Mr. Arnold and Ms. Reeves have for many years been directors and officers of Aztec, an Arizona corporation, although they reside in Canada.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Because counsel for Mr. Arnold belatedly advised that he is unable to travel due to some unspecified medical issue, Fierce does not seek a contempt finding against him at this time. But Fierce does not waive its right to do so at some later date.

#### Aztec's Failure to Produce Books and Records

Upon receipt of the Judgment, Fierce's counsel sent a letter on December 11, 2018 to Stephen Snyder, Canadian counsel for Defendants, and to Stephen. Rich, Arizona counsel for Defendants, asking when Aztec would make its books and records available for inspection in Phoenix. [See Beauchamp Decl. ¶ 5 Exhibit 2 thereto (12/11/18 letter from K. Beauchamp to S. Snyder and S. Rich)] That letter also noted that Mr. Arnold and Ms. Reeves were ordered to appear for deposition in in Phoenix no later than January 4, 2019. [See Beauchamp Decl. ¶ 6]

Aztec did not produce its books and records, much less make them available at the offices of Fierce's counsel in Phoenix, by December 14, 2018, as required by the Judgment. Indeed, Aztec still has not made its books and records available for inspection, more than three months after the passage of that Court-ordered deadline. [Beauchamp Decl. ¶ 7]

On December 18, 2018, Defendants' counsel emailed a list containing 123 names (with no other identifying information) purporting to be "a list of the shareholders of Aztec which has been prepared on the basis of the most recent information known to Mr. Arnold and Ms. Reeves." [See Email from S. Snyder to K. Beauchamp dated December 18, 2018, attached as Exhibit 3 to Beauchamp Decl.] No detail was supplied as to how the list was prepared, when it was prepared, who prepared it, what records were used to prepare it, etcetera. [Beauchamp Decl. ¶ 8] In any event, a list of purported shareholder names does not constitute the "books and records" of Aztec, which should include items such as minutes of meetings of the board of directors, board resolutions, financial statements, communications with shareholders, minutes of shareholder meetings, etcetera. [See Complaint ¶ 16]

On December 22, 2018, Fierce again demanded that Aztec produce the books and records as required by the Judgment. [See Beauchamp Decl. ¶ 9 and Exhibit 4 thereto (12/22/18 email from K. Beauchamp to S. Snyder)].

On December 27, 2018, Aztec's Canadian counsel asserted that "to the best of my knowledge, Aztec Copper Inc. has been inactive for many years," and "has no 'books'" or

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Beauchamp Decl.] Mr. Snyder gave no explanation as to the basis for his having any knowledge about Aztec. Conversely, any historical knowledge about Aztec claimed by Mr. Snyder is highly suspect because just nine months earlier—in response to Fierce's pre-suit demand for books and records—he claimed not to represent Aztec. [See Beauchamp Decl. ¶ 10 and Exhibit 6 thereto (03/22/18 letter from S. Snyder to K. Beauchamp) (Snyder stating "I have not been retained by the Arizona company, Aztec Copper, Inc.")]. This unsworn assertion by a non-party lacking foundation is, of course, no substitute for deposition testimony of an Aztec director and officer with knowledge of Aztec's books and records

[Letter from S. Snyder to K. Beauchamp dated December 27, 2018, Exhibit 5 to

In stark contrast to Mr. Snyder's recent involvement, Mr. Arnold and Ms. Reeves have been directors and/or officers of Aztec since 2009 and 2010, respectively. During that period, the number of shares issued by Aztec have varied significantly as reported in Aztec's annual reports signed by Mr. Arnold and Ms. Reeves. Moreover, Aztec has hardly been inactive for many years. Aztec and its Mexican subsidiary, Prime Aztec Mexicana, S.A. de C.V., have been since 2014 (and still are) involved in other litigation, and presumably has bank accounts and other financial records associated with the retention of counsel, among other things such as ongoing litigation, variances in the number of shares, and appointment of Mr. Arnold and Reeves as officers and directors. In short, it is absurd to suggest that Aztec has no books and records. And if, indeed, Aztec has no books and records, Ms. Reeves and Mr. Arnold need to explain why that is so under oath at their depositions.

Notwithstanding its failure to produce books and records, and the failure to produce witnesses for deposition, "[Aztec] and its directors take the position that they have fully complied with any Orders or instructions provided by the court in this matter." [See Beauchamp Decl. ¶ 11 and Exhibit 5 thereto (12/27/18 letter from S. Snyder to K. Beauchamp)].

#### Failure to Appear for Depositions

The harm inflicted on Fierce by Aztec's failure to produce its books and records is exacerbated by its failure to make its witnesses available for depositions in Arizona, as ordered by this Court. On December 11, 2018, Fierce's counsel sent deposition notices to Defendants' counsel, setting the depositions of Mr. Arnold and Ms. Reeves for January 2, 2019. [See Beauchamp Decl. ¶ 13 and Exhibit 2 thereto (12/11/18 letter from K. Beauchamp to S. Snyder)]. That same letter made clear that there would be consequences to Aztec and its officers/directors if the deponents did not appear: "If Mr. Arnold and Ms. Reeves do not appear for their depositions, we will seek appropriate relief against them individually, as well as against Aztec. That relief would likely include entry of an order of contempt." [See Exhibit 2]

The January 2, 2019 date fell just within the deadline set by the Judgment to hold the depositions within 30 days of December 4, 2018. Fierce's counsel offered to consider alternative dates in that same time frame if the noticed date was inconvenient for the deponents.

On December 18, 2018, Mr. Snyder asked if Fierce's counsel would travel to Canada to take the depositions. Mr. Snyder stated that he was "uncertain as to [Mr. Arnold's] ability to travel" due to an unspecified "procedure." Mr. Snyder did not affirmatively state that Mr. Arnold would be unable to travel for his January 2, 2019 deposition. [See Beauchamp Decl. ¶ 16 and Exhibit 3 thereto]

As for Ms. Reeves, Mr. Snyder offered no reason why she could not appear for her court-ordered deposition in Arizona on January 2, 2019. [See Beauchamp Decl. ¶ 17 and Exhibit 3 thereto]

Fierce promptly rejected Aztec's suggestion that the depositions take place in Edmonton rather than Arizona:

[W]e decline to travel to Edmonton to take these depositions. The Court ordered that they take place here. We obtained that order only after expending substantial funds and effort, and overcoming the attempts of Mr. Arnold and Ms. Reeves to avoid their obligations as directors and officers of an Arizona corporation. The vague information you have provided as to some "uncertainty"

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about whether Mr. Arnold can travel in early January due to some unstated recent "procedure" is not sufficient to excuse his attendance. If he truly has a medical reason why he cannot travel, please provide an appropriate level of explanation to support that request, which would include a note from his physician stating why he cannot travel in that period, and advising when he would be able to travel. Ms. Reeves' obligation to appear for her deposition is unrelated to Mr. Arnold's obligation, and we expect her to appear.

