

*A copy of this preliminary short form base shelf prospectus has been filed with the securities regulatory authorities in each of the provinces of Canada, except Québec, but has not yet become final for the purpose of the sale of securities. Information contained in this preliminary short form base shelf prospectus may not be complete and may have to be amended. The securities may not be sold until a receipt for the short form base shelf prospectus is obtained from the security regulatory authorities.*

*This preliminary short form base shelf prospectus has been filed under legislation in each of the provinces of Canada, except Québec, that permits certain information about these securities to be determined after this prospectus has become final and that permits the omission from this prospectus of that information. The legislation requires the delivery to purchasers of a prospectus supplement containing the omitted information within a specified period of time after agreeing to purchase any of these securities.*

*No securities regulatory authority has expressed an opinion about these securities and it is an offence to claim otherwise. This short form base shelf prospectus constitutes a public offering of these securities only in those jurisdictions where they may be lawfully offered for sale and therein only by persons permitted to sell such securities.*

*The securities offered hereby have not been and will not be registered under the United States Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "U.S. Securities Act"), or the securities laws of any state of the United States, and may not be offered, sold or delivered, directly or indirectly, in the United States of America, its territories, possessions or the District of Columbia (the "United States"), or to a U.S. person (as such term is defined in Regulation S under the U.S. Securities Act) (a "U.S. Person") unless exemptions from the registration requirements of the U.S. Securities Act and any applicable state securities laws are available. This short form base shelf prospectus does not constitute an offer to sell or a solicitation of an offer to buy any of these securities within the United States or to, or for the account or benefit of, any U.S. Person. See "Plan of Distribution".*

*Information has been incorporated by reference in this short form base shelf prospectus from documents filed with securities commissions or similar authorities in Canada. Copies of the documents incorporated herein by reference may be obtained on request without charge from Cresco Labs Inc., at 400 W Erie St. #110, Chicago, IL, telephone 312-929-0993, and are also available electronically at [www.sedar.com](http://www.sedar.com).*

## PRELIMINARY SHORT FORM BASE SHELF PROSPECTUS

New Issue and Secondary Offering

April 25, 2019



**CRESCO LABS INC.  
\$500,000,000  
Subordinate Voting Shares  
Debt Securities  
Subscription Receipt  
Warrants  
Units**

Cresco Labs Inc. ("**Cresco**" or the "**Corporation**") may from time to time offer and issue the following securities: (i) subordinate voting shares of the Corporation ("**Subordinate Voting Shares**"); (ii) debt securities of the Corporation ("**Debt Securities**"); (iii) subscription receipts ("**Subscription Receipts**") exchangeable for Subordinate Voting Shares and/or other securities of the Corporation; (iv) warrants exercisable to acquire Subordinate Voting Shares and/or other securities of the Corporation ("**Warrants**"); and (v) securities comprised of more than one of Subordinate Voting Shares, Debt Securities, Subscription Receipts and/or Warrants offered together as a unit ("**Units**"), or any combination thereof having an offer price of up to \$500,000,000 in aggregate (or the equivalent thereof, at the date of issue, in any other currency or currencies, as the case may be) at any time during the 25-month period that this short form base shelf prospectus (including any amendments hereto, the "**Prospectus**") remains valid. The Subordinate

Voting Shares, Debt Securities, Subscription Receipts, Warrants and Units (collectively, the "**Securities**") offered hereby may be offered in one or more offerings, separately or together, in separate series, in amounts, at prices and on terms to be set forth in one or more prospectus supplements (collectively or individually, as the case may be, "**Prospectus Supplements**"). In addition, one or more securityholders (each, a "**Selling Securityholder**") of the Corporation may also offer and sell Securities under this Prospectus. See "Selling Securityholders".

The Securities may be sold, from time to time in one or more transactions at a fixed price or prices which may be changed or at market prices prevailing at the time of sale, at prices related to such prevailing market prices or at negotiated prices, including sales made directly on the Canadian Securities Exchange (the "**CSE**") or other existing trading markets for the Securities, and as set forth in an accompanying Prospectus Supplement. See "Plan of Distribution".

The specific terms of any offering of Securities will be set forth in the applicable Prospectus Supplement and may include, without limitation, where applicable: (i) in the case of Subordinate Voting Shares, the number of Subordinate Voting Shares being offered, the offering price, whether the Subordinate Voting Shares are being offered for cash, the person offering the Subordinate Voting Shares (the Corporation and/or the Selling Securityholder) and any other terms specific to the Subordinate Voting Shares being offered; (ii) in the case of Debt Securities, the specific designation, aggregate principal amount, the currency or the currency unit for which the Debt Securities may be purchased, maturity, interest provisions, authorized denominations, offering price, whether the Debt Securities are being offered for cash, the covenants, the events of default, any terms for redemption or retraction, any exchange or conversion rights attached to the Debt Securities, the person offering the Debt Securities (the Corporation and/or the Selling Securityholder) and any other terms specific to the Debt Securities being offered; (iii) in the case of Subscription Receipts, the number of Subscription Receipts being offered, the offering price, whether the Subscription Receipts are being offered for cash, the terms, conditions and procedures for the exchange of the Subscription Receipts into or for Subordinate Voting Shares and/or other securities of the Corporation, the person offering the Subscription Receipts (the Corporation and/or the Selling Securityholder) and any other terms specific to the Subscription Receipts being offered; (iv) in the case of Warrants, the number of such Warrants offered, the offering price, whether the Warrants are being offered for cash, the terms, conditions and procedures for the exercise of such Warrants into or for Subordinate Voting Shares and/or other securities of the Corporation, the person offering the Warrants (the Corporation and/or the Selling Securityholder) and any other specific terms; and (v) in the case of Units, the number of Units being offered, the offering price, the terms of the Subordinate Voting Shares, Debt Securities, Subscription Receipts and/or Warrants underlying the Units, the person offering the Units (the Corporation and/or the Selling Securityholder) and any other specific terms.

All shelf information permitted under applicable securities legislation to be omitted from this Prospectus will be contained in one or more Prospectus Supplements that will be delivered to purchasers together with this Prospectus. Each Prospectus Supplement will be incorporated by reference into this Prospectus as of the date of such Prospectus Supplement and only for the purposes of the distribution of the Securities covered by that Prospectus Supplement. The offerings are subject to approval of certain legal matters on behalf of the Corporation by Bennett Jones LLP.

This Prospectus does not qualify for issuance Debt Securities, or Securities convertible or exchangeable into Debt Securities, in respect of which the payment of principal and/or interest may be determined, in whole or in part, by reference to one or more underlying interests including, for example, an equity or debt security, a statistical measure of economic or financial performance including, without limitation, any currency, consumer price or mortgage index, or the price or value of one or more commodities, indices or other items, or any other item or formula, or any combination or basket of the foregoing items. This Prospectus may qualify for issuance Debt Securities, or Securities convertible or exchangeable into Debt Securities, in respect of which the payment of principal and/or interest may be determined, in whole or in part, by reference to published rates of a central banking authority or one or more financial institutions, such as a prime rate or bankers' acceptance rate, or to recognized market benchmark interest rates such as CDOR (the Canadian Dollar Offered Rate) or LIBOR (the London Interbank Offered Rate), and/or convertible into or exchangeable for Subordinate Voting Shares and/or other securities of the Corporation.

The Corporation and the Selling Securityholders may sell the Securities, separately or together: (i) to one or more underwriters or dealers; (ii) through one or more agents; or (iii) directly to one or more purchasers. The Prospectus Supplement relating to a particular offering of Securities will describe the terms of such offering of Securities, including: (i) the terms of the Securities to which the Prospectus Supplement relates, including the type of Security

being offered, and the method of distribution; (ii) the name or names of any underwriters, dealers or agents involved in such offering of Securities; (iii) the purchase price of the Securities offered thereby and the proceeds to, and the expenses borne by, the Corporation or the Selling Securityholder from the sale of such Securities; (iv) any commission, underwriting discounts and other items constituting compensation payable to underwriters, dealers or agents; (v) any discounts or concessions allowed or re-allowed or paid to underwriters, dealers or agents; and (vi) the identity of the Selling Securityholder, if any. See "Plan of Distribution".

In connection with any offering of the Securities, subject to applicable laws (unless otherwise specified in the relevant Prospectus Supplement), the underwriters or agents may over-allot or effect transactions that stabilize or maintain the market price of the offered Securities at a level above that which might otherwise prevail on the open market. Such transactions, if commenced, may be interrupted or discontinued at any time. See "Plan of Distribution".

The issued and outstanding Subordinate Voting Shares are listed and posted for trading on the CSE under the symbol "CL". On April 24, 2019, the last trading day prior to the date of this Prospectus, the closing price per Subordinate Voting Share on the CSE was \$17.50. **Unless otherwise specified in the applicable Prospectus Supplement, the Debt Securities, Subscription Receipts, Warrants and Units will not be listed on any securities exchange. There is no market through which these Securities may be sold and purchasers may not be able to resell such Securities purchased under this Prospectus. This may affect the pricing of the Securities in the secondary market, the transparency and availability of trading prices, the liquidity of the Securities, and the extent of issuer regulation.**

**Investing in Securities is speculative and involves a high degree of risk and should only be made by persons who can afford the total loss of their investment. A prospective purchaser should therefore review this Prospectus and the documents incorporated by reference herein in their entirety and carefully consider the risk factors described or referenced under "Risk Factors" prior to investing in such Securities.**

**No underwriter, dealer or agent has been involved in the preparation of this Prospectus or performed any review of the contents of this Prospectus.**

The Corporation has three classes of issued and outstanding shares: the Subordinate Voting Shares, the Proportionate Voting Shares of the Corporation (the "**Proportionate Voting Shares**") and the Super Voting Shares of the Corporation (the "**Super Voting Shares**"). The Subordinate Voting Shares are "restricted securities" within the meaning of such term under applicable Canadian securities laws. Each Subordinate Voting Share is entitled to one vote per Subordinate Voting Share, each Proportionate Voting Share is entitled to one vote in respect of each Subordinate Voting Share into which such Proportionate Voting Share could ultimately then be converted, which is currently equal to 200 votes per Proportionate Voting Share, and each Super Voting Share is currently entitled to 2,000 votes per Super Voting Share on all matters upon which the holders of shares of the Corporation are entitled to vote, and holders of Subordinate Voting Shares, Proportionate Voting Shares and Super Voting Shares will vote together on all matters subject to a vote of holders of both those classes of shares as if they were one class of shares, except to the extent that a separate vote of holders as a separate class is required by law or provided by the articles of the Corporation. Other than the return of the issue price for their Super Voting Shares, the holders of Super Voting Shares are not entitled to receive, directly or indirectly, as holders of Super Voting Shares, any other assets or property of the Corporation. Holders of Subordinate Voting Shares and Proportionate Voting Shares are entitled to receive, as and when declared by the board of directors of the Corporation, dividends in cash or property of the Corporation. In the event of the liquidation, dissolution or winding-up of the Corporation, whether voluntary or involuntary, or in the event of any other distribution of assets of the Corporation among its shareholders for the purpose of winding up its affairs, the holders of Subordinate Voting Shares are, subject to the prior rights of the holders of any shares of the Corporation ranking in priority to the Subordinate Voting Shares (including, without restriction, the Proportionate Voting Shares and the Super Voting Shares as to the issue price paid in respect thereof), entitled to participate ratably along with all other holders of Subordinate Voting Shares. **In the event that a take-over bid is made for the Super Voting Shares, the holders of Subordinate Voting Shares will not be entitled to participate in such offer and may not tender their shares into any such offer, whether under the terms of the Subordinate Voting Shares or under any coattail trust or similar agreement. Notwithstanding this, any take-over bid for solely the Super Voting Shares is unlikely given that by the terms of the investment agreement entered into by the Corporation and the Founders (as defined herein) in connection with the issuance to the Founders of the Super Voting Shares, upon any sale of Super Voting Shares to an unrelated third party purchaser, such Super Voting Shares**

**will be redeemed by the Corporation for their issue price.** See "Description of Share Capital of the Corporation" for further details.

The directors, chief executive officer and chief financial officer of the Corporation reside outside of Canada and each has appointed Bennett Jones LLP, 3400 One First Canadian Place, Toronto, Ontario, M5X 1A4, as his or her agent for service of process in Canada. FGMK, LLC, the auditor in respect of the audited financial statements of Cresco Labs LLC, as at and for the years ended January 31, 2018 and 2017, is incorporated, continued or otherwise organized under the laws of a foreign jurisdiction. Purchasers are advised that it may not be possible for investors to enforce judgments obtained in Canada against any person or company that resides outside of Canada or is incorporated, continued or otherwise organized under the laws of a foreign jurisdiction, even if the party has appointed an agent for service of process.

The Corporation's head office is located at 400 W Erie St. #110, Chicago, IL and registered office is located at Suite 2200, 1055 West Hastings Street, Vancouver, BC, V6E 2E9.

**This Prospectus qualifies the distribution of securities of an entity that currently directly derives a substantial portion of its revenues from the cannabis industry in certain U.S. states, which industry is illegal under U.S. Federal Law. The Corporation is directly involved (through licensed subsidiaries) in both the adult-use and medical cannabis industry in the States of Illinois, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Nevada, Arizona and California, as permitted within such states under applicable state law which states have regulated such industries, and is in the process of acquiring businesses which would allow the Corporation to directly participate in the adult-use and medical cannabis industry in the States of New York, Massachusetts, Florida and Maryland, as permitted within such states under applicable state law and which states have regulated such industries.**

**The cultivation, sale and use of cannabis is illegal under federal law pursuant to the U.S. Controlled Substance Act of 1970 (the "CSA"). Under the CSA, the policies and regulations of the United States Federal Government and its agencies are that cannabis has no medical benefit and a range of activities including cultivation and the personal use of cannabis is prohibited. The Supremacy Clause of the United States Constitution establishes that the United States Constitution and federal laws made pursuant to it are paramount and in case of conflict between federal and state law, the federal law shall apply.**

**On January 4, 2018, former U.S. Attorney General Jeff Sessions issued a memorandum to U.S. district attorneys which rescinded previous guidance from the U.S. Department of Justice specific to cannabis enforcement in the United States, including the Cole Memo (as defined herein). With the Cole Memo rescinded, U.S. federal prosecutors have been given discretion in determining whether to prosecute cannabis related violations of U.S. federal law. If the Department of Justice policy was to aggressively pursue financiers or equity owners of cannabis-related business, and United States Attorneys followed such Department of Justice policies through pursuing prosecutions, then the Corporation could face (i) seizure of its cash and other assets used to support or derived from its cannabis subsidiaries, and (ii) the arrest of its employees, directors, officers, managers and investors, who could face charges of ancillary criminal violations of the CSA for aiding and abetting and conspiring to violate the CSA by virtue of providing financial support to state- licensed or permitted cultivators, processors, distributors, and/or retailers of cannabis. Additionally, as has recently been affirmed by U.S. Customs and Border Protection, employees, directors, officers, managers and investors of the Corporation who are not U.S. citizens face the risk of being barred from entry into the United States for life.**

**Unless and until the United States Congress amends the CSA with respect to medical and/or adult-use cannabis (and as to the timing or scope of any such potential amendments there can be no assurance), there is a significant risk that federal authorities may enforce current U.S. federal law. If the U.S. federal government begins to enforce U.S. federal laws relating to cannabis in states where the sale and use of cannabis is currently legal, or if existing applicable state laws are repealed or curtailed, the Corporation's business, results of operations, financial condition and prospects would be materially adversely affected.**

**Despite the current state of the federal law and the CSA, the States of California, Nevada, Massachusetts, Maine, Michigan, Washington, Oregon, Colorado, Vermont and Alaska, and the District of Columbia, have legalized recreational use of cannabis. Maine and Michigan have not yet begun recreational cannabis commercial operations. In early 2018, Vermont became the first state to legalize recreational cannabis by passage in a state legislature, but does not allow commercial sales of recreational cannabis. Although the**

**District of Columbia voters passed a ballot initiative in November 2014, no commercial recreational operations exist because of a prohibition on using funds for regulation within a federal appropriations amendment to local District spending powers.**

**In addition, over half of the U.S. states have enacted legislation to legalize and regulate the sale and use of medical cannabis, provided that there are strict limits on the levels of THC. However, there is no guarantee that state laws legalizing and regulating the sale and use of cannabis will not be repealed or overturned, or that local governmental authorities will not limit the applicability of state laws within their respective jurisdictions.**

**The Corporation's objective is to capitalize on the opportunities presented as a result of the changing regulatory environment governing the cannabis industry in the United States. Accordingly, there are a number of significant risks associated with the business of the Corporation. Unless and until the United States Congress amends the CSA with respect to medical and/or adult-use cannabis (and as to the timing or scope of any such potential amendments there can be no assurance), there is a significant risk that federal authorities may enforce current federal law, and the business of the Corporation may be deemed to be producing, cultivating, extracting, or dispensing cannabis or aiding or abetting or otherwise engaging in a conspiracy to commit such acts in violation of federal law in the United States.**

**For these reasons, the Corporation's investments in the United States cannabis market may subject the Corporation to heightened scrutiny by regulators, stock exchanges, clearing agencies and other Canadian authorities. There are a number of risks associated with the business of the Corporation. See the section entitled "Risk Factors" herein and within the AIF (as defined herein).**

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## **ABOUT THIS SHORT FORM BASE SHELF PROSPECTUS**

An investor should rely only on the information contained in this Prospectus (including the documents incorporated by reference herein) and is not entitled to rely on parts of the information contained in this Prospectus (including the documents incorporated by reference herein) to the exclusion of others. The Corporation has not authorized anyone to provide investors with additional or different information. The Corporation takes no responsibility for, and can provide no assurance as to the reliability of, any other information that others may give readers of this Prospectus. Information contained on, or otherwise accessed through, the Corporation's website shall not be deemed to be a part of this Prospectus and such information is not incorporated by reference herein.

