



**ARDIDEN**

6 May 2021

## ARDIDEN AGREES EXCLUSIVE OPTION TO SELL 80% OF LITHIUM PORTFOLIO FOR UP TO A\$8.7M

Gold explorer **Ardiden Limited** ('Ardiden' or 'the Company') (ASX: ADV) is pleased to advise that it has executed a binding **Tenement Option and Acquisition Terms Sheet** ("Option Agreement") granting an option to Great Northern Lithium ("GNL") (or its nominee) to buy 80% of ADV's lithium portfolio. Total consideration for the 80% stake is up to **A\$8.7 million**. If the option is exercised, completion of the acquisition is subject to conditions precedent including shareholder and regulatory approvals.

The Option Agreement provides to Ardiden a non-refundable **A\$200,000 fee** to enable GNL to complete exclusive Due Diligence within 60 days and proceed to exercise the option to purchase 80% of Ardiden's interests in its Canadian lithium portfolio. Ardiden would retain a 20% free-carry to completion of either a Bankable Feasibility Study (BFS) or Decision to Mine.

**Great Northern Lithium** is a newly formed Australian company led by an experienced team with significant global lithium exploration, mining, production, and offtake expertise, led by Cameron Henry and Jeremy Robinson as founding Directors. GNL is focussed on exploring and developing hard rock lithium deposits in North America.

Terms of the transaction include:

- **A\$200,000 fee** for an Exclusive Due Diligence period of up to 60 days; and, if the option is exercised, a further:
- **A\$1,500,000 up-front cash payment** at Completion (5 Business Days after completion of all the Terms Sheet conditions precedent); and
- **A\$7,000,000 trailing cash instalments** (or at GNL's election, the equivalent in shares subject to ASX listing, and any required escrow) in two equal tranches of A\$3,500,000 at 9 months and 18 months from Completion.

**Commenting on the proposed partial sale, Ardiden Limited Non-Executive Chairman Neil Hackett stated:**

*"Ardiden has been actively evaluating strategic options to best realise the full potential of its lithium assets. The prospect of selling 80% of Ardiden's lithium portfolio to a new, lithium-focused entity provides an opportunity to accelerate exploration and development of these quality assets within the booming battery metals sector. These assets are strategically located near the USA border, with easy access to existing infrastructure. If they exercise the option, teaming with experienced lithium developers, while retaining a 20% free carry, enables Ardiden to unlock value for shareholders, while retaining some upside exposure to the battery metals market."*

**Ardiden Managing Director and CEO, Robin Longley added that:**

*"Monetising 80% of our lithium portfolio provides exploration capital to Ardiden, which will be deployed at its highly prospective package of gold prospects at the Pickle Lake Gold Project. GNL will benefit from our in-country experience and existing relationships with First Nation Communities as well as bringing their own expertise in management, marketing, evaluation and development of these strategically-located spodumene-hosted lithium deposits in a booming North American region for critical metal project development"*



Figure 1 – Location of Arden's Lithium assets in relation to the EV Battery Market in North America

If the option is exercised, any proposed sale of the 80% interest in Arden's Lithium Portfolio will be subject to Arden obtaining shareholder approval together with any other ASX and Regulatory requirements and other conditions precedent (see below). It should be noted that there is no guarantee that the Option Agreement will necessarily lead to a sale transaction.

**Key terms of the Option Agreement are:**

Exclusivity	Great Northern Lithium (GNL) has been granted an exclusive option to acquire 80% of the Lithium Interests
Option Fee	A\$200,000 for exclusivity during the Option Period
Option Period	GNL must exercise the Option no later than 2 July 2021
Due diligence period	GNL must complete due diligence on the Lithium Interests on or before the end of the Option Period
Consideration	<p>If exercised, in consideration for the Acquisition, GNL will pay:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A\$1,500,000 cash at Completion; and</li> <li>• A\$3,500,000 in cash, or Shares, at the election of GNL, with a total value (on a VWAP basis) of A\$3,500,000, 9 months after Completion; and</li> <li>• A\$3,500,000 in cash, or Shares, at the election of GNL, with a total value (on a VWAP basis) of A\$3,500,000 18 months after Completion.</li> </ul> <p>Shares described above may be in GNL or a Related Body Corporate. Issue of Shares is subject to any ASX required shareholder approvals.</p>

	If GNL is unable to deliver Shares or A\$7,000,000 within 24 months of signing this agreement, GNL's 80% ownership of tenements will revert to ADV.
Conditions Precedent	Completion of the Acquisition is conditional upon the satisfaction of certain conditions precedent, including any necessary consents and approvals under any agreements between Ardiden and third parties, consents and approvals required by any government authorities, including that required under the Mining Act of Ontario and the Canadian tax authority, and shareholder approval pursuant to the ASX Listing Rules if required. Conditions must be satisfied or waived by November 2021.
Break Fee	In the event the Option Agreement is terminated because Ardiden has received a Superior Offer (which is not matched), Ardiden must pay GNL A\$2,000,000.
Joint Venture	From Completion, Ardiden and GNL, or a Related Body Corporate will form an 80%/20% Joint Venture in respect of the Tenements.  GNL will be the manager of the Joint Venture as long as it holds a interest in the Joint Venture of at least fifty one per cent (51%).  GNL will sole fund Joint Venture expenditure (and will free carry Ardiden's interest in the Joint Venture) through to the earlier to occur of: a) completion of a positive Bankable Feasibility Study; and b) a decision to commence commercial mining operations on any of the Tenements
Board representation	From Completion, Ardiden will have a right to appoint one non-executive director to the board of in GNL or the relevant Related Body Corporate, subject to Ardiden holding a 20% interest in the Joint Venture.

This information is authorised for ASX release by the Board of Directors.

**About Ardiden**  
**(ASX: ADV)**



*Ardiden Limited is an ASX-listed company focused on gold exploration at its Pickle Lake Gold Project in north-west Ontario, Canada. The project consists of 870km<sup>2</sup> of highly prospective gold landholdings across 22 identified Gold Deposits and Prospects. Ardiden also has 100% ownership of three hard rock (spodumene) Lithium Projects in north-west Ontario and is well positioned to derive benefit from both gold and lithium exploration sectors of the market.*

[www.ardiden.com.au](http://www.ardiden.com.au)

**About Great Northern**  
**Lithium**



*Great Northern Lithium is a newly formed Australian company led by an experienced team with significant global lithium exploration, mining, production, and offtake expertise. Great Northern Lithium is focussed on exploring and developing hard rock lithium deposits in North America. Ardiden understands GNL has commenced work to pursue an IPO on the Australian Securities Exchange (ASX).*

[www.gnli.com.au](http://www.gnli.com.au)

For further information:

**Investors:**

Rob Longley

MD & CEO

Tel: +61 8 9322 7600

[info@ardiden.com.au](mailto:info@ardiden.com.au)

Tara Robson

Company Secretary

Tel +61 8 9322 7600

[info@ardiden.com.au](mailto:info@ardiden.com.au)

*More information is available from the Company's website: [www.ardiden.com.au](http://www.ardiden.com.au)*