[See Beauchamp Decl. ¶ 18 and Exhibit 4 thereto (12/22/18 letter from K. Beauchamp to S. Snyder)]

In a letter dated December 27, 2018, Mr. Snyder asserted, inaccurately, that the Judgment requiring the depositions was prepared "without any prior consultation with Aztec Copper, its legal counsel, or its directors." [See Exhibit 4] In fact, of course, the draft Judgment and other related papers were served on Aztec's Arizona counsel and on Mr. Snyder (who has expressly confirmed that he represents Mr. Arnold, Ms. Reeves and Aztec). Yet Aztec, Mr. Arnold and Ms. Reeves and their counsel elected not to object to the proposed form of judgment.

On December 31, 2018, Mr. Snyder again offered to make Mr. Arnold and Ms. Reeves available for deposition in Edmonton, notwithstanding Fierce's explicit rejection of that very offer. [See Beauchamp Decl. ¶ 21 and Exhibit 7 thereto (12/31/18 letter from S. Snyder to K. Beauchamp)] Again, no reason was offered as to why Ms. Reeves could not appear at her deposition.

Aztec did not file a protective order or seek relief from this Court in advance of the depositions set for January 2, 2019, notwithstanding that the deposition notices were served on December 11, 2018. Nor did Mr. Arnold and Ms. Reeves seek a protective order.

On January 2, 2019, in accordance with the deposition notices, a court reporter and counsel for Fierce appeared at the appointed time and place for the depositions of Mr. Arnold and Ms. Reeves. Counsel went on the record with the court reporter, and waited for over 30 minutes, but neither Mr. Arnold nor Ms. Reeves ever appeared. [See Beauchamp Decl. ¶ 22 and Exhibit 8 thereto (01/02/19 deposition transcript)]

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On January 10, 2019, more than a week after the deposition was to have taken place, Mr. Snyder provided a note from Gateway Medical Clinic dated January 9, 2019 relating to Mr. Arnold stating that due to unspecified health issues, Mr. Arnold was advised "not to travel for at least six months until all investigations and issues are resolved." [See Beauchamp Decl. ¶ 23 and Exhibit 9 thereto (01/10/19 letter from S. Snyder to K. Beauchamp)]

Neither Ms. Reeves nor her counsel have ever provided any explanation as to why she failed to appear for her deposition on January 2, 2019. [See Beauchamp Decl. ¶ 24]

#### **ARGUMENT**

These facts warrant a finding of contempt. The record is clear that Defendants have intentionally disobeyed an order of this Court.

The Court has inherent power to find contempt and to punish for contempt. Trombi v. Donahoe, 223 Ariz. 261, 267, 222 P.3d 284 (App. 2009); State v. Cohen, 15 Ariz. App. 436, 489 P.2d 283 (1971). The Court has inherent discretion to impose a penalty for contempt that is proportionate to the conduct deemed contumacious. Hamilton v. Mun. Ct. of Mesa, 163 Ariz. 374, 788 P.2d 107 (App. 1989).

In addition, Rule 37(b)(2)(A)(vii) allows the Court to treat as contempt of court the failure to obey any order to provide or permit discovery. Rule 37(f) allows the Court to order any sanction, including contempt of court, for a party's (or a party's officer's or director's) failure to appear for his or her deposition after being served with proper notice. The Court retained jurisdiction over this matter to ensure compliance with these orders, and should exercise its power to ensure that its orders are complied with.

Fierce defers to this Court's judgment as to the full range of sanctions appropriate here, but respectfully submits that proportionate sanctions would, at a minimum, include (1) requiring a representative of Aztec as well as Ms. Reeves to appear before this Court to explain their failure to comply with this Court's orders; (2) requiring Aztec and Ms. Reeves to pay the expenses associated with the filing of this motion and the related deposition costs for the deposition at

	-
1	which Ms. Reeves failed to appear, and (3) ordering Defendants to promptly comply with the
2	Judgment by producing Aztec's books and records at the offices of undersigned counsel, and
3	making Ms. Reeves and Mr. Arnold available for a deposition in Phoenix forthwith.
4	CONCLUSION
5	For the reasons set forth herein, Fierce respectfully requests entry of an order holding
6	Defendants Aztec Copper Inc. and Christine Reeves in contempt of this Court.
7	
8	Respectfully submitted this 20th day of March, 2019.
9	COPPERSMITH BROCKELMAN PLC
10	By /s/ Keith Beauchamp
11	Keith Beauchamp Roopali H. Desai
12	Attorneys for Plaintiff
13	
14	ORIGINAL efiled on March 20, 2019.
15	COPY mailed March 20, 2019, to:
16	Stephen C. Rich
17	Stephen C. Rich, PLLC 3401 East Elwood, Suite 101
18	Phoenix, AZ 85040
19	Attorney for Defendants
20	Courtesy copy sent via overnight delivery to:
21	Stephen Snyder
22	Snyder & Associates, LLP #2500 Sun Life Place
23	10123 – 99 Street
24	Edmonton, AB T5J 3H1 ssnyder@snyder.ca
25	Attorney for Defendants
26	/s/ Sheri McAlister

Keith Beauchamp (012434) Roopali H. Desai (024295) COPPERSMITH BROCKELMAN PLC 2800 North Central Avenue, Suite 1900 3 Phoenix, Arizona 85004 4 T: (602) 381-5490 F: (602) 224-6020 5 kbeauchamp@cblawyers.com rdesai@cblawyers.com 6 Attorneys for Plaintiff 7 8 ARIZONA SUPERIOR COURT 9 MARICOPA COUNTY 10 11 FIERCE INVESTMENTS LTD., No. CV2018-003675 12 Plaintiff, **DECLARATION OF KEITH** BEAUCHÁMP IN SUPPORT OF 13 PLAINTIFF'S MOTION FOR 14 **CONTEMPT** AZTEC COPPER INC., an Arizona 15 corporation; RON ARNOLD, an individual; and CHRISTINE REEVES, an individual, 16 (Assigned to Hon, Daniel J. Kiley) Defendants. 17 18 19 I, Keith Beauchamp, hereby state that: 20 I am a partner in the law firm Coppersmith Brockelman PLC ("CB"), and have 21 been admitted to the practice of law in the State of Arizona since 1989. I am lead counsel for 22 Plaintiff Fierce Investments Ltd. ("Fierce") in the above-captioned matter and have personal 23 knowledge of the matters described herein. 24 2. This Affidavit is submitted in support of Plaintiff's Motion for Contempt against Defendant Aztec Copper Inc. ("Aztec") and those acting in concert with Aztec. 25 26