The Corporation is not offering to sell the Securities in any jurisdictions where the offer or sale of the Securities is not permitted. The information contained in this Prospectus (including the documents incorporated by reference herein) is accurate only as of the date of this Prospectus or as of the date as otherwise set out herein (or as of the date of the document incorporated by reference herein or as of the date as otherwise set out in the document incorporated by reference herein, as applicable), regardless of the time of delivery of this Prospectus or any sale of the Subordinate Voting Shares, Debt Securities, Subscription Receipts, Warrants and/or Units. The business, financial condition, capital, results of operations and prospects of the Corporation may have changed since those dates. The Corporation does not undertake to update the information contained or incorporated by reference herein, except as required by applicable Canadian securities laws.

This Prospectus shall not be used by anyone for any purpose other than in connection with an offering of Securities as described in one or more Prospectus Supplements.

The documents incorporated or deemed to be incorporated by reference herein contain meaningful and material information relating to the Corporation and readers of this Prospectus should review all information contained in this Prospectus, the applicable Prospectus Supplement and the documents incorporated or deemed to be incorporated by reference herein and therein.

## **MEANING OF CERTAIN REFERENCES AND CURRENCY PRESENTATION**

References to dollars or "\$" are to Canadian currency unless otherwise indicated. All references to "US\$" refer to United States dollars. On April 24, 2019, the daily exchange rate for the United States dollar in terms of Canadian dollars, as quoted by the Bank of Canada, was US\$1.00 = \$1.35.

Unless the context otherwise requires, all references in this Prospectus to the "Corporation" refer to the Corporation and its subsidiary entities on a consolidated basis.

## **MARKET AND INDUSTRY DATA**

Unless otherwise indicated, the market and industry data contained or incorporated by reference in this Prospectus is based upon information from independent industry publications, market research, analyst reports and surveys and other publicly available sources. Although the Corporation believes these sources to be generally reliable, market and industry data is subject to interpretation and cannot be verified with complete certainty due to limits on the availability and reliability of raw data, the voluntary nature of the data gathering process and other limitations and uncertainties inherent in any survey. The Corporation has not independently verified any of the data from third party sources referred to or incorporated by reference herein, and accordingly the accuracy and completeness of such data is not guaranteed.

## **CAUTION REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS**

This Prospectus includes "forward-looking information" and "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of Canadian securities laws and United States securities laws. All information, other than statements of historical facts, included in this Prospectus that address activities, events or developments that the Corporation expects or anticipates will or may occur in the future is forward-looking information. Forward-looking information is often identified by the words "may", "would", "could", "should", "will", "intend", "plan", "anticipate", "believe", "estimate", "expect" or

similar expressions and includes, among others, information regarding: expectations for the effects of the Business Combination, statements relating to the business and future activities of, and developments related to, the Corporation after the date of this Prospectus, including but not limited to, such things as future business strategy, competitive strengths, goals, expansion and growth of the Corporation's business, operations and plans, including new revenue streams, the completion of contemplated acquisitions by the Corporation, the application for additional licenses and the grant of licenses that have been applied for, the expansion of existing cultivation and production facilities, the completion of cultivation and production facilities that are under construction, the construction of additional cultivation and production facilities, the expansion into additional States within the United States, international markets and Canada, any potential future legalization of adult-use and/or medical marijuana under U.S. federal law; expectations of market size and growth in the United States and the States in which the Corporation operates; expectations for other economic, business, regulatory and/or competitive factors related to the Corporation or the cannabis industry generally; and other events or conditions that may occur in the future.

Readers are cautioned that forward-looking information and statements are not based on historical facts but instead are based on reasonable assumptions, estimates, analysis and opinions of management of the Corporation at the time they were provided or made, in light of its experience and its perception of trends, current conditions and expected developments, as well as other factors that management believes to be relevant and reasonable in the circumstances, and involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors which may cause the actual results, performance or achievements of the Corporation, as applicable, to be materially different from any future results, performance or achievements expressed or implied by such forward-looking information and statements.

Forward-looking information and statements are not a guarantee of future performance and are based upon a number of estimates and assumptions of management at the date the statements are made including among other things assumptions about: the contemplated acquisitions and dispositions being completed on the current terms and current contemplated timeline; development costs remaining consistent with budgets; ability to manage anticipated and unanticipated costs; favorable equity and debt capital markets; the ability to raise sufficient capital to advance the business of the Corporation; favorable operating and economic conditions; political and regulatory stability; obtaining and maintaining all required licenses and permits; receipt of governmental approvals and permits; sustained labor stability; stability in financial and capital goods markets; favourable production levels and costs from the Corporation's operations; the pricing of various cannabis products; the level of demand for cannabis products; the availability of third party service providers and other inputs for the Corporation's operations; and the Corporation's ability to conduct operations in a safe, efficient and effective manner. While the Corporation considers these assumptions to be reasonable, the assumptions are inherently subject to significant business, social, economic, political, regulatory, competitive and other risks and uncertainties, contingencies and other factors that could cause actual performance, achievements, actions, events, results or conditions to be materially different from those projected in the forward-looking information and statements. Many assumptions are based on factors and events that are not within the control of the Corporation and there is no assurance they will prove to be correct.

Risks, uncertainties and other factors which may cause the actual results, performance or achievements of the Corporation, as applicable, to be materially different from any future results, performance or achievements expressed or implied by such forward-looking information and statements include, among others, risks relating to the concentrated Founder voting control of the Corporation and the unpredictability caused by the existing capital structure; U.S. regulatory landscape and enforcement related to cannabis, including political risks; risks relating to anti-money laundering laws and regulation; other governmental and environmental regulation; public opinion and perception of the cannabis industry; risks related to the ability to consummate the proposed acquisitions and the ability to obtain requisite regulatory approvals and third party consents and the satisfaction of other conditions to the consummation of the proposed acquisitions on the proposed terms and schedule; the potential impact of the announcement or consummation of the proposed acquisitions on relationships, including with regulatory bodies, employees, suppliers, customers and competitors; the diversion of management time on the proposed acquisitions; risks related to contracts with third party service providers; risks related to the enforceability of contracts; the limited operating history of the Corporation; reliance on the expertise and judgment of senior management of the Corporation; risks inherent in an agricultural business; risks related to co-investment with parties with different interests to the Corporation; risks related to proprietary intellectual property and potential infringement by third parties; risks relating to financing activities including leverage; risks relating to the management of growth; increased costs associated with the Corporation becoming a publicly traded company; increasing competition in the industry; risks relating to energy costs; risks associated to cannabis products manufactured for human consumption including potential product recalls;



reliance on key inputs, suppliers and skilled labour (the availability and retention of which is subject to uncertainty); cybersecurity risks; ability and constraints on marketing products; fraudulent activity by employees, contractors and consultants; tax and insurance related risks; risks related to the economy generally; risk of litigation; conflicts of interest; risks relating to certain remedies being limited and the difficulty of enforcement of judgments and effect service outside of Canada; risks related to future acquisitions or dispositions; sales by existing shareholders; the limited market for securities of the Corporation; limited research and data relating to cannabis; as well as those risk factors discussed elsewhere herein and in the documents incorporated by reference herein, including the AIF.

Readers are cautioned that the foregoing lists are not exhaustive of all factors and assumptions that may have been used. Although the Corporation has attempted to identify important factors that could cause actual results to differ materially, there may be other factors that cause results not to be as anticipated, estimated or intended. There can be no assurance that such forward-looking information and statements will prove to be accurate as actual results and future events could differ materially from those anticipated in such information and statements. Accordingly, readers should not place undue reliance on forward-looking information and statements. The forward-looking information and statements contained herein are presented for the purposes of assisting readers in understanding the Corporation's expected financial and operating performance and the Corporation's plans and objectives and may not be appropriate for other purposes.

The forward-looking information and statements contained in this Prospectus represent the Corporation's views and expectations as of the date of this Prospectus and forward-looking information and statements contained in the documents incorporated by reference herein represent the Corporation's views and expectations as of the date of such documents, unless otherwise indicated in such documents. The Corporation anticipates that subsequent events and developments may cause its views and expectations to change. However, while the Corporation may elect to update such forward- looking information and statements at a future time, it has no current intention of and assumes no obligation for doing so except to the extent required by applicable law.

## DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE

**Information has been incorporated by reference in this Prospectus from documents filed with the securities commissions or similar regulatory authorities in Canada.** Copies of the documents incorporated herein by reference may be obtained on request without charge from the General Counsel of the Corporation, at 400 W Erie St. #110, Chicago, IL, 312-929-0993, and are also available electronically at [www.sedar.com](http://www.sedar.com).

As of the date hereof, the following documents (or the sections or sub-sections thereof set out below), filed with the various securities commissions or similar authorities in each of the provinces of Canada, except Québec, are specifically incorporated by reference into, and form an integral part of, this Prospectus:

1. the annual information form of the Corporation dated March 11, 2019 (the "**AIF**");
2. the unaudited condensed interim financial statements of the Corporation as at and for the three and nine months ended October 31, 2018 and 2017, together with the notes thereto (these financial statements relate to Randsburg International Gold Corp. ("**Randsburg**") and do not reflect the completion of the Business Combination (as defined herein));
3. the management's discussion and analysis of the Corporation for the three and nine months ended October 31, 2018 and 2017 (this MD&A relates to Randsburg and does not reflect the completion of the Business Combination (as defined herein));
4. the audited financial statements of the Corporation for the years ended January 31, 2018 and 2017, together with the notes thereto and the auditor's report for the years ended January 31, 2018 and 2017 attached thereto attached to the Listing Statement (as defined herein) (these financial statements relate to Randsburg and do not reflect the completion of the Business Combination (as defined herein));

5. the management's discussion and analysis of the Corporation for the three and twelve month period ended January 31, 2018 (this MD&A relates to Randsburg and does not reflect the completion of the Business Combination (as defined herein));
6. the audited financial statements of Cresco Labs, LLC, as at and for the years ended December 31, 2017 and 2016, together with the notes thereto and the auditor's report for the years ended December 31, 2017 and 2016 attached thereto attached to the Listing Statement (as defined herein);
7. the management's discussion and analysis of Cresco Labs, LLC for the year ended December 31, 2017 attached to the Listing Statement (as defined herein);
8. the unaudited consolidated financial statements of Cresco Labs, LLC, as at and for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2018 and 2017, together with the notes thereto;
9. the management's discussion and analysis of Cresco Labs, LLC, for the year ended December 31, 2017 and the three and nine months ended September 30, 2018
10. the following sections and sub-sections of the listing statement of the Corporation dated November 30, 2018 (the "**Listing Statement**") (a) the sub-section entitled "Summary of the Equity Plan" of Section 9 (Options to Purchase Securities) of the Listing Statement; and (b) Section 15 (Executive Compensation) of the Listing Statement;
11. the management information circular of the Corporation dated October 17, 2018, prepared in connection with a special meeting of shareholders held on November 14, 2018 (the "**RTO Circular**"), other than any other statement contained in the RTO Circular to the extent that any statement contained herein or in any document incorporated or deemed to be incorporated by reference herein subsequently filed after the RTO Circular modifies or supersedes such a statement contained in the RTO Circular;
12. the material change report dated July 24, 2018 regarding a change to the directors and officers of Randsburg;
13. the material change report dated August 27, 2018 regarding the announcement of a non-brokered private placement of 43,333,333 units, comprised of one common share in the capital of Randsburg and one common share purchase warrant, along with the announcement of the conversion of certain debt agreements into equity;
14. the material change report dated October 9, 2018 announcing the delisting of the Randsburg common shares;
15. the material change report dated October 11, 2018 announcing the entering into of a letter of intent by Randsburg for a reverse takeover transaction with Cresco Labs, LLC;
16. the material change report dated October 18, 2018 announcing the closing of the private placement announced on August 17, 2018;
17. the material change report dated December 10, 2018 announcing the closing of the reverse takeover announced on October 9, 2018; and
18. the material change report dated April 11, 2019, announcing the entering into of an arrangement agreement with CannaRoyalty Corp. d/b/a Origin House ("**Origin House**") pursuant to which the Corporation has agreed to acquire all of the issued and outstanding shares of Origin House pursuant to a court approved plan of arrangement.

Any document of the type required by National Instrument 44-101 — *Short Form Prospectus Distributions* to be incorporated by reference into a short form prospectus, including any annual information forms, material change reports (except confidential material change reports), business acquisition reports, interim financial statements, annual financial statements and the auditor's report thereon, management's discussion and analysis and information circulars of the Corporation filed by the Corporation with securities commissions or similar authorities in Canada after the date

of this Prospectus and prior to the completion or withdrawal of any offering under this Prospectus shall be deemed to be incorporated by reference into this Prospectus.

Upon a new interim financial report and related management's discussion and analysis of the Corporation being filed with the applicable securities regulatory authorities during the currency of this Prospectus, the previous interim financial report and related management's discussion and analysis of the Corporation most recently filed shall be deemed no longer to be incorporated by reference into this Prospectus for purposes of future offers and sales of Securities hereunder. Upon new annual financial statements and related management's discussion and analysis of the Corporation being filed with the applicable securities regulatory authorities during the currency of this Prospectus, the previous annual financial statements and related management's discussion and analysis and the previous interim financial report and related management's discussion and analysis of the Corporation most recently filed shall be deemed no longer to be incorporated by reference into this Prospectus for purposes of future offers and sales of Securities hereunder. Upon a new annual information form of the Corporation being filed with the applicable securities regulatory authorities during the currency of this Prospectus, the following documents shall be deemed no longer to be incorporated by reference into this Prospectus for purposes of future offers and sales of Securities hereunder: (i) the previous annual information form, if any; (ii) material change reports filed by the Corporation prior to the end of the financial year in respect of which the new annual information form is filed; (iii) business acquisition reports filed by the Corporation for acquisitions completed prior to the beginning of the financial year in respect of which the new annual information form is filed; and (iv) any information circular of the Corporation filed by the Corporation prior to the beginning of the financial year in respect of which the new annual information form is filed. Upon a new information circular of the Corporation prepared in connection with an annual general meeting of the Corporation being filed with the applicable securities regulatory authorities during the currency of this Prospectus, the previous information circular of the Corporation prepared in connection with an annual general meeting of the Corporation shall be deemed no longer to be incorporated by reference into this Prospectus for purposes of future offers and sales of Securities hereunder.

