

# CHAMPION IRON SUBSIDIARY QUEBEC IRON ORE SIGNS RAIL TRANSPORTATION CONTRACT WITH QUEBEC NORTH SHORE AND LABRADOR RAILWAY COMPANY

Montréal (Québec), Canada, June 20, 2017: Champion Iron Limited (the "Company", or "Champion") is pleased to announce that its subsidiary Québec Iron Ore Inc. ("QIO") has entered into a transportation agreement (the "Agreement") with the Quebec North Shore and Labrador Railway Company, Inc. ("QNS&L") for the transportation of iron ore concentrate which would be generated from QIO's Bloom Lake Iron Mine ("Bloom Lake"), located near Fermont, Québec.

The Agreement provides that iron ore concentrate from QIO's Bloom Lake property will be carried on the QNS&L railway from the Wabush Lake Junction in Labrador City, Newfoundland & Labrador to the Sept-Iles Junction in Sept-Iles, Quebec, a distance of approximately 400 kilometers.

Michael O'Keeffe, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Champion and QIO said, "We are very pleased to have signed a confidential rail transport agreement with QNS&L, a proven and well-recognized rail transporter. This Agreement will ensure long-term access to some of the world's largest consumers of iron ore for our future high quality product. The signing of this rail transport agreement also marks yet another significant milestone in the Bloom Lake restart."

### **About Bloom Lake**

On April 11, 2016, the Company, through its subsidiary QIO, acquired the Bloom Lake assets from affiliates of Cliffs Natural Resources Inc. that were subject to restructuring proceedings under the Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act (Canada). Québec Iron Ore Inc. is 63.2% owned by the Company, with the remaining 36.8% equity interest owned by Ressources Québec, acting as a mandatory of the Government of Quebec.

The Bloom Lake property is located on the south end of the Labrador Trough, approximately 13 km north of Fermont, Quebec, and 10 km north of the Mount-Wright iron ore mining operation of ArcelorMittal Mines Canada. The Bloom Lake Mine is an open pit truck and shovel operation, with a concentrator. From the site, iron concentrate can be transported by rail, initially on the Bloom Lake Railway, to a ship loading port in Sept-Iles, Québec.

The Bloom Lake Mine has already been authorized for operation under the federal and provincial environmental authorities. The project was subject to an environmental impact assessment process under Section 31.1 of the Québec Environment Quality Act, which led to the first decree issued by the Quebec government in 2008 authorizing mining activities at the Bloom Lake site. An updated positive Feasibility Study on Bloom Lake has been completed and is available under the Company's profile on SEDAR (www.sedar.com).

The results of the Feasibility Study were announced by Champion on February 16, 2017 (the Release). The Company is not aware of any new information or data that materially affects the information included in the Release and confirms that all material assumptions and technical parameters underpinning the estimates in the Release continue to apply and have not materially changed.

## **About Champion**

Champion is an iron development and exploration company, focused on developing its significant iron resources in the south end of the Labrador Trough in the province of Québec. Following the acquisition of its flagship asset, the Bloom Lake iron ore property, the Company's main focus is to implement upgrades to the mine and processing infrastructure it

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now owns while also advancing projects associated with improving access to global iron markets, including rail and port infrastructure initiatives with government and other key industry and community stakeholders.

Champion's management team includes professionals with mine development and operations expertise who also have vast experience from geotechnical work to green field development, brown field management including logistics development and financing of all stages in the mining industry.

### For further information please contact:

Michael O'Keeffe, Executive Chairman and CEO at Tel. +1 514-316-4858

David Cataford, COO at Tel. +1 514-316-4858

For additional information on Champion Iron Limited, please visit our website at www.championiron.com

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