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- 3. On December 4, 2018, Judgment was entered in this matter. That Judgment orders that "Aztec, its counsel, and all those acting in concert with it . . . produce and/or make available for inspection the books and records of the Company to Fierce within ten (10) days." [A copy of the Judgment is attached as Exhibit 1] Aztec's books and records were to be made available at "the offices of Fierce's counsel in Phoenix, Arizona." [Id.]
- 4. The Judgment also ordered "that Aztec shall make its director and officer of record—Ron Arnold and Christine Reeves—available for deposition in Arizona . . . within thirty days . . . to answer questions relevant to this action (including enforcement of this Judgment) and to the related lawsuit filed by Fierce against Aztec in this Court which seeks, *inter alia*, an order requiring Aztec [to] hold its annual shareholder meeting pursuant to Arizona law." [Id.]

### Aztec's Failure to Produce Books and Records

- 5. On December 11, 2018, I sent a letter via email and Federal Express on behalf of Fierce to Stephen C. Snyder, Canadian counsel for Defendants, and Stephen C. Rich, Arizona counsel for Defendants, asking for an update as to its compliance with the requirement that Aztec make its books and records available for inspection at my office in Phoenix. (A copy of my December 11, 2018 letter is attached hereto as **Exhibit 2**)
- 6. The December 11, 2018 letter also noted that Mr. Arnold and Ms. Reeves were ordered to appear for deposition in Phoenix no later than January 4, 2019 (i.e., within 30 days of entry of the judgment). The failure of Aztec's directors and officers to appear for depositions is addressed in paragraphs 12 to 24, below.
- 7. Aztec did not produce its books and records, much less make them available in Phoenix, by December 14, 2018, as required by the Judgment. Indeed, it still has not done so.
- 8. On December 18, 2018, Defendants' counsel emailed to me a list of 123 names (with no other identifying information) purporting to be "a list of the shareholders of Aztec which has been prepared on the basis of the most recent information known to Mr. Arnold and Ms. Reeves." [Email from S. Snyder to K. Beauchamp dated December 18, 2018, attached hereto as

**Exhibit 3**] No detail was supplied as to how the list was prepared, by whom, based on what underlying documents, etcetera. Moreover, this list of names did not constitute the "books and records" of Aztec, which should include items such as financial records, communications with shareholders, minutes of shareholders meetings, etcetera.

- 9. On December 22, 2018, Fierce again demanded that Aztec produce the books and records as required by the Judgment. [Email from K. Beauchamp to S. Snyder dated December 22, 2018, attached hereto as Exhibit 4]
- 10. In a letter dated December 27, 2018, Aztec's Canadian counsel asserted that "to the best of my knowledge, Aztec Copper Inc. has been inactive for many years," and [t]o the best of my knowledge, Aztec has no 'books'" or "records." [Letter from S. Snyder to K. Beauchamp dated December 27, 2018, attached hereto as Exhibit 5] Mr. Snyder gave no explanation as to the basis for his knowledge about Aztec. His purported historical knowledge of Aztec is highly suspect, because just nine months earlier—in response to Fierce's pre-suit demand for books and records—he stated: "I have not been retained by the Arizona company, Aztec Copper, Inc." [Letter from S. Snyder to K. Beauchamp dated March 22, 2018, attached as Exhibit 6]
- 11. Notwithstanding Aztec's failure to produce books and records, and failure to produce witnesses for deposition, Mr. Snyder asserted that "[Aztec] and its directors take the position that they have fully complied with any Orders or instructions provided by the court in this matter." [Exhibit 5]

### Failure to Appear for Depositions

12. My December 11, 2018 letter to Aztec's counsel noted that the Judgment required Mr. Arnold and Ms. Reeves to appear for their depositions in Phoenix no later than January 4, 2019 (i.e., within 30 days of entry of the judgment). [See Exhibit 2]

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- The December 11, 2018 letter enclosed deposition notices, set the depositions of 13. Mr. Arnold and Ms. Reeves for January 2, 2019, and offered to consider alternative dates if the noticed date was inconvenient. [Id.]
- 14. The December 11, 2018 letter made clear that there would be consequences to the company and its officers/directors if the deponents did not appear: "If Mr. Arnold and Ms. Reeves do not appear for their depositions, we will seek appropriate relief against them individually, as well as against Aztec. That relief would likely include entry of an order of contempt." [Exhibit 2]
- 15. The January 2, 2019 date fell just within the deadline set by the Judgment to hold the depositions within 30 days of December 4, 2018.
- On December 18, 2018, Mr. Snyder asked if Fierce's counsel would travel to Canada for the depositions. Mr. Snyder stated that he was "uncertain as to [Mr. Arnold's] ability to travel" due to an unspecified "procedure." Mr. Snyder did not affirmatively state that Mr. Arnold would be unable to travel by January 2, 2019, and he provided no information from any medical provider. [Exhibit 3]
- 17. As for Ms. Reeves, Mr. Snyder did not suggest she could not travel, or provide any reason as to why she could not appear on January 2, 2019 for her deposition. [Id.]
- 18. In a letter dated December 22, 2018, I rejected the suggestion that the depositions take place in Edmonton rather than Arizona:

[W]e decline to travel to Edmonton to take these depositions. The Court ordered that they take place here. We obtained that order only after expending substantial funds and effort, and overcoming the attempts of Mr. Arnold and Ms. Reeves to avoid their obligations as directors and officers of an Arizona corporation. The vague information you have provided as to some "uncertainty" about whether Mr. Arnold can travel in early January due to some unstated recent "procedure" is not sufficient to excuse his attendance. If he truly has a medical reason why he cannot travel, please provide an appropriate level of explanation to support that request, which would include a note from his physician stating why he cannot travel in that period, and advising when he would be able to travel. Ms.

Reeves' obligation to appear for her deposition is unrelated to Mr. Arnold's obligation, and we expect her to appear.