A Prospectus Supplement to this Prospectus containing the specific variable terms in respect of an offering of the Securities will be delivered to purchasers of such Securities together with this Prospectus, unless an exemption from the prospectus delivery requirements has been granted or is otherwise available, and will be deemed to be incorporated by reference into this Prospectus as of the date of such Prospectus Supplement only for the purposes of the offering of the Securities covered by such Prospectus Supplement.

**Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, any statement contained in this Prospectus or in a document incorporated or deemed to be incorporated by reference herein shall be deemed to be modified or superseded, for purposes of this Prospectus, to the extent that a statement contained herein or in any other subsequently filed document incorporated or deemed to be incorporated by reference herein modifies or supersedes such prior statement. The modifying or superseding statement need not state that it has modified or superseded a prior statement or include any other information set forth in the document that it modifies or supersedes. The making of a modifying or superseding statement shall not be deemed an admission for any purpose that the modified or superseded statement, when made, constituted a misrepresentation, an untrue statement of a material fact or an omission to state a material fact that is required to be stated or that is necessary to make a statement not misleading in light of the circumstances in which it was made. Any statement so modified or superseded shall thereafter neither constitute, nor be deemed to constitute, a part of this Prospectus, except as so modified or superseded.**

## THE CORPORATION

### Corporate Structure

The Corporation was incorporated in the Province of British Columbia under the *Business Corporations Act* (British Columbia) on July 6, 1990. On December 30, 1997, the Corporation changed its name from Randsburg Gold Corporation to Randsburg International Gold Corp. (“**Randsburg**”), and consolidated its outstanding common shares on a five (5) old for one (1) new basis. On November 30, 2018, in connection with the Business Combination, the Corporation (i) consolidated its outstanding Randsburg Common Shares on a 812.63 old for one (1) new basis by way of resolution of its board of directors (without any corporate filings being necessary), and (ii) filed an alteration to its

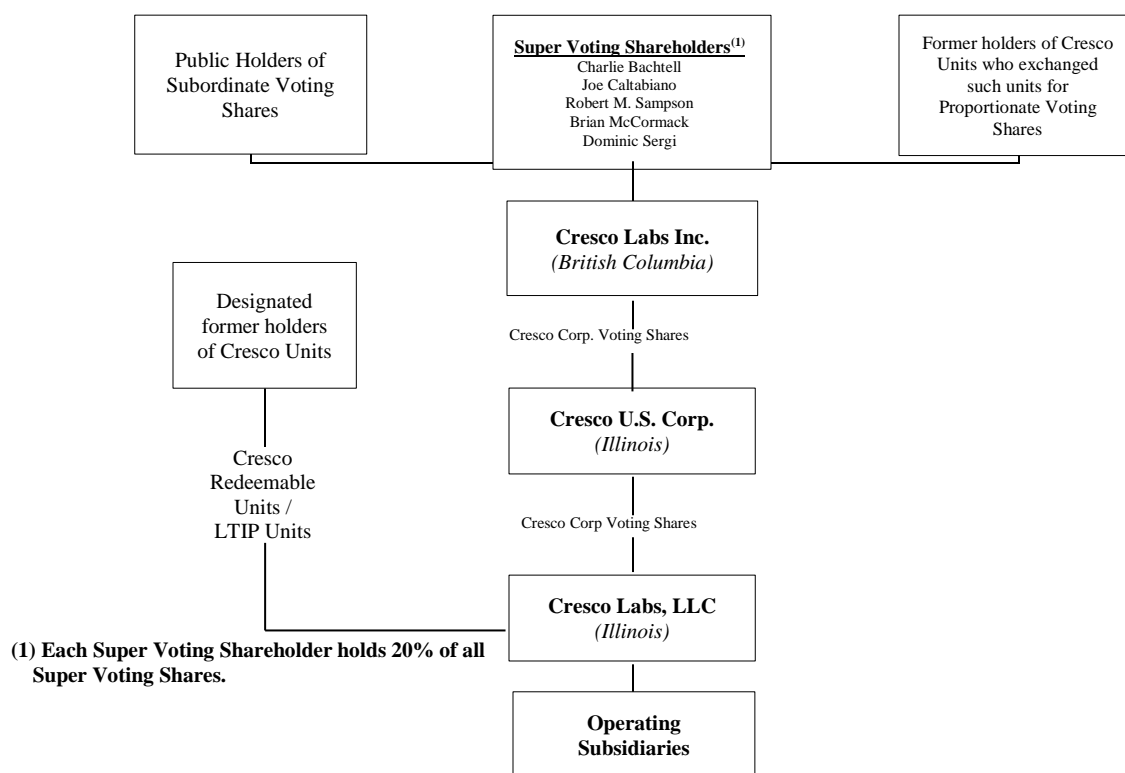
Notice of Articles with the British Columbia Registrar of Companies to change its name from Randsburg International Gold Corp. to Cresco Labs Inc. and to amend the rights and restrictions of its existing class of common shares, redesignate such class as the class of Subordinate Voting Shares and create the Proportionate Voting Shares and the Super Voting Shares (collectively, the **"Share Terms Amendment"**).

The Corporation's head office is located at 400 W Erie St #110, Chicago, IL 60654 and the Corporation's registered office is located at Suite 2200, 1055 West Hastings Street, Vancouver, BC V6E 2E9.

Pursuant to the Business Combination, among the Corporation (then Randsburg) and Cresco, a series of transactions were completed on November 30, 2018 resulting in a reorganization of Cresco and Randsburg and pursuant to which Randsburg became the indirect parent and sole voting unitholder of Cresco. The Business Combination constituted a reverse takeover of Randsburg by Cresco under applicable securities laws.

Cresco Labs LLC (the **"LLC"**) was formed as a limited liability company under the laws of the state of Illinois on October 8, 2013 and is governed by the Cresco limited liability company agreement dated October 8, 2013, as amended and restated as of March 28, 2015 and as further amended and restated as of March 17, 2018 (the **"Pre-Combination LLC Agreement"**). The Pre-Combination LLC Agreement was further amended and restated in connection with the completion of the Business Combination.

Set forth below is the organization chart of the Corporation. The material subsidiaries of Cresco did not change in connection with the Business Combination.



**Note:** See "Description of Share Capital of the Corporation" herein, "Description of Share Capital of Cresco Corp." in the AIF and "Description of Unit Capital of Cresco" in the AIF for additional details as to the share and unit capital of the Corporation, Cresco U.S. Corp. ("**Cresco Corp.**") and the LLC, respectively.

## Summary Description of the Business

Cresco exists to provide high-quality and consistent cannabis-based products to consumers. Cresco blends regulatory compliance expertise with best practices from the agricultural, pharmaceutical and consumer packaged goods industries. Cresco (either directly or indirectly through subsidiaries) has been awarded three licenses to cultivate and manufacture medicinal cannabis in the State of Illinois. Cresco was awarded a cultivation license in Pennsylvania and was one of only five cultivators that was initially also awarded a dispensary license which allows for up to three dispensaries, with a second license granted in December of 2018 for up to three additional dispensaries. Cresco was awarded a cultivation license in Ohio and a dispensary license in Ohio and was the first approved dispensary to begin dispensary operations in Ohio in December 2018. Most recently, Cresco received prequalification from the State of Michigan, which will allow Cresco to operate growing, processing and provisioning center facilities in Michigan. Cresco also has an interest in a cultivation, processing, and dispensary license in Nevada, an ownership interest in cultivation and processing licenses in California, and owns and operates five dispensaries in Illinois. Additionally, Cresco has entered into an agreement to acquire a company involved in the cultivation and processing of medical cannabis as well as the establishment of four medical cannabis dispensaries in the State of New York (Refer to "General Development of the Business – Pipeline Transactions" in the AIF for further information), an agreement to acquire assets in Massachusetts, including state registration and licensing that will allow for cultivation, manufacturing, processing, and the establishment and operation of a medical marijuana dispensary, with the ability to obtain up to three medical marijuana dispensary licenses and three adult-use dispensary licenses.

Cresco plans to leverage the success in these markets to expand into legalized cannabis markets in other states, while focusing on compliance, control, efficiency, and product performance in the medicinal or adult-use cannabis industry.

Cresco owns and operates cultivation, manufacturing and retail dispensary businesses. The manufacturing and retail businesses are operational today and vertically integrated across six highly regulated and/or limited licensed, and therefore limited legal supply markets: Illinois, Nevada, Ohio, Arizona, Pennsylvania and California, with processing operations in Maryland, and is expected to commence cultivation, manufacturing and retail dispensary operations in New York, Michigan and Massachusetts. These markets, where supply and demand can be reasonably predicted and forecasted, create the foundation upon which Cresco has created the opportunity for sustainable growth. Importantly, Cresco is not yet active in markets popularized by mainstream media like Washington, Oregon and Colorado where loose regulatory frameworks create unpredictable supply-demand market dynamics.

This ownership of wholesale and retail businesses supports Cresco's strategy of distributing brands at scale by enabling Cresco to capture market share, generate brand awareness, and earn customer loyalty in its operating markets. By guaranteeing share-of-shelf in its own retail stores and its ability to foster mutually beneficial relationships with its third-party dispensary customers as a large supplier of a portfolio of distinct and trusted cannabis brands. More detailed information regarding the business of the Corporation as well as its operations, assets, and properties can be found in the AIF and other documents incorporated by reference herein, as supplemented by the disclosure herein. See "Documents Incorporated by Reference" and "Recent Developments".

## RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

On March 18, 2019, the Corporation announced that it had entered into a letter agreement to acquire the ownership interests or assets of VidaCann Ltd. and/or affiliated entities ("**VidaCann**"). VidaCann is a provider of medical cannabis, including licenses to grow, process, manufacture, distribute and dispense cannabis, in the state of Florida. The purchase consideration is approximately \$120 million and will be comprised of a mix of Subordinate Voting Shares, which will be subject to a 6 to 12 month lock-up agreement following closing, and cash. The final purchase price and proportion of cash to shares will be determined and reflected in the definitive agreement. The transaction is anticipated to close during the second quarter and is subject to approval of the CSE, the Florida Department of Health and all applicable U.S. regulatory agencies.

On April 1, 2019, the Corporation announced that it had entered into a definitive agreement with Origin House to acquire all of the issued and outstanding shares of Origin House. Under the terms of the agreement, holders of Origin House common shares will receive 0.8428 Subordinate Voting Shares for each common share of Origin House held. The transaction represents a total consideration of approximately C\$1.1 billion on a fully-diluted basis, or C\$12.68 per Origin House share. After giving effect to the transaction, Origin House shareholders will hold approximately

20% ownership in the pro forma entity (on a pro forma fully-diluted and as converted basis). The transaction will be effected by way of a plan of arrangement under the laws of the Province of Ontario and has been unanimously approved by the board of directors of the Corporation and Origin House. The transaction is anticipated to close by the end of June 2019 and is subject to the approval of the CSE, Ontario courts and certain other regulatory approvals as well as the approval of two-thirds of the votes cast by the shareholders of Origin House.

## DESCRIPTION OF SHARE CAPITAL OF THE CORPORATION

The authorized share capital of the Corporation consists of an unlimited number of Subordinate Voting Shares, of which 39,376,430 were issued and outstanding as of April 24, 2019, an unlimited number of Proportionate Voting Shares, of which 370,459.43 (which are convertible on a 1:200 basis into 74,091,886 Subordinate Voting Shares) were issued and outstanding as of April 24, 2019, and an unlimited number of Super Voting Shares, of which 500,000 were issued and outstanding as of April 24, 2019. All of the issued and outstanding Super Voting Shares are held by the Corporation's founders, Charlie Bachtell, Joe Caltabiano, Robert Sampson, Dominic Sergi and Brian McCormack (together, the "**Founders**"). In addition, members of the LLC hold 143,690,687 redeemable units that are convertible into Proportionate Voting Shares on a 200:1 basis.

The Subordinate Voting Shares are "**restricted securities**" within the meaning of such term under applicable Canadian securities laws. The Corporation has complied with the requirements of Part 12 of National Instrument 41-101 — *General Prospectus Requirements* ("**NI 41-101**") to be able to file a prospectus under which the Subordinate Voting Shares or securities that are, directly or indirectly, convertible into, or exercisable or exchangeable for, the Subordinate Voting Shares are distributed, as the Corporation received the requisite prior majority approval of shareholders of the Corporation, at the annual and special meeting of shareholders held on November 14, 2018, in accordance with applicable law, including Section 12.3 of NI 41-101, for the Share Terms Amendment. The Share Terms Amendment constituted a "**restricted security reorganization**" within the meaning of such term under applicable Canadian securities laws.

As of April 24, 2019, the Subordinate Voting Shares represent approximately 3.5% of the voting rights attached to outstanding securities of the Corporation, the Proportionate Voting Shares represent approximately 6.7% and the Super Voting Shares represent approximately 89.8% of the voting rights attached to outstanding securities of the Corporation.

The following is a summary of the rights, privileges, restrictions and conditions attached to the Subordinate Voting Shares, the Proportionate Voting Shares and the Super Voting Shares, but does not purport to be complete. Reference should be made to the articles of the Corporation and the full text of their provisions for a complete description thereof, which are available under the Corporation's profile on SEDAR at [www.sedar.com](http://www.sedar.com).

### **Subordinate Voting Shares**

Right to Notice and Vote	Holders of Subordinate Voting Shares will be entitled to notice of and to attend at any meeting of the shareholders of the Corporation, except a meeting of which only holders of another particular class or series of shares of the Corporation will have the right to vote. At each such meeting, holders of Subordinate Voting Shares will be entitled to one vote in respect of each Subordinate Voting Share held.
Class Rights & Right of First Refusal	As long as any Subordinate Voting Shares remain outstanding, the Corporation will not, without the consent of the holders of the Subordinate Voting Shares by separate special resolution, prejudice or interfere with any right attached to the Subordinate Voting Shares. Holders of Subordinate Voting Shares will not be entitled to a right of first refusal to subscribe for, purchase or receive any part of any issue of Subordinate Voting Shares, or bonds, debentures or other securities of the Corporation.
Dividends	Holders of Subordinate Voting Shares will be entitled to receive as and when declared by the directors of the Corporation, dividends in cash or property of the Corporation.

Participation	In the event of the liquidation, dissolution or winding-up of the Corporation, whether voluntary or involuntary, or in the event of any other distribution of assets of the Corporation among its shareholders for the purpose of winding up its affairs, the holders of Subordinate Voting Shares shall, subject to the prior rights of the holders of any shares of the Corporation ranking in priority to the Subordinate Voting Shares (including, without restriction, the Super Voting Shares) be entitled to participate rateably along with all other holders of Subordinate Voting Shares and the Proportionate Voting Shares (on an as converted to Subordinate Voting Shares basis).
Changes	No subdivision or consolidation of the Subordinate Voting Shares shall occur unless, simultaneously, the Subordinate Voting Shares, the Proportionate Voting Shares and the Super Voting Shares are subdivided or consolidated in the same manner or such other adjustment is made so as to maintain and preserve the relative rights of the holders of the shares of each of the said classes.
Conversion	In the event that an offer is made to purchase Proportionate Voting Shares and the offer is one which is required, pursuant to applicable securities legislation or the rules or conditions of listing of a stock exchange on which the Proportionate Voting Shares are then listed, to be made to all or substantially all the holders of Proportionate Voting Shares in a given province or territory of Canada to which these requirements apply, each Subordinate Voting Share shall become convertible at the option of the holder into Proportionate Voting Shares at the inverse of the Conversion Ratio then in effect at any time while the offer is in effect until one day after the time prescribed by applicable securities legislation for the offeror to take up and pay for such shares as are to be acquired pursuant to the offer. The conversion right may only be exercised in respect of Subordinate Voting Shares for the purpose of depositing the resulting Proportionate Voting Shares pursuant to the offer, and for no other reason. In such event, the Corporation's transfer agent shall deposit the resulting Proportionate Voting Shares on behalf of the holder. Should the Proportionate Voting Shares issued upon conversion and tendered in response to the offer be withdrawn by shareholders or not taken up by the offeror, or should the offer be abandoned or withdrawn, the Proportionate Voting Shares resulting from the conversion shall be automatically reconverted, without further intervention on the part of the Corporation or on the part of the holder, into Subordinate Voting Shares at the Conversion Ratio then in effect.

### **Take-Over Bid Protection**

The Super Voting Shares are transferable only among the Founders and their respective affiliates for planning and similar purposes. The Founders have entered into an investment agreement with the Corporation whereby, upon any sale of Super Voting Shares to a third party purchaser not listed above, such Super Voting Shares will immediately be redeemed by the Corporation for their issue price. See "*Super Voting Shares – Investment Agreement*" below.

Additionally, as noted above, the Corporation's articles entitle the holders of Subordinate Voting Shares to convert to Proportionate Voting Shares and tender to any take-over bid made solely to the holders of Proportionate Voting Shares.

### **Proportionate Voting Shares**

Right to Vote	Holders of Proportionate Voting Shares will be entitled to notice of and to attend at any meeting of the shareholders of the Corporation, except a meeting of which only holders of another particular class or series of shares of the Corporation will have the right to vote. At each such meeting, holders of Proportionate Voting Shares will be entitled to one vote in respect of each Subordinate Voting Share into which such Proportionate Voting Share could ultimately then be converted, which for greater certainty, shall initially be equal to 200 votes per Proportionate Voting Share (subject to adjustment at the discretion of the Board, depending upon the ratios necessary to preserve foreign private issuer status).
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Class Rights	As long as any Proportionate Voting Shares remain outstanding, the Corporation will not, without the consent of the holders of the Proportionate Voting Shares and Super Voting Shares by separate special resolution, prejudice or interfere with any right or special right attached to the Proportionate Voting Shares. Consent of the holders of a majority of the outstanding Proportionate Voting Shares and Super Voting Shares shall be required for any action that authorizes or creates shares of any class having preferences superior to or on a parity with the Proportionate Voting Shares. In connection with the exercise of the voting rights for the foregoing only, each holder of Proportionate Voting Shares will have one vote in respect of each Proportionate Voting Share held.
Dividends	The holder of Proportionate Voting Shares shall have the right to receive dividends, out of any cash or other assets legally available therefor, <i>pari passu</i> (on an as converted basis, assuming conversion of all Proportionate Voting Shares into Subordinate Voting Shares) as to dividends and any declaration or payment of any dividend on the Subordinate Voting Shares. No dividend will be declared or paid on the Proportionate Voting Shares unless the Corporation simultaneously declares or pays, as applicable, equivalent dividends (on an as-converted to Subordinate Voting Share basis) on the Subordinate Voting Shares.
Participation	In the event of the liquidation, dissolution or winding-up of the Corporation, whether voluntary or involuntary, or in the event of any other distribution of assets of the Corporation among its shareholders for the purpose of winding up its affairs, the holders of Proportionate Voting Shares will, subject to the prior rights of the holders of any shares of the Corporation ranking in priority to the Proportionate Voting Shares (including, without restriction, the Super Voting Shares), be entitled to participate rateably along with all other holders of Proportionate Voting Shares (on an as-converted to Subordinate Voting Share basis) and the Subordinate Voting Shares.
Changes	No subdivision or consolidation of the Proportionate Voting Shares shall occur unless, simultaneously, the Subordinate Voting Shares, the Proportionate Voting Shares and the Super Voting Shares are subdivided or consolidated in the same manner or such other adjustment is made so as to maintain and preserve the relative rights of the holders of the shares of each of the said classes.
Conversion	The Proportionate Voting Shares each have a restricted right to convert into 200 Subordinate Voting Shares (the " <b>Conversion Ratio</b> "), subject to adjustments for certain customary corporate changes and foreign private issuer considerations. The ability to convert the Proportionate Voting Shares is subject to a restriction that the aggregate number of Subordinate Voting Shares, Proportionate Voting Shares and Super Voting Shares held of record, directly or indirectly, by residents of the United States (as determined in accordance with Rules 3b-4 and 12g3-2(a) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended), may not exceed forty percent (40%) (subject to adjustment) of the aggregate number of Subordinate Voting Shares, Proportionate Voting Shares and Super Voting Shares issued and outstanding after giving effect to such conversions and to a restriction on beneficial ownership of Subordinate Voting Shares exceeding certain levels. In addition, the Proportionate Voting Shares will be automatically converted into Subordinate Voting Shares in certain circumstances, including upon the registration of the Subordinate Voting Shares under the United States Securities Act of 1933, as amended.

### **Super Voting Shares**

Right to Vote	Holders of Super Voting Shares shall be entitled to notice of and to attend at any meeting of the shareholders of the Corporation, except a meeting of which only holders of another particular class or series of shares of the Corporation shall have the right to vote. At each such meeting, holders of Super Voting Shares shall be entitled to 2,000 votes in respect of each Super Voting Share held <i>provided that</i> , if at any time the aggregate number of issued and outstanding (i) Cresco Corp Redeemable Shares in the capital of Cresco Corp (if
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applicable) and (ii) Cresco Redeemable Units in the capital of Cresco (or such securities of any successor to Cresco Corp or Cresco as may exist from time to time) beneficially owned, directly or indirectly by a holder of the Super Voting Shares (the "**Holder**") and the Holder's predecessor or transferor, permitted transferees and permitted successors, and any prior transferor's transferor and any prior permitted transferee's permitted transferee (the "**Holder's Group**"), divided by the aggregate number of (i) Cresco Corp Redeemable Shares (if applicable) and (ii) Cresco Redeemable Units beneficially owned, directly or indirectly by the Holders and the Holder's Group as at the date of completion of the business combination transaction involving, among others, the Corporation, Cresco Corp and Cresco be less than 50% (the "**Triggering Event**"), the Holder shall from that time forward be entitled to 50 votes in respect of each Super Voting Share held. The holders of Super Voting Shares shall, from time to time upon the request of the Corporation, provide to the Corporation evidence as to such holders' direct and indirect beneficial ownership (and that of its permitted transferees and permitted successors) of Cresco Corp. Redeemable Shares (if applicable) and Cresco Redeemable Units to enable the Corporation to determine the voting entitlement of the Super Voting Shares. For the purposes of these calculations, a Holder shall be deemed to beneficially own Cresco Corp Redeemable Shares (if applicable) held by an intermediate company or fund in proportion to their equity ownership of such company or fund.

Class Rights	As long as any Super Voting Shares remain outstanding, the Corporation will not, without the consent of the holders of the Super Voting Shares by separate special resolution, prejudice or interfere with any right or special right attached to the Super Voting Shares. Consent of the holders of a majority of the outstanding Super Voting Shares shall be required for any action that authorizes or creates shares of any class having preferences superior to or on a parity with the Super Voting Shares. In connection with the exercise of these voting rights, each holder of Super Voting Shares will have one vote in respect of each Super Voting Share held.
Dividends	The holders of the Super Voting Shares shall not be entitled to receive dividends.
Participation	In the event of the liquidation, dissolution or winding-up of the Corporation, whether voluntary or involuntary, or in the event of any other distribution of assets of the Corporation among its shareholders for the purpose of winding up its affairs, the Corporation will distribute its assets firstly and in priority to the rights of holders of any other class of shares of the Corporation (including the holders of Subordinate Voting Shares and the Proportionate Voting Shares) to return the issue price of the Super Voting Shares to the holders, thereof and if there are insufficient assets to fully return the issue price to the holders of the Super Voting Shares, such holders will receive an amount equal to their pro rata share in proportion to the issue price of their Super Voting Shares along with all other holders of Super Voting Shares. The holders of Super Voting Shares shall not be entitled to receive directly or indirectly as holders of Super Voting Shares any other assets or property of the Corporation and their sole rights will be to the return of the issue price of such Super Voting Shares in accordance with this paragraph.
Changes	No subdivision or consolidation of the Super Voting Shares shall occur unless, simultaneously, the Super Voting Shares, Proportionate Voting Shares and the Subordinate Voting Shares are subdivided or consolidated in the same manner, so as to maintain and preserve the relative rights of the holders of the shares of each of the said classes.
Conversion	The holders of the Super Voting Shares shall have no right of conversion.
Redemption Rights	Upon the occurrence of a Triggering Event, the Corporation has the right to redeem all or some of the Super Voting Shares from the Holder and Holder's Group who caused the Triggering Event to occur, by providing two days prior written notice to the Holder and Holder's Group of such Super Voting Shares, for an amount equal to the issue price for

each Super Voting Share, payable in cash to the holders of the Super Voting Shares so redeemed. The Corporation need not redeem Super Voting Shares on a pro-rata basis among the Holders or Holder's Group. Holders of Super Voting Shares to be redeemed by the Corporation shall surrender the certificate or certificates representing such Super Voting Shares to the Corporation at its records office duly assigned or endorsed for transfer to the Corporation (or accompanied by duly executed share transfers relating thereto).

Transfer	No Super Voting Share may be transferred by the holder thereof unless such transfer is to an Immediate Family Member or a transfer for the purposes of estate or tax planning to a company or person that is wholly beneficially owned by such holder or immediate family members of such holder or which such holder or immediate family members of such holder are the sole beneficiaries thereof. In order to be effective, any transfer shall require the prior written consent of the Corporation.
Investment Agreement	To supplement the rights, privileges, restrictions and conditions attached to the Super Voting Shares, the Corporation and the Founders, being the initial holders of Super Voting Shares, entered into an investment agreement effective as of the completion of the Business Combination which, among other things, provides that (i) each Super Voting Share will be transferable only to the holder's immediate family members or an affiliated entity or a transfer to the other Founder or an entity affiliated with the other Founder, and (ii) upon any sale of Super Voting Shares to a third party purchaser not listed in clause (i), such Super Voting Shares will immediately be redeemed by the Corporation for their issue price.

See "Description of Share Capital of Cresco Corp." and "Description of Unit Capital of Cresco" in the AIF for details as to the share and unit capital respectively of Cresco Corp. and the LLC.

## DESCRIPTION OF DEBT SECURITIES

The following sets forth certain general terms and provisions of the Debt Securities. The particular terms and provisions of the Debt Securities offered pursuant to this Prospectus will be set forth in the applicable Prospectus Supplement, which particular terms and provisions of such Debt Securities may differ from the general terms and provisions described below in some or all respects.

The Debt Securities will be issued in series under one or more trust indentures to be entered into between the Corporation and a financial institution to which the *Trust and Loan Companies Act* (Canada) applies or a financial institution organized under the laws of any province of Canada and authorized to carry on business as a trustee. Each such trust indenture, as supplemented or amended from time to time, will set out the terms of the applicable series of Debt Securities. The statements in this Prospectus relating to any trust indenture and the Debt Securities to be issued under it are summaries of anticipated provisions of an applicable trust indenture and do not purport to be complete and are subject to, and are qualified in their entirety by reference to, all provisions of such trust indenture, as applicable.

Each trust indenture may provide that Debt Securities may be issued thereunder up to the aggregate principal amount, which may be authorized from time to time by the Corporation. Any Prospectus Supplement for Debt Securities will contain the terms and other information with respect to the Debt Securities being offered, including:

- the designation, aggregate principal amount and authorized denominations of such Debt Securities;
- the currency for which the Debt Securities may be purchased and the currency in which the principal and any interest is payable (in either case, if other than Canadian dollars);
- the percentage of the principal amount at which such Debt Securities will be issued;
- the date or dates on which such Debt Securities will mature;

- the rate or rates at which such Debt Securities will bear interest (if any), or the method of determination of such rates (if any);
- the dates on which any such interest will be payable and the record dates for such payments;
- any redemption term or terms under which such Debt Securities may be defeased;
- any exchange or conversion terms (including, as applicable, the terms in respect of any convertibility to Subordinate Voting Shares); and
- any other specific terms.

Each series of Debt Securities may be issued at various times with different maturity dates, may bear interest at different rates and may otherwise vary.

The Debt Securities will be direct obligations of the Corporation. The Debt Securities will be senior or subordinated indebtedness of the Corporation as described in the relevant Prospectus Supplement.

### **DESCRIPTION OF SUBSCRIPTION RECEIPTS**

The following sets forth certain general terms and provisions of the Subscription Receipts. The particular terms and provisions of the Subscription Receipts offered pursuant to this Prospectus will be set forth in the applicable Prospectus Supplement, which particular terms and provisions of such Subscription Receipts may differ from the general terms and provisions described below in some or all respects.

The Corporation may issue Subscription Receipts that may be exchanged by the holders thereof for Subordinate Voting Shares and/or other Securities of the Corporation upon the satisfaction of certain conditions. The Corporation may offer Subscription Receipts separately or together with Subordinate Voting Shares, Debt Securities, Warrants or Units, as the case may be. The Corporation will issue Subscription Receipts under one or more subscription receipt agreements. Under each subscription receipt agreement, a purchaser of Subscription Receipts will have a contractual right of rescission following the issuance of the Subordinate Voting Shares and/or other Securities of the Corporation, as the case may be, to such purchaser upon exchange of Subscription Receipts, entitling the purchaser to receive the amount paid for the Subscription Receipts upon surrender of the Subordinate Voting Shares and/or other Securities of the Corporation, as the case may be, if this Prospectus, the relevant Prospectus Supplement, and any amendment thereto, contains a misrepresentation, provided such remedy for rescission is exercised within 180 days of the date the Subscription Receipts are issued.

Any Prospectus Supplement will contain the terms and conditions and other information relating to the Subscription Receipts being offered, including:

- the number of Subscription Receipts;
- the price at which the Subscription Receipts will be offered and whether the price is payable in installment;
- any conditions to the exchange of Subscription Receipts into Subordinate Voting Shares, and/or other Securities of the Corporation, as the case may be, and the consequences of such conditions not being satisfied;
- the procedures for the exchange of the Subscription Receipts into Subordinate Voting Shares and/or other Securities of the Corporation, as the case may be;
- the number of Subordinate Voting Shares and/or other Securities of the Corporation, as the case may be, that may be exchanged upon exercise of each Subscription Receipt;

- the designation and terms of any other Securities with which the Subscription Receipts will be offered, if any, and the number of Subscription Receipts that will be offered with each Security;
- the dates or periods during which the Subscription Receipts may be exchanged into Subordinate Voting Shares and/or other Securities of the Corporation;
- whether such Subscription Receipts will be listed on any securities exchange;
- any other rights, privileges, restrictions and conditions attaching to the Subscription Receipts; and
- any other specific terms.

Prior to the exchange of their Subscription Receipts, holders of Subscription Receipts will not have any of the rights of holders of the securities issuable on the exchange of the Subscription Receipts.

### **DESCRIPTION OF WARRANTS**

The following sets forth certain general terms and provisions of the Warrants. The particular terms and provisions of the Warrants offered pursuant to this Prospectus will be set forth in the applicable Prospectus Supplement, which particular terms and provisions of such Warrants may differ from the general terms and provisions described below in some or all respects.

The Corporation may issue Warrants for the purchase of Subordinate Voting Shares and/or other Securities of the Corporation. Warrants may be issued independently or together with Subordinate Voting Shares, Debt Securities and Subscription Receipts offered by any Prospectus Supplement and may be attached to, or separate from, any such offered Securities. Warrants will be issued under one or more warrant agreements entered into between the Corporation and a warrant agent named in the applicable Prospectus Supplement.