### [Exhibit 4 (12/22/2018 letter from K. Beauchamp to S. Snyder)]

- 19. In a letter dated December 27, 2018, Mr. Snyder asserted, falsely, that the Judgment requiring the depositions was prepared "without any prior consultation with Aztec Copper, its legal counsel, or its directors." [See Exhibit 5] In fact, of course, the proposed form of Judgment and other related papers were served on Aztec's Arizona counsel and on Mr. Snyder (who has expressly confirmed that he represents Mr. Arnold, Ms. Reeves and Aztec).
- 20. My December 11, 2018 letter offered Defendants the opportunity to propose another date that would be more convenient, but they proposed no alternative dates in Arizona.
- 21. On December 31, 2018, Mr. Snyder again offered to make Mr. Arnold and Ms. Reeves available for deposition in Edmonton. [Letter from S. Snyder to K. Beauchamp dated December 31, 2018, attached hereto as **Exhibit 7**] Mr. Snyder said he would be in contact with me "early next week." But Mr. Snyder did not contact me early the next week.
- 22. On January 2, 2019, I sought to take the depositions of Mr. Arnold and Ms. Reeves at my office. I went on the record with the court reporter, and waited for over 30 minutes, but neither Mr. Arnold nor Ms. Reeves appeared. [See Exhibit 8 (01/02/19 deposition transcript)]
- 23. On January 10, 2019, more than a week <u>after</u> the date the deposition was set, Mr. Snyder provided a note from Gateway Medical Clinic dated January 9, 2019 stating, in full, "Due to ongoing health issues we have advised this patient [Mr. Arnold] not to travel for at least six months until all investigations and issues are resolved." [Letter from S. Snyder to K. Beauchamp dated January 10, 2019, attached hereto as **Exhibit 9**]
- 24. Defendants' counsel has provided no explanation for Ms. Reeves' failure to appear for her deposition on January 2, 2019.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

DATED this 20th of March, 2019.

Dail)

Keith Beauchamp

- 6 -

# Exhibit 1

Granted with Modifications
\*\*See eSignature page\*\*\*

Chris DeRose, Clerk of Court \*\*\* Electronically Filed \*\*\* C. Mai, Deputy 12/4/2018 8:00:00 AM Filing ID 9936593

1	Keith Beauchamp (012434)	
2	Roopali H. Desai (024295) COPPERSMITH BROCKELMAN PLC	
3	2800 North Central Avenue, Suite 1900	
	Phoenix, Arizona 85004	
4	T: (602) 381-5490	
5	F: (602) 224-6020 kbeauchamp@cblawyers.com	÷
6	rdesai@cblawyers.com	
7	Attorneys for Plaintiff	
8	ARIZONA SUJ	PERIOR COURT
9	MARICOI	PA COUNTY
10	FIERCE INVESTMENTS LTD.,	) No. CV2018-003675
11	Plaintiff,	
12	v.	JUDGMENT
13	AZTEC COPPER INC., an Arizona	
14	corporation; RON ARNOLD, an individual;	(Assigned to the Hon. Daniel J. Kiley)
15	and CHRISTINE REEVES, an individual,	}
16	Defendants.	
17	The Court having considered and denie	d the Motion to Set Aside Default filed by Aztec
18	Copper Inc. ("Aztec" or "the Company"); havi	ng further considered the Request for Entry of
19	Final Judgment filed by Plaintiff Fierce Invest	ments, Ltd ("Fierce") to which no response has
20	been filed; and good cause appearing,	
21	IT IS HEREBY ORDERED AND DEC	LARED that:
22	A. Plaintiff Fierce has the right to it	nspect the books and records of Aztec under
23	A.R.S. § 10-1602 but has been d	enied its right to conduct such inspection; and
24	B. Aztec, its counsel, and all those	acting in concert with it are HEREBY

ORDERED to produce and/or make available for inspection the books and

{00388354.I }

25

26

records of the Company to Fierce within ten (10) days of the date of this order the offices of Fierce's counsel in Phoenix Arizona.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Fierce is awarded its reasonable attorneys' fees and costs incurred in connection with this matter, pursuant to A.R.S. §§ 10-1604(C) and 12-341.01;

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Aztec shall make its director and officer of record—Ron Arnold and Christine Reeves—available for deposition in Arizona by Plaintiff's counsel within thirty (30) days of the date of this Order to answer questions relevant to this action (including enforcement of this Judgment) and to the related lawsuit filed by Fierce against Aztec in this Court which seeks, *inter alia*, an order requiring Aztec hold its annual shareholder meeting pursuant to Arizona law (CV2018-006866), and

This Court retains jurisdiction over this matter to ensure compliance with the orders and declaratory relief set forth herein.

DATED this day of November, 2018.

Daniel J. Kiley Maricopa County Superior Court Judge

## eSignature Page 1 of 1

Filing ID: 9936593 Case Number: CV2018-003675 Original Filing ID: 9826930

**Granted with Modifications** 



**ENDORSEMENT PAGE** 

SIGNATURE DATE: 12/3/2018

FILED DATE: 12/4/2018 8:00:00 AM

CASE NUMBER: CV2018-003675

E-FILING ID #: 9936593

ROOPALI HARDIN DESAI

STEPHEN C RICH

CHRISTINE REEVES NO ADDRESS ON RECORD

RON ARNOLD NO ADDRESS ON RECORD

# Exhibit 2



LAWYERS

Keith Beauchamp kbeauchamp@cblawyers.com PH. (602) 381-5490 FAX (602) 224-6020

2800 North Central Avenue, Suite 1900 Phoenix, AZ 85004 -CBLAWYERS.COM

December 11, 2018 -

#### Via Email and Federal Express

Stephen C. Snyder Snyder & Associates LLP #2500 Sun Life Place 10123- 99 Street Edmonton AB T5J3H1 ssnyder@snyder.ca

Stephen C. Rich Stephen C. Rich, PLLC 3401 East Elwood, Suite 101 Phoenix, AZ 85040 scr@srichlaw.com

Re: Aztec Copper Inc.

Dear Messrs. Snyder and Rich:

As you know, the Arizona Superior Court entered judgment against Aztec Copper, Inc. ("Aztec") in CV2018-003675 (the "Books and Records Judgment") on December 5, 2018. That same day, a second judgment was entered against Aztec in CV2018-006866 (the "Annual Meeting Judgment"). Copies of these two judgments are enclosed for your convenience.