Selected provisions of the Warrants and the warrant agreements are summarized below. This summary is not complete. The statements made in this Prospectus relating to any warrant agreement and Warrants to be issued thereunder are summaries of certain anticipated provisions thereof and are subject to, and are qualified in their entirety by reference to, all provisions of the applicable warrant agreement.

Any Prospectus Supplement will contain the terms and other information relating to the Warrants being offered, including:

- the exercise price of the Warrants;
- the designation of the Warrants;
- the aggregate number of Warrants offered and the offering price;
- the designation, number and terms of the Subordinate Voting Shares and/or other Securities of the Corporation purchasable upon exercise of the Warrants, and procedures that will result in the adjustment of those numbers;
- the dates or periods during which the Warrants are exercisable;
- the designation and terms of any securities with which the Warrants are issued;
- if the Warrants are issued as a unit with another security, the date on and after which the Warrants and the other security will be separately transferable;
- the currency or currency unit in which the exercise price is denominated;

- any minimum or maximum amount of Warrants that may be exercised at any one time;
- whether such Warrants will be listed on any securities exchange;
- any terms, procedures and limitations relating to the transferability, exchange or exercise of the Warrants;
- any rights, privileges, restrictions and conditions attaching to the Warrants; and
- any other specific terms.

Prior to the exercise of their Warrants, holders of Warrants will not have any of the rights of holders of the Securities subject to the Warrants.

### DESCRIPTION OF UNITS

Units are a security comprised of more than one of the other Securities described in this Prospectus offered together as a "Unit". A Unit is typically issued so the holder thereof is also the holder of each Security included in the Unit. As a result, the holder of a Unit will have the rights and obligations of a holder of each Security comprising the Unit. The agreement, if any, under which a Unit is issued may provide that the Securities comprising the Unit may not be held or transferred separately at any time or at any time before a specified date.

The particular terms and provisions of the Units offered pursuant to this Prospectus will be set forth in the applicable Prospectus Supplement, which particular terms and provisions of such Units may differ from the general terms and provisions described below in some or all respects. This description will include, where applicable:

- the designation and terms of the Units and of the Securities comprising the Units, including whether and under what circumstances those Securities may be held or transferred separately;
- any provisions for the issuance, payment, settlement, transfer or exchange of the Units or of the Securities comprising the Units;
- whether the Units will be issued in registered or global form; and
- any other material terms and conditions of the Units.

### PRIOR SALES

The following tables set forth details regarding issuances of Subordinate Voting Shares, issuances of securities convertible into or exchangeable, redeemable or exercisable for Subordinate Voting Shares during the 12 month period before the date of this Prospectus.

<b>Date Issued</b>	<b>Number of Cresco Securities<sup>(1)</sup></b>	<b>Issue Price per Security (\$)</b>	<b>Aggregate Issue Price (\$)</b>	<b>Nature of Consideration</b>
April 11, 2019	15,119 Proportionate Voting Shares <sup>(2)</sup>	US\$1,032.00	US\$15,602,808.00	Share Exchange (in connection with the acquisition of MedMar, Inc. – see "Acquisitions and Dispositions" in the AIF for further details)

January 18, 2019 – March 22, 2019	1,712.50 Proportionate Voting Shares <sup>(2)</sup>	C\$200.00 – C\$450.00	C\$342,500.00 – C\$770,625.00	Cash (Option Exercises)
January 25, 2019	567.195 Proportionate Voting Shares <sup>(2)</sup>	C\$1,146.00	C\$650,005.47	Share Exchange (in connection with its acquisition of additional shares of its Pennsylvania entity – see "Acquisitions and Dispositions" in the AIF for further details)
December 11, 2018	1,290.965 Proportionate Voting Shares <sup>(2)</sup>	C\$750.00	C\$968,223.75	Share Exchange (in connection with the acquisition of TINAD, LLC – see "Acquisitions and Dispositions" in the AIF for further details)
November 26, 2018	12,624,054 Subscription Receipts	C\$8.50	C\$107,304,459	Cash
October 4, 2018	26,666,667 Class F Units	US\$3.75	US\$100,000,000	Cash
May 20, 2018	717,556 Class F Units	US\$2.25	US\$29,114,500	Cash

(1) Upon completion of the Business Combination: (i) the Subscription Receipts were converted on a 1:1 basis to Subordinate Voting Shares; and (ii) the Class F Units were converted on a 1:1 basis to either Cresco Redeemable Units or Proportionate Voting Shares.

(2) As discussed above, Proportionate Voting Shares are convertible into Subordinate Voting Shares on a 1:200 basis.

<b>OPTIONS</b>				
<b>Date Issued</b>	<b>Number of Units<sup>(1)</sup></b>	<b>Exercise Price per Unit (\$)</b>	<b>Total Aggregate Proceeds Assuming the Exercise of all Options</b>	<b>Nature of Consideration</b>
October 16, 2017 to September 1, 2018	14,800,000 Options to purchase Class F Units	C\$1.25 to C\$4.94	C\$35,754,185.75 <b>(assuming the exercise of all options)</b>	Cash
December 10, 2018	50,000 Options to purchase	C\$8.70	C\$435,000	Cash

	Subordinate Voting Shares		<b>(assuming the exercise of all options)</b>	
December 21, 2018	200,000 Options to purchase Subordinate Voting Shares	C\$8.82	C\$1,764,000 <b>(assuming the exercise of all options)</b>	Cash
December 31, 2018	10,000 Options to purchase Subordinate Voting Shares	C\$8.84	C\$88,400 <b>(assuming the exercise of all options)</b>	Cash
January 17, 2019	149,876 Options to purchase Subordinate Voting Shares	C\$8.87	C\$1,329,400.12 <b>(assuming the exercise of all options)</b>	Cash
March 31, 2019	357,000 Options to purchase Subordinate Voting Shares	C\$15.03	C\$5,366,914.88 <b>(assuming the exercise of all options)</b>	Cash

(1) Upon completion of the Business Combination options to purchase Class F Units were replaced with options to purchase Subordinate Voting Shares on a 1:1 basis, all other material terms of such option grants remained the same.

<b>Conversion of Proportionate Voting Shares to Subordinate Voting Shares</b>		
<b>Date Issued</b>	<b>Number of Proportionate Voting Shares</b>	<b>Number of Subordinate Voting Shares issued on Conversion</b>
February 7 – April 24, 2019	87,514.67	17,502,934

### **TRADING PRICE AND VOLUME**

#### **Subordinate Voting Shares**

The issued and outstanding Subordinate Voting Shares are listed and posted for trading on the CSE under the symbol "CL". The following table sets forth the reported intraday high and low prices and monthly trading volumes of the Subordinate Voting Shares from December 3, 2018 (the date of their initial trading on the CSE upon completion of the Business Combination) up to April 24, 2019 (source: CSE).

<b>Period</b>	<b>High Trading Price</b>	<b>Low Trading Price</b>	<b>Volume</b>
December, 2018	C\$12.17	C\$9.30	4,386,953
January, 2019	C\$9.78	C\$8.37	2,467,024
February, 2019	C\$9.99	C\$5.29	3,197,569

March, 2019	C\$15.72	C\$10.26	6,422,631
April 1 – April 24, 2019	C\$18.37	C\$14.16	8,009,978

The following table sets forth the reported intraday high and low prices and monthly trading volumes of the Randsburg Common Shares on the TSX Venture Exchange (the "TSXV") from Randsburg's most recently completed financial year January 31, 2018 as well as periods up to November 30, 2018 (Source: TMX Data).<sup>(1)</sup>

<b>Period<sup>(2)</sup></b>	<b>High Trading Price</b>	<b>Low Trading Price</b>	<b>Volume</b>
<b><u>2018</u></b>			
October 10 – November 30, 2018	N/A	N/A	
October 1 - 9	C\$0.015	C\$0.005	129,000
September	C\$0.01	C\$0.005	224,000
August	C\$0.015	C\$0.005	572,850
July	C\$0.02	C\$0.01	25,480
June	C\$0.01	C\$0.01	53,147
May	C\$0.015	C\$0.01	2,000
April	C\$0.01	C\$0.01	2,000
March	C\$0.015	C\$0.01	57,150
February	C\$0.02	C\$0.015	1,152,200
January	C\$0.02	C\$0.01	482,850
<b><u>2017</u></b>			
December	C\$0.01	C\$0.005	158,000
November	C\$0.01	C\$0.01	70,000
October	C\$0.015	C\$0.01	3,500
September	C\$0.015	C\$0.005	86,195
August	C\$0.015	C\$0.005	46,000
July	C\$0.015	C\$0.01	24,000
June	C\$0.01	C\$0.005	191,370
May	C\$0.01	C\$0.005	372,400
April	C\$0.01	C\$0.005	197,950
March	C\$0.02	C\$0.01	889,100
February	C\$0.025	C\$0.005	3,141,970
January	C\$0.015	C\$0.005	291,000

Notes:

- (1) In connection with the Business Combination, the Randsburg Common Shares were halted from trading on October 10, 2018 and subsequently delisted from the NEX board of the TSXV on October 12, 2018. The table above does not give effect to the consolidation of the Randsburg Common Shares effected by Randsburg, at a rate of 812.63 pre-consolidation Randsburg Common Shares for one post-consolidation Randsburg Common Share, in connection with the Business Combination. See "Corporate Structure" for further details as to such consolidation.
- (2) On September 26, 2018, the consolidated its outstanding common shares on a minimum of three (3) and a maximum of twelve (12) existing common shares for each one (1) new common share.

## SELLING SECURITYHOLDERS

This Prospectus may also, from time to time, relate to the offering of the Securities by way of a secondary offering (each, a "**Secondary Offering**") by certain Selling Securityholders.

The terms under which the Securities may be offered by Selling Securityholders will be described in the applicable Prospectus Supplement. The Prospectus Supplement for or including any offering of Securities by Selling Securityholders will include, without limitation, where applicable: (i) the names of the Selling Securityholders; (ii)



the number and type of Securities owned, controlled or directed by each Selling Securityholder; (iii) the number of Securities being distributed for the accounts of each Selling Securityholder; (iv) the number of Securities to be owned, controlled or directed by each Selling Securityholder after the distribution and the percentage that number or amount represents out of the total number of outstanding Securities; (v) whether the Securities are owned by the Selling Securityholders, both of record and beneficially, of record only or beneficially only; (vi) if a Selling Securityholder purchased any of the Securities held by him, her or it in the 12 months preceding the date of the Prospectus Supplement, the date or dates the Selling Securityholder acquired the Securities; and (vii) if a Selling Securityholder acquired the Securities held by him, her or it in the 12 months preceding the date of the Prospectus Supplement, the cost thereof to the Selling Securityholder in the aggregate and on a per security basis.

## **PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION**

The Corporation may sell the Securities, separately or together: (i) to one or more underwriters or dealers; (ii) through one or more agents; or (iii) directly to one or more purchasers. The Prospectus Supplement relating to a particular offering of Securities will describe the terms of such offering of Securities, including: (i) the terms of the Securities to which the Prospectus Supplement relates, including the type of Security being offered, and the method of distribution; (ii) the name or names of any underwriters, dealers or agents involved in such offering of Securities; (iii) the purchase price of the Securities offered thereby and the proceeds to, and the expenses borne by, the Corporation from the sale of such Securities; (iv) any commission, underwriting discounts and other items constituting compensation payable to underwriters, dealers or agents; and (v) any discounts or concessions allowed or re-allowed or paid to underwriters, dealers or agents.

The Securities may be sold, from time to time, in one or more transactions at a fixed price or prices which may be changed or at market prices prevailing at the time of sale, at prices related to such prevailing market prices or at negotiated prices, including sales made directly on the CSE or other existing trading markets for the Securities, and as set forth in an accompanying Prospectus Supplement. The prices at which the Securities may be offered may vary as between purchasers and during the period of distribution. If, in connection with the offering of Securities at a fixed price or prices, the underwriters have made a bona fide effort to sell all of the Securities at the initial offering price fixed in the applicable Prospectus Supplement, the public offering price may be decreased and thereafter further changed, from time to time, to an amount not greater than the initial public offering price fixed in such Prospectus Supplement, in which case the compensation realized by the underwriters will be decreased by the amount that the aggregate price paid by purchasers for the Securities is less than the gross proceeds paid by the underwriters to the Corporation.

Only underwriters, dealers or agents so named in the Prospectus Supplement are deemed to be underwriters, dealers or agents in connection with the Securities offered thereby. If underwriters are used in an offering, the Securities offered thereby will be acquired by the underwriters for their own account and may be resold from time to time in one or more transactions, including negotiated transactions, at a fixed public offering price or at varying prices determined at the time of sale. The obligations of the underwriters to purchase Securities will be subject to the conditions precedent agreed upon by the parties and the underwriters will be obligated to purchase all Securities under that offering if any are purchased. If agents are used in an offering, unless otherwise indicated in the applicable Prospectus Supplement, such agents will be acting on a "best efforts" basis for the period of their appointment. Any public offering price and any discounts or concessions allowed or re-allowed or paid to underwriters, dealers or agents may be changed from time to time.

Underwriters, dealers and agents who participate in the distribution of Securities may be entitled under agreements to be entered into with the Corporation to indemnification by the Corporation against certain liabilities, including liabilities under securities legislation, or to contribution with respect to payments which such underwriters, dealers or agents may be required to make in respect thereof. Such underwriters, dealers and agents may be customers of, engage in transactions with, or perform services for, the Corporation in the ordinary course of business.

Any offering of Debt Securities, Subscription Receipts, Warrants or Units will be a new issue of securities with no established trading market. Unless otherwise specified in the applicable Prospectus Supplement, the Debt Securities, Subscription Receipts, Warrants or Units will not be listed on any securities exchange. Unless otherwise specified in the applicable Prospectus Supplement, there is no market through which the Debt Securities, Subscription Receipts,

Warrants or Units may be sold and purchasers may not be able to resell Debt Securities, Subscription Receipts, Warrants or Units purchased under this Prospectus or any Prospectus Supplement. This may affect the pricing of the Debt Securities, Subscription Receipts, Warrants or Units in the secondary market, the transparency and availability of trading prices, the liquidity of the Securities, and the extent of issuer regulation. Subject to applicable laws, certain dealers may make a market in these Securities, but will not be obligated to do so and may discontinue any market making at any time without notice. No assurance can be given that any dealer will make a market in these Securities or as to the liquidity of the trading market, if any, for these Securities.

In connection with any offering of the Securities, subject to applicable laws (unless otherwise specified in the relevant Prospectus Supplement), the underwriters or agents may over-allot or effect transactions that stabilize or maintain the market price of the offered Securities at a level above that which might otherwise prevail on the open market. Such transactions, if commenced, may be interrupted or discontinued at any time.

The Securities have not been, and will not be, registered under the U.S. Securities Act or the securities laws of any states in the United States and, subject to certain exceptions, may not be offered or sold or otherwise transferred or disposed of in the United States or to or for the account of U.S. Persons absent registration or pursuant to an applicable exemption from the U.S. Securities Act and applicable state securities laws. In addition, until 40 days after closing of an offering of Securities, an offer or sale of the Securities within the United States by any dealer (whether or not participating in such offering) may violate the registration requirement of the U.S. Securities Act if such offer or sale is made other than in accordance with an exemption under the U.S. Securities Act.

#### **USE OF PROCEEDS**

Unless otherwise specified in a Prospectus Supplement, the net proceeds from the sale of Securities by the Corporation will be used for general corporate purposes (including funding ongoing operations and/or working capital requirements), to repay indebtedness outstanding from time to time, discretionary capital programs and potential future acquisitions. Each applicable Prospectus Supplement will contain specific information concerning the use of proceeds from that sale of Securities by the Corporation. The Corporation will not receive any proceeds of the sale of Securities from a Selling Securityholder.

#### **EARNINGS COVERAGE RATIO**

The applicable Prospectus Supplement will provide, as required by applicable Canadian securities laws, the earnings coverage ratios with respect to the issuance of Securities pursuant to such Prospectus Supplement.

#### **CONSOLIDATED CAPITALIZATION**

The applicable Prospectus Supplement will describe any material change in, and the effect of such material change on, the share and loan capitalization of the Corporation since the date of the Corporation's financial statements for its most recently completed financial period included in such Prospectus Supplement, including any material change that will result from the issuance of Securities pursuant to such Prospectus Supplement.

#### **UNITED STATES REGULATORY ENVIRONMENT**

The emergence of the legal cannabis sector in the United States, both for medical and adult-use, has been rapid as more states adopt regulations for its production and sale. Today, 60% of Americans live in a state where cannabis is legal in some form and almost a quarter of the population lives in states where it is fully legalized for adult use.<sup>1</sup>

The use of cannabis and cannabis derivatives to treat or alleviate the symptoms of a wide variety of chronic conditions has been generally accepted by a majority of citizens with a growing acceptance by the medical community as well. A review of the research, published in 2015 in the Journal of the American Medical Association, found strong evidence

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<sup>1</sup> Ripley, Eve. (2016 November 30). Nearly 60 percent of U.S. population now lives in states with marijuana legalization. Retrieved from <https://news.medicalmarijuanainc.com/nearly-60-percent-u-s-population-now-lives-states-marijuana-legalization/>.

that cannabis can treat pain and muscle spasms.<sup>2</sup> The pain component is particularly important because other studies have suggested that cannabis can replace pain patients' use of highly addictive, potentially deadly opiates — meaning marijuana legalization has the potential to save lives.<sup>3</sup>

Polls throughout the U.S. consistently show overwhelming support for the legalization of medical cannabis, together with strong majority support for the full legalization of recreational adult-use cannabis. It is estimated that 94% of the U.S. voters support legalizing cannabis for medical use.<sup>4</sup> In addition, 64% of the U.S. public supports legalizing cannabis for adult recreational use.<sup>5</sup> These represent large increases in public support over the past 40 years in favor of legal cannabis use.

Notwithstanding that more than half of the U.S. states have now legalized adult-use and/or medical marijuana, marijuana remains illegal under U.S. federal law with marijuana listed as a Schedule I drug under the United States Controlled Substances Act (the “CSA”). See “*Description of the Business*” and “*Risk Factors*” in the AIF for further information. The United States Department of Justice (“DOJ”) defines Schedule I drugs, substances or chemicals as “**drugs with no currently accepted medical use and a high potential for abuse.**” **The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (“FDA”) has not approved marijuana as a safe and effective drug for any indication.**

Unlike in Canada, which has federal legislation uniformly governing the cultivation, distribution, sale and possession of medical marijuana under the *Cannabis Act* (Canada), marijuana is largely regulated at the state level in the United States.

**State laws regulating cannabis are in direct conflict with the CSA, which makes cannabis use and possession federally illegal in the United States. Although certain states and territories of the U.S. authorize medical or recreational cannabis production and distribution by licensed or registered entities, under U.S. federal law, the possession, use, cultivation, and transfer of cannabis and any related drug paraphernalia is illegal and any such acts are criminal acts under U.S. federal law under any and all circumstances under the CSA. Although Cresco's and its subsidiaries activities are compliant with applicable United States state and local law, strict compliance with state and local laws with respect to cannabis may neither absolve Cresco and its subsidiaries of liability under United States federal law, nor provide a defense to any U.S. federal proceeding that may be brought against Cresco or its subsidiaries.**

The risk of U.S. federal enforcement and other risks associated with the Corporation's business are described in the “*Risk Factors*” section of the AIF.

## **Current U.S. Cannabis Market**

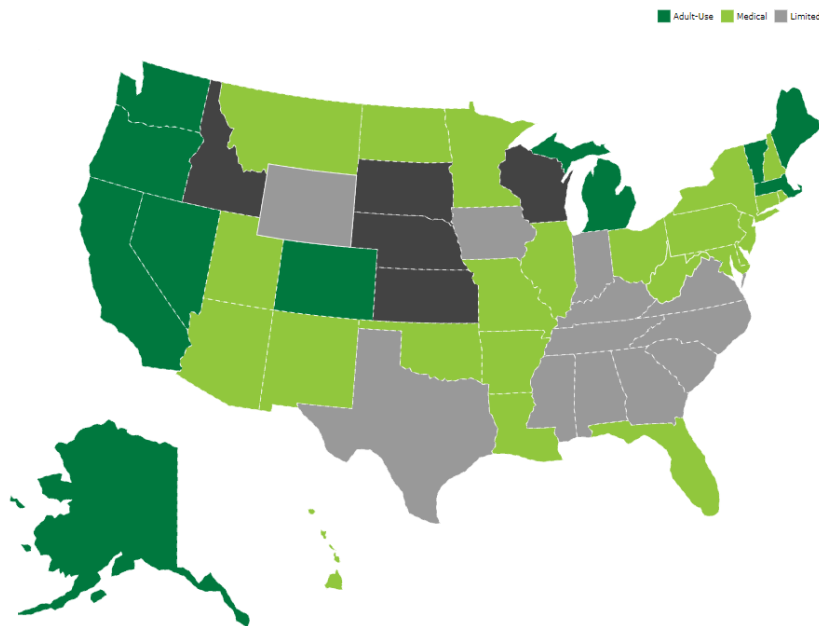
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<sup>2</sup> Grant, Igor MD (2015). *Medical Use of Cannabinoids*. *Journal of American Medical Association*, 314: 16, 1750-1751. doi: 10.1001/jama.2015.11429.

<sup>3</sup> Bachhuber, MA, Saloner B, Cunningham CO, Barry CL. (2014). Medical Cannabis Laws and Opioid Analgesic Overdose Mortality in the United States, 1999-2010. *JAMA Intern Med*. 174(10):1668-1673. doi: 10.1001/jamainternmed.2014.4005.

<sup>4</sup> Quinnipiac University. (2017 April 20). U.S. Voter Support For Marijuana Hits New High; Quinnipiac University National Poll Finds; 76 Percent Say Their Finances Are Excellent Or Good. Retrieved from <https://poll.qu.edu/national/release-detail?ReleaseID=2453>.

<sup>5</sup> Gallup. (2017 October 25). Record-High Support for Legalizing Marijuana Use in U.S. Retrieved from <http://news.gallup.com/poll/221018/record-high-support-legalizing-marijuana.aspx>.



Source: <https://thecannabisindustry.org/ncia-news-resources/state-by-state-policies/>

Due to the support for legal access to marijuana at the state level, there has been rapid opportunity growth in the U.S. market. Sales of legal cannabis flower and cannabis-infused derivative and edible products totaled US\$6.1 billion in 2017, and are expected to reach US\$8.8 billion in 2018 with approximately 36% of sales for medical use and 64% for full adult use<sup>6</sup>. The U.S. market for direct legal cannabis sales alone is projected to grow to US\$17 billion by 2021<sup>7</sup> and the total addressable market for direct cannabis sales in the U.S. today is estimated at US\$45-50 billion if every state legalized full adult recreational consumption.<sup>8</sup> By 2030, the size of the U.S. cannabis market is projected to be approximately US\$63 billion.<sup>9</sup> Going forward, the Corporation expects that the U.S. cannabis industry will continue to be subject to state legislation, with additional states regulating the medical and recreational use of cannabis.

The number of medical cannabis patients in states with existing comprehensive medical cannabis programs was approximately 1.5 million by the end of 2017, served by approximately 1500-2000 medical dispensaries nationwide, a disproportionate number of those in California. It is currently estimated that each patient spends about US\$2,000 annually,<sup>10</sup> and that the total number of medical cannabis patients nationwide is expected to grow to 2.5 million by 2021.<sup>11</sup>

Currently the Corporation operates in the States of Illinois, Pennsylvania, Ohio, California, Nevada, and Arizona, and with firm plans to expand into New York, Massachusetts, Maryland and Michigan. It intends to expand into other states within the U.S. that have legalized cannabis use either medicinally or recreationally.

On December 20, 2018, the 2018 Farm Bill (the “**Farm Bill**”) became law in the United States. Under the Farm Bill, industrial and commercial hemp is no longer be classified as a Schedule I controlled substance in the United States. Hemp includes the plant *Cannabis sativa L* and any part of that plant, including seeds, derivatives, extracts, cannabinoids and isomers. To qualify under the Farm Bill, hemp must contain no more than 0.3 percent of delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol (“THC”). The Farm Bill explicitly allows interstate commerce of hemp which will enable the transportation and shipment of hemp. In February 2019, the Corporation announced the formation of a new wellness

<sup>6</sup> Marijuana Business Daily. (2017). *Marijuana Business Factbook*, 2017. Available from <https://mjbizdaily.com/factbook/>.

<sup>7</sup> Arcview Market Research & New Frontier Data. (2016). *The State of Legal Marijuana Markets* (4th ed.), pp. 11. Available from <https://www.arcviewmarketresearch.com/4th-edition-legal-marijuana-market/>.

<sup>8</sup> Marijuana Business Daily. (2017). *Marijuana Business Factbook*, 2017. Available from <https://mjbizdaily.com/factbook/>.

<sup>9</sup> Eight Capital. (2018). What’s Going on Down There? A \$63 B Market Cannot be Ignored.

<sup>10</sup> Marijuana Business Daily. (2017). *Marijuana Business Factbook*, 2017. Available from <https://mjbizdaily.com/factbook/>.

<sup>11</sup> New Frontier Financial. (2015). Modeling of State Patient Counts. *Cannabis Weekly*.

subsidiary, Well Beings, which will offer a full line of high-quality hemp-based CBD wellness products eligible for national distribution. The subsidiary, currently in early development stage, will have its own unique product line and produce CBD versions of Cresco Labs' house of branded products including Cresco, Remedi and Mindy's Edibles and provide the potential to expand its footprint to all 50 states and reach a new customer base outside of the licensed dispensary channel.

### *Illinois*

The Compassionate Use of Medical Cannabis Pilot Program Act, which allows individuals diagnosed with a debilitating medical condition access to medical marijuana, became effective January 1, 2014 and is extended through July 1, 2020. There are over 41 qualifying conditions as part of the medical program, including epilepsy, traumatic brain injury, and post-traumatic stress disorder ("**PTSD**"). Illinois' retail market size for 2017 was over US\$86 million, representing an over 140% year-over-year increase. As of October 3, 2018, total retail sales were over US\$97 million representing an approximate 12% increase over 2017 retail sales (with 2 months remaining).<sup>12</sup> On August 28, 2018, the Alternatives to Opioids Act (Public Act 100-1114) was signed into law. The Alternative to Opioids Act significantly expands the Illinois' medical marijuana market by enabling patients to access medical marijuana in place of pharmaceutical opioid medications. The Illinois Department of Public Health reports that there were more than 5.3 million prescriptions for opioid-based painkillers filled last year. This paves the way for the single-largest expansion of the existing Illinois Medical Cannabis Pilot Program, which has about 42,000 authorized patients. Those patients have brought the state about US\$200 million in sales tax revenue since the program's inception in late 2015.<sup>13</sup>

The Opioid Alternative Pilot Program launched January 31, 2018 with registration open through the Illinois Department of Public Health. The pilot program is part of the Alternative to Opioids Act, which former Gov. Bruce Rauner signed into law in August 2018, with the aim of combating the opioid epidemic. The pilot program will allow patients that receive or are qualified to receive opioid prescriptions access to medical marijuana as an alternative to prescription opioid medications such as OxyContin, Percocet and Vicodin. Medical Cannabis Pilot Program patients with one of the 41 qualifying medical conditions designated by the state of Illinois, and a doctor recommendation can also receive a temporary medical cannabis card online and make immediate cannabis purchases without waiting for their permanent card to be processed. In January 2019, one of Cresco's Illinois dispensary locations launched its participation in this pilot program and made the first sale of medical cannabis thereunder.

In January 2019, JB Pritzker was sworn into office as Governor of Illinois. Cresco's CEO and co-founder, Charles Bachtell, has been appointed to the Cannabis Legalization Subcommittee of the governor's transition team. Cannabis Legalization is one of four subcommittees under the Governor's Restorative Justice and Safe Communities Transition Committee. The primary goals of the Cannabis Legalization Subcommittee are to evaluate and develop implementation recommendations for the Governor-elects platform on legalizing cannabis. As outlined during the Governor's campaign, these priorities include safely legalizing and decriminalizing cannabis, reviewing and commuting the sentences of people incarcerated for cannabis offenses in Illinois, as well as a focus on diversity and community outreach.

### *Pennsylvania*

The Pennsylvania medical marijuana program was signed into law on April 17, 2016 under Act 16 and provided access to state residents with one of 17 qualifying conditions, including epilepsy, chronic pain, and PTSD. The state operates as a high-barrier market with very limited market participation. Retail sales opened in February 2018 to a limited number of retail locations across the state. Pennsylvania is the fifth-largest state in the country, home to nearly 13 million people. Pennsylvania's medical marijuana market is expected to become one of the biggest markets in the U.S.<sup>14</sup>

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<sup>12</sup> Illinois Medical Cannabis Pilot Program. (2018 October 3). Overall Medical Cannabis Pilot Program Data, as of 24/10/2018. Retrieved from <https://www2.illinois.gov/sites/mcphp/Pages/update10032018.aspx>

<sup>13</sup> Illinois News Network (2018 August 28). New law expands access to medical marijuana in Illinois to curb opioid use [https://www.ilnews.org/news/health/new-law-expands-access-to-medical-marijuana-in-illinois-to/article\\_4b2a156c-ab05-11e8-95a9-037d97496f1a.html](https://www.ilnews.org/news/health/new-law-expands-access-to-medical-marijuana-in-illinois-to/article_4b2a156c-ab05-11e8-95a9-037d97496f1a.html)

<sup>14</sup> <https://mjbizdaily.com/chart-pennsylvanias-medical-marijuana-market-set-become-one-countrys-biggest/>

## *Ohio*

House Bill 523, effective on September 8, 2016, legalized medical marijuana in Ohio. The Ohio Medical Marijuana Control Program allows people with certain medical conditions, upon the recommendation of an Ohio-licensed physician certified by the State Medical Board, to purchase and use medical marijuana. Ohio's medical cannabis sales are projected to be between US\$200 and US\$400 million once the system is fully matured.<sup>15</sup> According to industry experts, Ohio could become a national "powerhouse" for the medical marijuana industry, largely because of its population — it's the seventh largest state — and because the broad list of conditions eligible for treatment with medical marijuana includes "pain."<sup>16</sup>

## *California*

The California marijuana market is expected to be one of the fastest growing industries in California over the next five years. Market analysts forecast a stabilized market to occur after 2025 where the California marijuana market is estimated to be valued at approximately US\$10 billion.<sup>17</sup> In 2016, California recorded approximately US\$850 million in medical marijuana retail sales from operated dispensaries state wide; however, it is estimated approximately 85% of total transactions are unrecorded for revenue and are carried out through illegal transactions. The University of California Agricultural Issues Center predicts the illegal market to shrink to less than 30%, legal adult-use sales to increase to approximately 62%, and legal medical sales to decrease from approximately 15% to less than 10% as patients are provided with an alternative to obtaining medical marijuana physician recommendations for a fee.<sup>18</sup>

## *Nevada*

Nevada is one of the most dynamic markets anticipated for the full development of the recreational market. By certain estimates, the recreational market in Nevada is projected to have a cumulative average growth rate of 25%.<sup>19</sup> With most of the state population and tourism located in Las Vegas, the opportunity in Las Vegas is strengthened by the fact that Las Vegas has a limited number of licenses and the city of Las Vegas has placed a priority for current license holders to be preferred in obtaining other non-operating retail licenses. The City of Las Vegas has historically seen nearly forty million tourists in a year, making it one of the most visited cities in the United States. Industry estimates put the overall cannabis market size in Las Vegas to be over US\$800 million per year.<sup>20</sup>

## *Arizona*

In 2010, Arizona passed Ballot Proposition 203, which amended Title 36 to the Arizona Revised Statutes (“**ARS**”). This amendment added Chapter 28.1, titled the Arizona Medical Marijuana Act (the “**AMMA**”). The AMMA also appointed the Arizona Department of Health Services (the “**ADHS**”) as the regulator for the program and authorized ADHS to promulgate, adopt and enforce regulations for the AMMA. The ADHS has established the Arizona Department of Health Services Medical Marijuana Program (“**MMJ Program**”), which includes a vertically integrated license, meaning if allocated a Medical Marijuana Dispensary Registration Certificate (“**AZ Dispensary License**”), entities are authorized to dispense and cultivate medical cannabis. Arizona's medical marijuana market is one of the largest in the nation as well as one of the hottest. The amount of medical marijuana sold has more than doubled from 5,012 pounds in August 2016 to 10,826 pounds in August 2018, according to the ADHS. The patient count during that period has surged from 105,076 to 178,257.<sup>21</sup>

<sup>15</sup> <https://cannabusinessplans.com/ohios-medical-cannabis-market/>

<sup>16</sup> <https://cannabusinessplans.com/ohios-medical-cannabis-market/>

<sup>17</sup> Sources: Berke, Jeremy. (2017 December 8). The legal marijuana market is exploding – it'll hit almost \$10 billion sales this year. Retrieved from <http://www.businessinsider.com/legal-weed-market-to-hit-10-billion-in-sales-report-says-2017-12>; Morris, Chris. (2017 December 6). Legal Marijuana Sales Are Expected to Hit \$10 Billion This Year. Retrieved from <http://fortune.com/2017/12/06/legal-marijuana-sales-10-billion/>; The Arcview Group. (2017 December 6). NEW REPORT: Legal Marijuana Sales to Grow 33% to \$10 Billion in 2017. Retrieved from <https://globenewswire.com/news-release/2017/12/06/1234230/0/en/NEW-REPORT-Legal-Marijuana-Sales-to-Grow-33-to-10-Billion-in-2017.html>.