The Books and Records Judgment requires Aztec to make its books and records available to us in Phoenix within ten days of the order. Please provide an update on the status of your compliance with the judgment, as that deadline is rapidly approaching.

The Books and Records Judgment also orders that Ron Arnold and Christine Reeves shall be available for deposition in Phoenix within 30 days (i.e., by January 4, 2019). Enclosed are deposition notices for Mr. Arnold and Ms. Reeves. We have set the depositions for January 2, 2019, but if you wish to propose some alternative date(s) we are happy to work with you on that. In the absence of reaching some separate agreement, we expect Mr. Arnold and Ms. Reeves to appear for their depositions as noticed. Mr. Snyder has already stated in writing that he represents Mr. Arnold and Ms. Reeves, so we do not intend to effectuate separate service. Moreover, because they are officers and directors of Aztec, an Arizona corporation, they are bound by this order directed to Aztec. If Mr. Arnold and Ms. Reeves do not appear for their depositions, we will seek appropriate relief against them individually, as well as against Aztec. That relief would likely include entry of an order of contempt.

Stephen C. Snyder Stephen C. Rich December 11, 2018 Page 2

The Annual Meeting Judgment requires "Aztec, its counsel, and all those acting in concert with it... to set the annual shareholder meeting within 40 days" (i.e., by January 14, 2019), and to give notice at least 10 days before the meeting takes place. Please confirm that Aztec (including its counsel, officers and directors) will comply with this provision.

The Annual Meeting Judgment also requires that "Aztec, its counsel, and all those acting in concert with it" deliver to my office within 10 days of the date of the order "a list of those shareholders entitled to receive notice and to vote at the annual meeting." We look forward to receiving that list shortly.

The Annual Meeting Judgment further provides that "Aztec is further ORDERED to make it director[s] and officer of record—Ron Arnold and Christine Reeves—available for deposition by Plaintiff's counsel within thirty (30) days." Deposition notices for January 2, 2019 relating to the Annual Meeting Judgment are enclosed, as we can take a single deposition of each witness for the two cases, no need for two separate depositions for each of them.

Let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Keith Beauchamp

en Ber

KB:slm Enclosures

cc: Roopali Desai, Esq.

# Exhibit 3

From:

Stephen C. Snyder

To:

Keith Beauchamp

Cc:

Stephen Rich

Subject: Date: Aztec Copper Inc. - Fierce Investments Ltd. Tuesday, December 18, 2018 10:31:20 AM

Attachments:

Aztec Shareholder List.pdf

I refer to your correspondence of the 11<sup>th</sup> of December.

With respect to the contents thereof I would advise as follows:

- 1. Dealing first of all with the proposed date of the depositions, I should indicate that Ron Arnold has recently undergone a surgical procedure. As at the time of dictation hereof, I am uncertain as to his ability to travel. If that is a problem, are you amenable to coming to Edmonton to examine him?
- 2. Were you to come to Edmonton, it would make sense for you to examine Ms. Reeves at the same time.
- 3. I am enclosing herewith a list of the shareholders of Aztec which has been prepared on the basis of the most recent information known to Mr. Arnold and Ms. Reeves.

I look forward to hearing from you at your early convenience, and remain,

Yours truly,

Stephen C. Snyder

Managing Partner

#2500 Sun Life Place, 10123 - 99 Street

Edmonton, AB, T5J 3H1

Tel: 780-426-4133 Fax: 780-424-1588

ssnyder@snyder.ca http://snyder.ca

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### SHAREHOLDERS

1 Adolph, Allan & M 2 Allan, Rick & Darci	
· <del>-   </del>	
3 Arnold, Ron & D	$\top$
4 Barker, Darren	
5 Belland, Denis	
6 Benoit, Andre & Val	T
7 Berry, Kim & B	
8 Berube, Marcel & P	
9 Bradshaw, Brian	$\top$
10 Brown, Doug & M	
11 Buttner, Linda	Ť
12 Carlson, Ken	
13 Cherkewick, Vicky	
14 Craig, Rod	
15 Damberger, Tammy	$\top$
16 Dawson, Ahlene	
17 Douglas, Will & S	
18 Elliott, Gien	
19 Emerson, Randy & T	
20 Ferguson, L.& L.	
22 Flintoft, Ross	
23 French, Teresa	
24 Gomola, Geraldine	
25 Gauthler, Ray & Chris	
26 Goodwin, Dianne	1
27 Harris, Steve & J	
28 Harris, M. & T, J.	1
29 Hart, Brian	T
30 Harvey, Nicholas / Bev	
31 Hawkins, Stuart & D	
32 Hopkins, Roger & C	
33 Hughes, Sandra, L	
34 Hughes, Robert	·

1	35	Hunter, Cindy	
ľ	36	Hunter, Lefr, Pelle	1
	37	Jones, K. William	1
ŀ	38	Jones, Victor & Pat	-
ŀ	39	Jones, Pamela	1
	40	Kent, Kenneth	-
İ	41	Kluchky, Kenneth	1
ľ	42	Korker Diversified	
Ī	43	Krause, Wayne	
İ	44	Kumar, R & P	1
İ	45	Lamothe, Greg	
Ī	46	Lamothe, Valerie	7
İ	47	Larsen, Svend & H	1
ļ	48	Maddison, Mike	
ŀ	49	Manayod, Bernadette	
Ì	50	Mason Exploration	_
Ī	51	Minchau, Mark	
<b> </b>	52	Minchau, Sharon & Martin	
Ī	53	McCalthy, John	
Ī	54	Mc Cannon, Wayne	
ļ	55	McDonald, Gordon	
Ī	56	Mc Dowell, Duff	
Ī	57	McGinn, Dorothy	-
	58	McNellly, John & B	
	59	McJannet, R / Lalji, Z	:
	60	Nakonechny, M, V & S	
	61	Naslund, Donna & A	
	62	Naslund, Jeffrey & C	
	63	Niehaus, Tim & Shanon	
	64	Olsen, Nells & Silvia	
	65	Pangrass, Robert	
	66	Parks, Shelley	
_	67	Patrick, Joe Snr	L
	68	P. A. L. B. Systems	L
	69	Penney, Richard	L
	70	Popowich, Linda	L
	71	Porter, Vern	