<sup>18</sup> McGreevy, Patrick. (2017 June 11). Legal marijuana could be a \$5-billion boon to California's economy. Retrieved from <http://www.latimes.com/politics/la-pol-ca-pot-economic-study-20170611-story.html>.

<sup>19</sup> Frontier Financial Group Inc. (2017). Change in Compensation: Working in Cannabis. Retrieved from <https://newfrontierdata.com/marijuana-insights/change-in-compensation-working-in-cannabis/>.

<sup>20</sup> Retrieved from <https://newfrontierdata.com/cannabits/>.

<sup>21</sup> <https://mjbizdaily.com/arizonas-sizzling-medical-marijuana-market-entices-investors-despite-legal-uncertainties/>

## *New York*

New York is one of the most promising medical cannabis markets that opened in 2016. The state population numbers near twenty million and New York City is among the most populous and visited cities in the U.S.<sup>22</sup> The New York program, when initially implemented, allowed for only five fully vertically integrated licenses. The licenses allowed each license holder the opportunity to operate a cultivation facility, extraction and manufacturing, and four retail medical marijuana dispensaries. The State program was adjusted to increase the range of qualifying conditions which, as of the date hereof, includes chronic and severe pain. In August 2017, the State of New York also increased the number of licensed operators in the state to a total of ten. Each of the newly added licenses can carry out the same operations as the original license holders. The State has made progress towards the ability to increase the outreach to qualified patients through the ten licensed operators via the disbursement of retail locations across the state, the increase in range of qualifying conditions, and other various methods to support patient access. In July, the New York Department of Health filed emergency regulations to add any condition, for which an opioid could be prescribed, as a qualifying condition for medical marijuana. This legislation was signed into law on September 24, 2018. From July 10 to September 25, 2018, the number of certified patients in the system rose to 18%.<sup>23</sup>

## *Massachusetts*

In November 2015, Massachusetts, a medical cannabis market since January 2013, voted in favour of "Question 4", approving the legalization of adult use. Research firm Arcview Market Research projects that the Massachusetts market will grow to over US\$1 billion by 2020 at a compound annual growth rate of 113%. The Question 4 ballot initiative requiring the state legislature to authorize the adult use of cannabis in the state was approved by the Massachusetts electorate in November 2016. The first adult use dispensaries opened their doors on July 1, 2018. Located in the very populous North-Eastern region of the U.S., tourism is anticipated to be an important factor in driving market growth in a state that itself has a growing population of 6.8 million. The adjoining states represent an additional "tourist" market of 26 million, vastly exceeding the very successful industry in Colorado. The new legislation allows local control policy, allowing local government officials in towns that voted "no" on the 2016 ballot initiative to ban marijuana businesses until December 2019. For towns that voted "yes" in 2016, any bans must be placed on a local ballot for voters to approve. The maximum sales tax rate will increase from 12% to 20%. Under the bill, the state tax will be 17% and the local option will be 3%.

## *Maryland*

Maryland adopted a comprehensive law legalizing medical cannabis in 2014. The Maryland program will result in a large medical marijuana market as a result of an expansive list of qualifying conditions, less restrictive provisions for obtaining cannabis certifications from doctors, and patient freedom to choose preferred methods of ingestions. The Maryland Medical Cannabis Commission began to sell through dispensaries on December 1, 2017. 14 growers, 12 processors and nine dispensaries have been licensed by the Maryland Medical Cannabis Commission, and on the day sales began, approximately 15,000 people had signed up to be prospective patients. Almost 550 healthcare providers have registered with Maryland to recommend Cannabis to their patients. Maryland has a population of over 6 million people.

## *Florida*

In 2014, the Florida Legislature passed the Compassionate Use Act (the "CUA") which was a low-THC (CBD) law, allowing cannabis containing less than 0.8% THC to be sold to patients diagnosed with severe seizures or muscle spasms and cancer. The CUA created a competitive licensing structure and originally allowed for one vertically-integrated license to be awarded per five regions of the State. The CUA set forth the criteria for applicants as well as the minimum qualifying criteria, which included the requirement to hold a nursery certificate for a minimum of

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<sup>22</sup> United States Census Bureau. (2017). QuickFacts United States. Retrieved from <https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/NY>; see also NYC and Company. NYC Travel & Tourism Visitation Statistics. Retrieved from <http://www.nycandcompany.org/research/nyc-statistics-page>; see also World Atlas. (2017 November 9). The Most Visited Cities In The US. Retrieved from <https://www.worldatlas.com/articles/the-most-visited-cities-in-the-us.html>.

<sup>23</sup> <https://mjbizdaily.com/new-york-formalizes-medical-cannabis-as-alternative-to-opioids-market-boost-seen/>

400,000 plants and to be a registered nursery for at least 30 continuous years. The CUA also created a state registry to track dispensations.

In 2016, the Florida Legislature passed the Right to Try Act (the "**RTA**"), which expanded the State's medical cannabis program to allow for full potency THC products to be sold as "medical cannabis" to patients with a terminal condition that had been diagnosed by two physicians.

In November of 2016, the Florida Medical Marijuana Legalization ballot initiative (the "**Initiative**") to expand the medical cannabis program under the RTA was approved by 71.3% of voters, thereby amending the Florida constitution. The Initiative is now Article X, Section 29 of the Florida Constitution. The Initiative added 10 medical conditions to the list of conditions for which the use of medical cannabis is permitted in Florida. The Initiative also provided for the implementation of state-issued medical cannabis identification cards.

In 2017, the Florida Legislature passed legislation implementing the constitutional amendment and codifying the changes set forth in the constitution. The 2017 law provides for another four licenses to be issued for every 100,000 active qualified patients added to the registry and initially limited license holders to a maximum of 25 dispensary locations with the ability to purchase additional dispensary locations from one another and for an additional five locations to be allowed by the State for every 100,000 active qualified patients added to the registry. The 2017 legislation's cap on dispensing facilities expires on April 1, 2020.

Please see also "United States Regulatory Environment" and "State Regulatory Environment" in the AIF for a further description of the legal and regulatory landscape in respect of the states in which the Corporation currently operates.

**Nonetheless, for the reasons referenced above and the risks further described under "Risk Factors" in the AIF, there are significant risks associated with the businesses of the Corporation. Readers are strongly encouraged to carefully read all of the risk factors contained in the AIF and other documents incorporated or deemed to be incorporated by reference herein, the applicable Prospectus Supplement and the documents incorporated or deemed to be incorporated by reference therein.**

#### **CERTAIN CANADIAN FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSIDERATIONS**

The applicable Prospectus Supplement may describe certain Canadian federal income tax considerations generally applicable to investors described therein of purchasing, holding and disposing of the applicable Securities, including, in the case of an investor who is not a resident of Canada, Canadian non-resident withholding tax considerations.

#### **CERTAIN UNITED STATES FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSIDERATIONS**

The applicable Prospectus Supplement may describe certain United States federal income tax considerations generally applicable to investors described therein of purchasing, holding and disposing of the applicable Securities.

#### **RISK FACTORS**

Before making an investment decision, prospective purchasers of Securities should carefully consider the information described in this Prospectus and the documents incorporated by reference herein (including subsequently filed documents incorporated by reference herein), including the applicable Prospectus Supplement. Additional risk factors relating to a specific offering of Securities may be described in the applicable Prospectus Supplement. Some of the risk factors described herein and in the documents incorporated by reference herein (including subsequently filed documents incorporated by reference herein), including the applicable Prospectus Supplement are interrelated and, consequently, investors should treat such risk factors as a whole. If any event arising from these risks occurs, the Corporation's business, prospects, financial condition, results of operations and cash flows, and an investment in the Securities, could be materially adversely affected. Additional risks and uncertainties of which the Corporation is currently unaware or that are unknown or that the Corporation currently deems to be immaterial could have a material adverse effect on the Corporation's business, prospects, financial condition, results of operations and cash flows. The Corporation cannot provide any assurances that it will successfully address any or all of these risks.



## **Risks Associated with the Securities of the Corporation**

### *Founder Voting Control*

As a result of the Super Voting Shares, Charlie Bachtell, Joe Caltabiano, Robert Sampson, Dominic Sergi and Brian McCormack (the “**Founders**”) exercise approximately 77.3% of the voting power in respect of the Corporation's outstanding shares. The Subordinate Voting Shares are entitled to 1 vote per share, the Proportionate Voting Shares are entitled to 200 votes per share (subject to adjustment in accordance with the terms thereof) and the Super Voting Shares are entitled to 2,000 votes per share. As a result, the Founders (and any three of the Founders for certain actions not requiring a 2/3 majority) potentially have the ability to control the outcome of matters submitted to the Corporation's shareholders for approval, including the election and removal of directors and any arrangement or sale of all or substantially all of the assets of the Corporation. If the Founders' employment with the Corporation is terminated, or they resign from their positions with the Corporation, they will continue to have the ability to exercise the same significant voting power. Additionally, each Super Voting Share, may be so transferred to the holder's immediate family members, or in connection with estate or tax planning matters.

In addition, because the number of Super Voting Shares held by a holder thereof from time to time is dependent upon the number of Cresco Redeemable Units (and Cresco Corp Redeemable Shares, if and when issued) beneficially owned, directly or indirectly, or deemed to be so beneficially owned by such holder from time to time, should the Corporation cause Cresco to issue additional Cresco Redeemable Units or Cresco Redeemable Units in the future to a Founder in connection with employee equity incentive programs, it would prolong the Founder's voting control.

To supplement the rights, privileges, restrictions and conditions attached to the Super Voting Shares, the Corporation and the Founders, being the initial holders of Super Voting Shares, entered into an investment agreement effective as of the completion of the Business Combination which, among other things, provides that (i) each Super Voting Share will be transferable only to the holder's immediate family members or an affiliated entity or a transfer to the other Founder or an entity affiliated with the other Founder, and (ii) upon any sale of Super Voting Shares to a third party purchaser not listed in clause (i), such Super Voting Shares will immediately be redeemed by the Corporation for their issue price.

The concentrated control through the Super Voting Shares could delay, defer, or prevent a change of control of the Corporation, arrangement involving the Corporation or sale of all or substantially all of the assets of the Corporation that it's other shareholders support. Conversely, this concentrated control could allow the Founders to consummate such a transaction that the Corporation's other shareholders do not support. In addition, the Founders may make long-term strategic investment decisions and take risks that may not be successful and may seriously harm the Corporation's business.

As directors and officers of the Corporation, the Founders have control over the day-to-day management and the implementation of major strategic decisions of the Corporation, subject to authorization and oversight by the Corporation Board. As board members and officers, the Founders owe a fiduciary duty to the Corporation's shareholders and are obligated to act honestly and in good faith with a view to the best interests of the Corporation. As shareholders, even controlling shareholders, the Founders are entitled to vote their shares, and shares over which they have voting control, in their own interests, which may not always be in the interests of the Corporation or the other shareholders of the Corporation.

### *Unpredictability Caused by the Capital Structure and Founder Voting Control*

Although other Canadian-based companies have dual class or multiple voting share structures, given the concentration of voting control that is held by the Founders and given the other unique features of the capital structure of the Corporation, including the existence of a significant amount of redeemable equity securities that have been issued by, and are issuable pursuant to the exercise, conversion or exchange of the applicable convertible securities of, Cresco Labs, LLC, which equity securities are redeemable from time to time for Proportionate Voting Shares, in accordance with their terms, the Corporation is not able to predict whether this structure and control will result in a lower trading price for or greater fluctuations in the trading price of the Subordinate Voting Shares or will result in adverse publicity to the Corporation or other adverse consequences.

### *Additional Issuance of Subordinate Voting Shares and Subsidiary Securities May Result in Dilution*

The Corporation may issue additional securities in the future, which may dilute a shareholder's holdings in the Corporation. The Corporation's articles permit the issuance of an unlimited number of Subordinate Voting Shares, and existing shareholders will have no pre-emptive rights in connection with such further issuance. The Corporation's Board has discretion to determine the price and the terms of further issuances. Moreover, additional Subordinate Voting Shares will be issued by the Corporation on the conversion of the Proportionate Voting Shares in accordance with their terms. The Corporation may also issue Subordinate Voting Shares to finance future acquisitions. The Corporation cannot predict the size of future issuances of Subordinate Voting Shares or the effect that future issuances and sales of Subordinate Voting Shares will have on the market price of the Subordinate Voting Shares. Issuances of a substantial number of additional Subordinate Voting Shares, or the perception that such issuances could occur, may adversely affect prevailing market prices for the Subordinate Voting Shares. With any additional issuance of Subordinate Voting Shares, investors will suffer dilution to their voting power and the Corporation may experience dilution in its revenue per share.

Additionally, the subsidiaries of the Corporation, such as Cresco U.S. Corp. and Cresco Labs, LLC, may issue additional securities, including Cresco Corp Redeemable Shares, Cresco Redeemable Units and LTIP Units to new or existing shareholders, members or securityholders, including in exchange for services performed or to be performed on behalf of such entities or to finance future acquisitions. Any such issuances could result in substantial dilution to the indirect equity interest of the holders of Subordinate Voting Shares in Cresco Labs, LLC.

### *Additional Financing*

The Corporation expects to require substantial additional capital in the near future to continue operations at its cultivation and production facilities, dispensaries, expansion of its product lines, development of its intellectual property base, increasing production capabilities and expanding its operations in states where it currently operates and states where it currently does not have operations. The Corporation may not be able to obtain additional financing on terms acceptable to it, or at all. If the Corporation fail to raise additional capital, as needed, its ability to implement its business model and strategy could be compromised.