,

72	Price, Terence & Vonda	
73	Quintillo Enterprises	<u> </u>
74	Reeves, Chris	
75	Reid, Barry	
76	Renfrow, Gordon	
77	Reynders, Wayne	
78	Satkunas, Joanne	
. 79	Chardwick, Peter	
80	Roddis, Murray C.	
81	Selbel, Steve	
82	Sharp, Ann	
83	Shaughnessy, William	
84	Squires, R. & Reeves	Γ
85	Symanczyk, Alan	
86	Tagg, Steven	
87	Terry, Wendell	
88	Thomas, C. & Tyson	
89	Thorp, Ron	
90	Vogel, Fran	
91	Vogel, F & Goodwin	
92	Williams Steve	
93	Willmer, Kim, Judy	
94	Yakimchuk, Thomas R.	
95	Yates, Syd & Bonnie	
96	Zimmer, Darlene & D	
97	Zylenko, Ron	
98	Lamothe, Norman	
99	Bach, Jens Richard	
100	Boedecker, George	
101	Gallegoes, Manuel	
102	Hernandez, Robert	
103	Langiois, David G&L	
104	Leuenberger, Werner	
105	Litwin, Gregory	
106	Nicol, Michael and Susan	
107	Venuta, mike	
108	Tebbutt, Wayne	+

Agundez, Jeff	
Lavigne, Susanne	
Brice, Andre	Г
Daney, Lelghton	
Clifford, Ken	
Bromelias Tornasol SA	
RAINFOREST CAPITAL CORP. C/O GLEN HARDER	
David Hermiston	**
Wally Boguski	
Miguel Martinez	
John Kowalchuk	
Ramon Perra	
Aline Hermiston	
Alfonso Daco	
Bob Butler	
	Lavigne, Susanne  Brice, Andre  Daney, Leighton  Clifford, Ken  Bromelias Tornasol SA  RAINFOREST CAPITAL CORP. C/O GLEN HARDER  David Hermiston  Wally Boguski  Miguel Martinez  John Kowalchuk  Ramon Perra  Aline Hermiston  Alfonso Daco

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¢

# AZTEC UNCONFIRMED SHARE HOLDER LIST

# SHAREHOLDERS

From:

Keith Beauchamp

To:

Stephen C. Snyder

Cc:

Stephen Rich; Roopali Desai

Subject: Date: RE: Aztec Copper Inc. - Fierce Investments Ltd. Saturday, December 22, 2018 4:07:00 PM

Mr. Snyder,

Your email below says nothing about Aztec producing its books and records in Arizona to my client, as ordered by the Court. The December 14, 2018 deadline for doing so has come and gone. We will ask the Court to take appropriate action, including holding Aztec and its directors and officers in contempt. I respectfully, submit, in the meantime, that your clients should meet that obligation.

With respect to the depositions, we decline to travel to Edmonton to take these depositions. The Court ordered that they take place here. We obtained that order only after expending substantial funds and effort, and overcoming the attempts of Mr. Arnold and Ms. Reeves to avoid their obligations as directors and officers of an Arizona corporation. The vague information you have provided as to some "uncertainty" about whether Mr. Arnold can travel in early January due to some unstated recent "procedure" is not sufficient to excuse his attendance. If he truly has a medical reason why he cannot travel, please provide an appropriate level of explanation to support that request, which would include a note from his physician stating why he cannot travel in that period, and advising when he would be able to travel. Ms. Reeves' obligation to appear for her deposition is unrelated to Mr. Arnold's obligation, and we expect her to appear.

Regards,

Keith Beauchamp

From: Stephen C. Snyder [mailto:ssnyder@snyder.ca]

Sent: Tuesday, December 18, 2018 10:30 AM

To: Keith Beauchamp < KBeauchamp@cblawyers.com>

Cc: Stephen Rich <scr@srichlaw.com>

Subject: Aztec Copper Inc. - Fierce Investments Ltd.

I refer to your correspondence of the 11th of December.

With respect to the contents thereof I would advise as follows:

1. Dealing first of all with the proposed date of the depositions, I should indicate that Ron

Arnold has recently undergone a surgical procedure. As at the time of dictation hereof, I am uncertain as to his ability to travel. If that is a problem, are you amenable to coming to Edmonton to examine him?

- 2. Were you to come to Edmonton, it would make sense for you to examine Ms. Reeves at the same time.
- 3. I am enclosing herewith a list of the shareholders of Aztec which has been prepared on the basis of the most recent information known to Mr. Arnold and Ms. Reeves.

I look forward to hearing from you at your early convenience, and remain,

Yours truly,

Stephen C. Snyder
Managing Partner
#2500 Sun Life Place, 10123 – 99 Street
Edmonton, AB, T5J 3H1
Tel: 780-426-4133 Fax: 780-424-1588
ssnyder@snyder.ca http://snyder.ca

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#2500 SUN LIFE PLACE, 10123 - 99 STREET, EDMONTON AB T5J 3H1 PHONE: 780-426-4133 • FAX: 780-424-1588

via email: kbeauchamp@cblawyers.com

WEB SITE; WWW,SNYDER.CA

BARRISTERS & SOLICITORS

Stephen C. Snyder Barrister & Solicitor E-Mail: ssnyder@snyder.ca

Your Ref.

Our Ref.

114023/SCS

December 27, 2018

WITHOUT PREJUDICE

Coppersmith Brockelman PLC 2800 N. Central Ave. Suite 1900 Phoenix, AZ 85004

Attention: Keith Beauchamp

Dear Sir:

Re: Aztec Copper Inc. - Fierce Investments Ltd.

I refer to your note of the 22<sup>nd</sup> of December, 2018.

With respect to the contents thereof I would comment as follows:

- 1. To the best of my knowledge, Aztec Copper Inc. has been inactive for many years. The only "records" with which I am familiar are those which were forwarded to you together with my correspondence of the 7<sup>th</sup> of June, 2018, a copy of which (absent enclosures) is enclosed herewith for ease of reference. To the best of my knowledge, Aztec has no "books". Similarly, to the best of my knowledge, it has no "records". The material which it does have has been forwarded to you, and was received by you long before you obtained the Order in question much less the December 14, 2018 deadline to which you make reference. If there is something else to which you can make explicit reference which you are seeking I would be very pleased to receive that information from you. In the meantime, Aztec Copper Inc. and its directors take the position that they have complied fully with any Orders or instructions provided by the court in this matter.
- 2. I have noted your advice that you "decline to travel to Edmonton to take these depositions." I have further noted your advice that "the court ordered that they take place here." The court order to which you make reference was prepared by yourself, without any prior consultation with Aztec Copper, its legal counsel, or its directors. Had you made such contact, which in my experience is common courtesy, you would have been advised of Mr. Arnold's medical

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concerns. I will see what I can do about obtaining for you the medical documentation which you have requested.

- 3. I have noted and am surprised by your comments concerning Ms. Reeves. As you noted in your previous correspondence, the date you selected for her examination, as with Mr. Arnold, was done without any prior notice to or consultation with her, or her legal counsel. I understand that it is occasionally necessary to obtain an order setting a date for examinations when counsel are unable to agree. In our situation, we had no opportunity to participate in any way in the timing of the proposed examination. It was determined by you, entirely arbitrarily and unilaterally.
- 4. Finally, I have noted your advice that you will "ask the court to take appropriate action, including holding Aztec and its directors and officers in contempt." Self-evidently, I cannot prevent you from taking such a step. Should you do so, however, counsel to Aztec will certainly advise the court of both the material which has been provided to you and the timing thereof.

I am at something of a loss to understand the approach you are taking in this matter. As previously stated, if there is a specific piece of information which you are seeking I would be pleased to be apprised thereof.

I will be in further contact with you shortly.

Yours truly

SNYDER & ASSOCIATES LLP

Per:

Stephen C. Snyder

SCS/cij

#### SNYDER & Associates LLP

#2500 SUN LIFE PLACE, 10123 - 99 STREET, EDMONTON AB TSJ 3H1 PHONE: 780-426-4133 • FAX: 780-424-1588

WEB SITE: WWW.SNYDER.CA

BARRISTERS & SOLICITORS

#### Stephen C. Snyder Barrister& Solicitor E-Mail: ssnyder@snyder.ca

COPY

Your Ref.

Our Ref.

114023/SCS

June 7, 2018

Coppersmith Brockelman PLC 2800 N. Central Ave. Suite 1900 Phoenix, AZ 85004

via email: kbeauchamp@cblawyers.com

Attention: Keith Beauchamp

Dear Sir:

Re: Aztec Copper Inc.

I refer to our previous correspondence. Pursuant to instructions from my client I am enclosing herewith the following:

- 1. Corporation Annual Report & Certificate of Disclosure due November 26, 2002;
- 2. Corporation Annual Report & Certificate of Disclosure due November 26, 2003;
- 3. Corporation Annual Report & Certificate of Disclosure due November 26, 2004;
- Corporation Annual Report & Certificate of Disclosure due November 26, 2005;
- 5. Corporation Annual Report & Certificate of Disclosure due November 26, 2006;
- 6. Corporation Annual Report & Certificate of Disclosure due November 26, 2007;
- 7. Corporation Annual Report & Certificate of Disclosure due November 26, 2008;
- 8. Corporation Annual Report & Certificate of Disclosure due November 26, 2009;
- 9. Corporation Annual Report & Certificate of Disclosure due November 26, 2010;
- 10. Corporation Annual Report & Certificate of Disclosure due November 26, 2011;
- 11. Corporation Annual Report & Certificate of Disclosure due November 26, 2012;
- 12. Corporation Annual Report & Certificate of Disclosure due November 26, 2013;
- 13. Corporation Annual Report & Certificate of Disclosure due November 26, 2014;
- 14. Corporation Annual Report & Certificate of Disclosure due November 26, 2015;
- 15. Corporation Annual Report & Certificate of Disclosure due November 26, 2016;
- 16. Corporation Annual Report & Certificate of Disclosure due November 26, 2017.

With respect to the shares that appear, at one point, to have been registered in the name of Fierce, I have had the opportunity to review several items of correspondence authored by one Glen D. Harder, the principal of Harder & Company, whom, I understand, was legal counsel to Fierce as well as

#### SNYDER & Associates LLP

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several other companies in which Fierce had an interest. In Mr. Harder's correspondence of the 1<sup>st</sup> of April, 2011, which is self-described as a "brief written summary of the results of the corporate review of Aztec undertaken by Harder & Company ...", Mr. Harder indicates that "...Fierce voluntarily cancelled its 40,000,000 Aztec shares and no longer has an equity position or management influence in Aztec." The same Mr. Harder, in a document entitled "Aztec Copper Inc. March 2011 Update", states "in addition, in a concurrent act of good faith, Fierce voluntarily cancelled its 40,000,000 Aztec shares and no longer has an equity position or management influence in Aztec". The foregoing appears to be the explanation for the disappearance of Fierce from the Annual Report & Certificate of Disclosure of Aztec from 2007 on.

I trust the foregoing is the information which you require. Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can be of further assistance.

Yours truly

SNYDER & ASSOCIATES LLP

Per

Stephen C. Snyder

SCS/cij Encls.



#2500 SUN LIFE PLACE, 10123 - 99 STREET, EDMONTON AB T5J 3H1
PHONE: 780-426-4133 • FAX: 780-424-1588
WEB SITE: WWW.SNYDER.CA

BARRISTERS & SOLICITORS

Stephen C. Snyder Barrister & Solicitor E-Mail: ssnyder@snyder.ca

Your Ref.

Our Ref.

114023/SCS

March 22, 2018

Coppersmith Brockelman PLC 2800 N. Central Ave. Suite 1900 Phoenix, AZ 85004

via email: kbeauchamp@cblawyers.com

Attention: Keith Beauchamp

Dear Sir:

Re: Aztec Copper Inc.

I refer to your correspondence of the 21<sup>st</sup> of March and my attempted telephone call to you on the morning of the 22<sup>nd</sup> of March.

In no particular order of priority, I would advise as follows:

- 1. I am counsel to Ron Arnold, Christine Reeves, and 1829752 Alberta Ltd. I have not been retained by the Arizona company, Aztec Copper Inc.
- 2. You have alleged that Fierce Investments Ltd. owns a significant interest in "Aztec". Are you suggesting that your client owns an interest in the Arizona company? Are you suggesting that your client owns a significant interest in the Alberta company? Please advise which of the two foregoing separate corporate entities your client is alleging an interest in.
- 3. If your client is alleging an interest in the Alberta company, please advise as to the manner in which your client alleges that it obtained that interest.
- 4. Your suggestion that the Alberta company has "refused to provide any information about how it came to be (according to you) to the successor to Aztec ..." is at odds with reality.
- 5. With the greatest respect to your Mr. Beauchamp, it seems to me that you are suffering from an inability to distinguish between the Arizona company and the Alberta company.
- 6. Self-evidently, Arizona courts do not have jurisdiction over an Alberta company which has not been extra-nationally registered in Arizona.