Even if the Corporation obtains financing for its near-term operations, it expects that it will require additional capital thereafter. The capital needs of the Corporation will depend on numerous factors including: (i) profitability; (ii) the release of competitive products by competitors; (iii) the level of investment in research and development; and (iv) the amount of our capital expenditures, including acquisitions. There can be no assurance that the Corporation will be able to obtain capital in the future to meet its needs.

Although the Corporation has accessed private financing in the past, there is neither a broad nor deep pool of institutional capital that is available to companies in the U.S. cannabis industry. There can be no assurance that additional financing, if raised privately, will be available to the Corporation when needed or on terms which are acceptable.

### *Volatile Market Price of the Subordinate Voting Shares and Other Listed Securities*

The market price of the Subordinate Voting Shares and other listed securities of the Corporation from time to time, cannot be predicted and has been and may be volatile and subject to wide fluctuations in response to numerous factors, many of which are beyond the Corporation's control. This volatility may affect the ability of holders of Subordinate Voting Shares or such other securities to sell their securities at an advantageous price. Market price fluctuations in the Subordinate Voting Shares or such other securities may be due to the Corporation's operating results failing to meet expectations of securities analysts or investors in any period, downward revision in securities analysts' estimates, adverse changes in general market conditions or competitive, regulatory or economic trends, adverse changes in the economic performance or market valuations of companies in the industry in which the Corporation operates, acquisitions, dispositions, strategic partnerships, joint ventures, capital commitments or other material public announcements by the Corporation or its competitors or government and regulatory authorities, operating and share price performance of the companies that investors deem comparable to the Corporation, addition or departure of the Corporation's executive officers and other key personnel, along with a variety of additional factors. These broad market fluctuations may adversely affect the market price of the Subordinate Voting Shares or such other securities.

Financial markets have at times historically experienced significant price and volume fluctuations that have particularly affected the market prices of equity and convertible securities of companies and that have often been unrelated to the operating performance, underlying asset values or prospects of such companies. Accordingly, the market price of the Subordinate Voting Shares and other listed securities of the Corporation, from time to time, may decline even if the Corporation's operating results, underlying asset values or prospects have not changed. Additionally, these factors, as well as other related factors, may cause decreases in asset values that are deemed to be other than temporary, which may result in impairment losses. There can be no assurance that continuing fluctuations in price and volume will not occur. If such increased levels of volatility and market turmoil continue or arise, the Corporation's operations may be adversely impacted and the trading price of the Subordinate Voting Shares and such other securities may be materially adversely affected.

#### *Outstanding Securities are Restricted from Immediate Resale by May be Sold in the Near Future*

Certain unitholders of Cresco and shareholders of the Corporation agreed in connection with the SR Offering not to sell their securities of Cresco or the Corporation (including Subordinate Voting Shares), for a period of 180 days from December 3, 2018, unless one of the following occurs: (i) the consent of the joint bookrunners in respect of the SR Offering, such consent not to be unreasonably withheld or delayed; (ii) take-over bid or similar transaction involving a change of control of the Corporation, Cresco, Cresco Corp or any of its subsidiaries; or (iii) transfers to affiliates for tax or similar planning purposes, provided that the transferee(s) sign a similar lock-up agreement. The sale of a substantial number of such securities, or the perception in the market that holders of a large number of securities intend to sell securities, could reduce the market price of the Subordinate Voting Shares and could impair the Corporation's ability to raise capital through the sale of additional equity securities. The effect of any such sales on the prevailing market price of the Subordinate Voting Shares is not predictable. See "*Securities Subject to Contractual Restriction on Transfer*" for further details.

### **Risks Associated with the Business of the Corporation**

#### *U.S. Federal Regulation*

The Corporation could be found to be violating laws related to medical cannabis.

Currently, there are 33 states plus the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and Guam that have laws and/or regulations that recognize, in one form or another, legitimate medical uses for cannabis and consumer use of cannabis in connection with medical treatment. Other states are considering similar legislation. Conversely, under the CSA, the policies and regulations of the federal government and its agencies are that cannabis has no proven medical benefit and a range of activities including cultivation and the personal use of cannabis is prohibited. Unless and until Congress amends the CSA with respect to medical cannabis, as to the timing or scope of any such amendments there can be no assurance, there is a risk that federal authorities may enforce current U.S. federal law. The risk of strict enforcement of the CSA in light of Congressional activity, judicial holdings, and stated federal policy remains uncertain. This would cause a direct and adverse effect on the Corporation's subsidiaries' businesses, or intended businesses, and on its revenue and prospective profits.

Marijuana is a Schedule-I controlled substance and is illegal under U.S. federal law. Even in those States in which the use of marijuana has been legalized, its use remains a violation of U.S. federal law. Since U.S. federal law criminalizing the use of marijuana pre-empts State laws that legalize its use, strict enforcement of U.S. federal law regarding marijuana would likely result in the Corporation's inability to proceed with its business plan.

Laws and regulations affecting the medical marijuana industry are constantly changing, which could detrimentally affect the proposed operations of the Corporation.

Local, state, and U.S. federal medical marijuana laws and regulations are broad in scope and subject to evolving interpretations, which could require the Corporation to incur substantial costs associated with compliance or alter certain aspects of its business plan. In addition, violations of these laws, or allegations of such violations, could disrupt certain aspects of the Corporation's business plan and result in a material adverse effect on certain aspects of its planned operations. In addition, it is possible that regulations may be enacted in the future that will be directly applicable to certain aspects of the Corporation's business. No prediction can be made as to the nature of any future

laws, regulations, interpretations or applications, nor can it be determined what effect additional governmental regulations or administrative policies and procedures, when and if promulgated, could have on our business.

Notwithstanding the permissive regulatory environment of medical marijuana at the state level, marijuana continues to be categorized as a controlled substance under the CSA. Under the CSA, the policies and regulations of the U.S. federal government and its agencies are that cannabis has no "**proven**" medical benefits. Unless and until Congress amends the CSA with respect to medical marijuana, as to the timing or scope of any such potential amendments there can be no assurance, there is a risk that U.S. federal authorities may enforce current U.S. federal law, and we may be deemed to be producing, cultivating, or dispensing marijuana in violation of U.S. federal law with respect to the Corporation's current or proposed business operations, or the Corporation may be deemed to be facilitating the sale or distribution of drug paraphernalia in violation of U.S. federal law. A change in the U.S. federal government's approach to begin more active enforcement of cannabis may adversely affect our revenues and profits. The risk of strict enforcement of the CSA in light of Congressional activity, judicial holdings, and stated U.S. federal policy remains uncertain.

#### *Risk of U.S. Federal Law Proceedings Against the Corporation*

Potential proceedings under U.S. federal law could involve significant restrictions being imposed upon the Corporation or third parties, while diverting the attention of key executives. Such proceedings could have a material adverse effect on the Corporation's business, revenues, operating results and financial condition as well as the Corporation's reputation, even if such proceedings were concluded successfully in favour of the Corporation. In the extreme case, such proceedings could ultimately involve the prosecution of key executives of the Corporation or the seizure of corporate assets. However, as of the date hereof, the Corporation has obtained legal advice in respect thereof that proceedings of this nature have historically been sufficiently uncommon to be characterized as remote absent a shift by federal authorities to a more aggressive enforcement approach. The Corporation has also received advice from its legal counsel regarding the potential exposure and implications arising from U.S. federal law generally. As the legal landscape at both the U.S. federal level and the state level is evolving, all such legal advice is historical in nature, and is only effective up to the date such advice was received.

Following the issuance of the Sessions Memo and the Barr Comments, the Corporation continues to look to the guidelines of the Cole Memo as an industry best practice and continues to do the following to ensure compliance with the Cole Memo:

- ensuring the operations of its subsidiaries are compliant with all licensing requirements that are set forth with regards to cannabis operation by the applicable state, county, municipality, town, township, borough, and other political/administrative divisions. To this end, the Corporation retains appropriately experienced legal counsel and other professionals to conduct the necessary due diligence to ensure compliance of such operations with all applicable;
- the activities relating to the cannabis business adhere to the scope of the licensing obtained. Accordingly, in the states where only medical cannabis is permitted, the products are only sold to patients who hold the necessary documentation to permit the possession of the cannabis; and in the states where cannabis is permitted for adult recreational use, the products are only sold to individuals who meet the requisite age requirements;
- the Corporation only works through licensed operators, which must pass a range of requirements, adhere to strict business practice standards and be subjected to strict regulatory oversight whereby sufficient checks and balances ensure that no revenue is distributed to criminal enterprises, gangs and cartels; and
- the Corporation conducts reviews of products and product packaging to ensure that the products comply with applicable regulations and contain necessary disclaimers about the contents of the products to prevent adverse public health consequences from cannabis use and prevent impaired driving.

The Corporation will continue to monitor compliance on an ongoing basis in accordance with its compliance program and standard operating procedures. While the Corporation's operations are in full compliance with all applicable state laws, regulations and licensing requirements, such activities remain illegal under U.S. federal law. For the reasons

described above and the risks further described below, there are significant risks associated with the business of the Corporation.

## **LEGAL MATTERS**

Unless otherwise specified in the Prospectus Supplement relating to an offering of Securities, certain legal matters relating to the offering of Securities will be passed upon on behalf of the Corporation by Bennett Jones LLP with respect to matters of Canadian law. As of the date hereof, Bennett Jones LLP, and its partners and associates, beneficially own, directly or indirectly, as a group, less than 1% of any class of outstanding securities of the Corporation, Cresco Corp. and the LLC.

## **AUDITORS, TRANSFER AGENT AND REGISTRAR**

MNP LLP is the auditor of the Corporation and has confirmed that they are independent within the meaning of the relevant rules and related interpretations prescribed by the relevant professional bodies in Canada and any applicable legislation or regulations. FGMK LLC and McGovern Hurley LLP have performed the audit in respect of certain financial statements incorporated by reference herein or attached hereto. As of the date hereof, FGMK LLC, and its partners and associates, and McGovern Hurley LLP, and its partners and associates, beneficially own, directly or indirectly, in their respective groups, less than 1% of any class of outstanding securities of the Corporation, Cresco Corp. and the LLC.

The transfer agent and registrar for the Subordinate Voting Shares is Odyssey Trust Company at its principal offices in Calgary, Alberta.

## **UNDERTAKING**

As a condition to the issuance of a receipt of the British Columbia Securities Commission, as principal regulator of the Corporation, for the (final) short form base shelf prospectus (the "**Final Prospectus**"), the Corporation will file with the applicable securities commissions or similar regulatory authorities in Canada an undertaking that it shall file with the applicable securities commissions or similar regulatory authorities in Canada, during the currency of the Final Prospectus and so long as the certifications therein are able to be made, at least every 90 days after the date of such receipt for the Final Prospectus a certificate certifying among other things the following matters and that it shall not distribute any securities under the Final Prospectus if such a certificate has not been so filed on or after the day that is 90 days prior to the date of the applicable Prospectus Supplement. Each such periodic certificate shall certify among other things that since the date of the Final Prospectus or the last such certificate, as applicable: (i) no material adverse changes have occurred to the United States federal laws and regulations respecting cannabis nor to the existing published statements of the United States federal government or any agency thereof regarding the approach to the enforcement of United States federal laws and regulations respecting cannabis which would reasonably be expected to result in a material adverse change in the business, operations or affairs of the Corporation; and (ii) the Corporation has not been made aware and does not have any knowledge of any enforcement of United States federal laws and regulations respecting cannabis in the states where the Corporation has cannabis operations that is inconsistent with existing published statements of the United States federal government and its agencies regarding the approach to the enforcement of United States federal laws and regulations respecting cannabis which would reasonably be expected to result in a material adverse change in the business, operations or affairs of the Corporation.

## **PURCHASERS' STATUTORY RIGHTS**

Securities legislation in certain of the provinces and territories of Canada provides purchasers with the right to withdraw from an agreement to purchase securities. This right may be exercised within two business days after receipt or deemed receipt of a prospectus and any amendment. In several of the provinces and territories, the securities legislation further provides a purchaser with remedies for rescission or, in some jurisdictions, revisions of the price or damages if the prospectus and any amendment contains a misrepresentation or is not delivered to the purchaser, provided that the remedies for rescission, revision of the price or damages are exercised by the purchaser within the time limit prescribed by the securities legislation of the purchaser's province or territory. The purchaser should refer

to any applicable provisions of the securities legislation of the purchaser's province or territory for the particulars of these rights or consult with a legal advisor.

Original purchasers of Securities that are convertible, exchangeable or exercisable for other securities of the Corporation will have a contractual right of rescission against the Corporation in respect of the conversion, exchange or exercise of such Securities. The contractual right of rescission will be further described in any applicable Prospectus Supplement, but will, in general, entitle such original purchasers to receive, upon surrender of the underlying securities, the amount paid for the applicable convertible, exchangeable or exercisable Securities in the event that this Prospectus, the relevant Prospectus Supplement or an amendment thereto contains a misrepresentation, provided that: (i) the conversion, exchange or exercise takes place within 180 days of the date of the purchase of such Securities under this Prospectus and the applicable Prospectus Supplement; and (ii) the right of rescission is exercised within 180 days of the date of the purchase of such Securities under this Prospectus and the applicable Prospectus Supplement.

In an offering of Debt Securities, Subscription Receipts, Warrants and Units which are convertible, exchangeable or exercisable for other securities of the Corporation, investors are cautioned that the statutory right of action for damages for a misrepresentation contained in this Prospectus, the relevant Prospectus Supplement or an amendment thereto is limited, in certain provincial and territorial securities legislation, to the price at which the Debt Securities, Subscription Receipts, Warrants and Units which are convertible, exchangeable or exercisable for other securities of the Corporation are offered to the public under the prospectus offering. This means that, under the securities legislation of certain provinces and territories, if the purchaser pays additional amounts upon conversion, exchange or exercise of the Security, those amounts may not be recoverable under the statutory right of action for damages that applies in those provinces and territories. The purchaser should refer to any applicable provisions of the securities legislation of the purchaser's province or territory for the particulars of this right of action for damages, or consult with a legal adviser.

#### **ENFORCEMENT OF JUDGMENTS AGAINST FOREIGN PERSONS**

The directors, chief executive officer and chief financial officer of the Corporation, being Charles Bachtell, Joe Caltabiano, Ken Amann, Dominic A. Sergi, Brian McCormack, Robert M. Sampson, John R. Walter, Gerald Corcoran, Thomas Manning and Randy Podolsky reside outside of Canada and each has appointed Bennett Jones LLP, Suite 3400, One First Canadian Place, P.O. Box 130, Toronto, Ontario M5X 1A4, as his or her agent for service of process in Canada. FGMK, LLC, the auditor in respect of the audited financial statements of Cresco Labs LLC for the years ended January 31, 2018 and 2017, is incorporated, continued or otherwise organized under the laws of a foreign jurisdiction. Purchasers are advised that it may not be possible for investors to enforce judgments obtained in Canada against any person or company that resides outside of Canada or is incorporated, continued or otherwise organized under the laws of a foreign jurisdiction, even if the party has appointed an agent for service of process.

**CERTIFICATE OF THE CORPORATION**

Dated: April 25, 2019.

This short form base shelf prospectus (the "**Prospectus**"), together with the documents incorporated in this Prospectus by reference, will, as of the date of the last supplement to this Prospectus relating to the securities offered by this Prospectus and the supplement(s), constitute full, true and plain disclosure of all material facts relating to the securities offered by this Prospectus and the supplement(s) as required by the securities legislation of each of the provinces of Canada (other than Quebec).

(signed) "*Charles Bachtell*"

(signed) "*Ken Amann*"

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Charles Bachtell  
Chief Executive Officer

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Ken Amann  
Chief Financial Officer

On behalf of the Board of Directors

(signed) "*Joseph Caltabiano*"

(signed) "*Dominic Sergi*"

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Joseph Caltabiano  
President and Director

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Dominic Sergi  
Director