My client is not refusing to cooperate. My client is, however, asking that you identify, with precision, which of the two separate corporate entities you are alleging your client, Fierce, has an ownership interest. Further, if your allegation is that Fierce has an ownership interest in the Alberta company, please advise as to the manner in which that ownership interest was acquired.

#### SNYDER & Associates ild

BARRISTERS & SOLICITORS

Thanking you in advance for your anticipated cooperation herein, I remain,

Yours truly

SNYDER & ASSOCIATES LLP

Per:

Stephen C. Snyder

SCS/cij

#2500 SUN LIFE PLACE, 10123 - 99 STREET, EDMONTON AB T5J 3H1
PHONE: 780-426-4133 • FAX: 780-424-1588

WEB SITE: WWW.SNYDER.CA

BARRISTERS & SOLICITORS

Stephen C. Snyder Barrister & Solicitor E-Mail: ssnyder@snyder.ca

Your Ref.

Our Ref

114023/SCS

December 31, 2018

WITHOUT PREJUDICE

Coppersmith Brockelman PLC 2800 N. Central Ave. Suite 1900 Phoenix, AZ 85004

via email: kbeauchamp@cblawyers.com

Attention: Keith Beauchamp

Dear Sir:

Re: Aztec Copper Inc. - Fierce Investments Ltd.

I refer to our recent exchange of correspondence.

I have spoken with Mr. Arnold and am advised that he is scheduled to meet with his physician this Friday, the 4<sup>th</sup> of January. Once that consultation has been completed I will have a better idea of when and if he will be able to travel.

I would repeat my offer to make both Mr. Arnold and Ms. Reeves available at a mutually convenient time here in Edmonton and would request that you reconsider your position in this matter. In any event, I will be in further contact with you early next week.

I trust you will find the foregoing to be in order.

Jones!

Yours truly

SNYDER & ASSOCIATES LLP

Per:

Stephen C. Snyder

SCS/cij

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA

IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF MARICOPA

FIERCE INVESTMENTS LTD.,

Plaintiff,

No.

CV2018-003675

vs.

AZTEC COPPER INC., an Arizona corporation; RON ARNOLD, an individual; and CHRISTINE REEVES, an individual,

Defendants.

SCHEDULED DEPOSITION OF RON ARNOLD

Phoenix, Arizona January 2, 2019

> Prepared by: Meri Coash, RMR, CRR Certified Reporter Certification No. 50327

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THE DEPOSITION OF RON ARNOLD
 1.
     was scheduled for January 2, 2019, commencing at 9:00 a.m.
 2
     at the law offices of Coppersmith Brockelman PLC, 2800
 3
     North Central Avenue, Suite 1900, Phoenix, Arizona, before
 4
     Meri Coash, a Certified Reporter in the State of Arizona.
 8
     APPEARANCES:
10
           For the Plaintiff:
                COPPERSMITH BROCKELMAN PLC
11
                By:
                     Keith Beauchamp, Esq.
                     2800 North Central Avenue
                     Suite 1900
12
                     Phoenix, Arizona 85004
                     602-381-5490
~13
                     kbeauchamp@cblawyers.com
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REPORTER'S TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS
1
                  MR. BEAUCHAMP:
                                   So it's 9:00 a.m.
    here for the deposition of one of the directors and
5
    officers of Aztec Copper as ordered by the Court in its
6
    judgment on December 4, 2018. The deponent has not
7
    arrived. We will wait 30 minutes or so and see if the
8
    deponent appears.
                   (A recess ensued.)
10
                   MR. BEAUCHAMP: We are back on the record.
11
12
    It's 9:31, according to my clock. The deponent has not
    appeared, so we will adjourn the deposition for today and
13
    seek relief from the Court.
14
                   (The proceedings were concluded at 9:31
15
16
    a.m.)
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1	
1	STATE OF ARIZONA )
2	COUNTY OF MARICOPA )
3	BE IT KNOWN that the foregoing proceedings were taken before me; that the foregoing pages are a full, true, and accurate record of the proceedings all done to
4	the best of my skill and ability; that the proceedings were taken down by me in shorthand and thereafter reduced
5	to print under my direction.
6	I CERTIFY that I am in no way related to any
.7	of the parties hereto nor am I in any way interested in the outcome hereof.
8	I CERTIFY that I have complied with the
9	ethical obligations set forth in ACJA 7-206(F)(3) and ACJA 7-206 (J)(1)(q)(1) and (2). Dated at Phoenix,
10	Arizona, this 4th day of January, 2019.
11	
12	
13	
14	Meri Coash
15	Meri Coash, RMR, CRR
16	Certified Reporter
17	Arizona CR No. 50327
18	I CERTIFY that Coash & Coash, Inc., has complied with the ethical obligations set forth in
19	ACJA 7-206 (J)(1)(g)(1) through (6).
20	
21	
22	
23	Sound Takes
24	COASH & COASH, INC.
25	Registered Reporting Firm Arizona RRF No. R1036
	l v

Coash & Coash, Inc. 602-258-1440 www.coashandcoash.com



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WEB SITE: WWW.SNYDER.CA

BARRISTERS & SOLICITORS

Stephen C. Snyder Barrister & Solicitor E-Mail: ssnyder@snyder.ca

Your Ref.

Our Ref.

114023/SCS

January 10, 2019

Coppersmith Brockelman PLC 2800 N. Central Ave. Suite 1900 Phoenix, AZ 85004

via email: kbeauchamp@cblawyers.com

Attention: Keith Beauchamp

Dear Sir:

Re: Aztec Copper Inc. - Fierce Investments Ltd.

I am enclosing herewith a copy of correspondence from Gateway Medical Clinic, forwarded over the signature of Dr. Doug McCarty. The same is self-explanatory.

We would very much like to facilitate your immediate examination of Ron Arnold and Chris Reeves. Would you be amenable to proceeding by way of a video hookup?

I look forward to your early reaction hereto, and remain,

Yours truly

SNYDER & ASSOCIATES LLP

Per:

Stephen C. Snyder

SCS/cij Encl.

#### GATEWAY Medical Clinic

January 09, 2019

To Whom it May Consem:

Res Arnold, Ronald 16211 89 Sireet Edmonton, AB 157, 3613

D.O.B.;Sep 15, 1948 PHN; Ph(;(780)991;5438 = 7(780)473;2391

Due to phyoing ficalth issues we have advised this patient not to travel for at least six months until all investigations and issues are resolved.

With kindest regards,

Dr. Dong McCarty