STERLING GROUP VENTURES INC Form 10-K September 16, 2016

# UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

# **FORM 10-K**

(Mark One)

[X] ANNUAL REPORT UNDER SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the fiscal year ended May 31, 2016

[ ] TRANSITION REPORT UNDER SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the transition period from\_\_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_.

Commission file number: 000-51775

# **STERLING GROUP VENTURES, INC.**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

<u>Nevada</u> (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization) <u>72-1535634</u> (I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

904 1455 Howe Street Vancouver BC Canada (Address of principal executive offices)

<u>V6Z 1C2</u>

(Zip Code)

Registrant s telephone number, including area code (604) 684-1001

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

Title of each class

Name of each exchange on which registered

<u>None</u>

<u>None</u>

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act:

Common Stock, par value \$0.001

(Title of class)

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is a well-known seasoned issuer, as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act. Yes [ ] No [X]

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is not required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Act. Yes [ ] No [X]

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes [X] No [

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Web site, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S T (§ 232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files).

Yes [X] No [ ]

Indicate by check mark if disclosure of delinquent filers pursuant to Item 405 of Regulation S-K is not contained herein, and will not be contained, to the best of registrant's knowledge, in definitive proxy or information statements incorporated by reference in Part III of this Form 10-K or any amendment to this Form 10-K. []

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, or a smaller reporting company. See definitions of large accelerated filer, accelerated filer and smaller reporting company in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. (Check one):

 Large accelerated filer []
 Accelerated filer []

 Non-accelerated filer []
 Smaller reporting company [X]

 Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Act).

 Yes []
 No [X]

State the aggregate market value of the voting and non-voting common equity held by non-affiliates computed by reference to the price at which the common equity was sold, or the average bid and asked prices of such common equity, as of the last business day of the registrant s most recently completed second fiscal quarter.

The aggregate market value of the voting and non-voting share of Common Stock held by non-affiliates of the registrant was approximately \$874,805 based on the closing trading price for the common equity as of November 30, 2015 (at \$0.015).

The number of shares of common stock, par value \$0.001 per share, outstanding as of September 15, 2016 was 75,730,341.

Documents incorporated by reference: None.

# STERLING GROUP VENTURES INC. MAY 31, 2016 ANNUAL REPORT ON FORM 10-K

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### Cautionary Statement Regarding Forward-Looking Statements

Safe Harbor Statement under the United States Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995: Except for the statements of historical fact contained herein, the information constitutes "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation reform Act of 1995. Such forward looking statements, including but not limited to those with respect to the price of phosphate, potassium, nitrogen, and other commodities, the timing and amount of estimated production, costs of production, reserve determination and reserve conversion rates, involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors which may cause the actual results, performance or achievement of the Company to be materially different from any future results, performance or achievements expressed or implied by such forward looking statements. Such factors include, among others, risks relating to the integration of the acquisition, risks relating to international operations, risks relating to joint venture operations, the actual results of current exploration activities, the actual results of current reclamation activities, conclusions of economic evaluations, changes in project parameters as plans continue to be refined, future prices of phosphate, potassium, nitrogen, fertilizer and other commodities, as well as those factors affecting the mineral industry. Although the Company 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 statements will prove to be accurate as actual results and future events could differ materially from those anticipated in such statements. Accordingly, readers should not place undue reliance on forward-looking statements.

This annual report contains forward-looking statements as that term is defined in the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. These statements relate to future events or our future financial performance. Some discussions in this report may contain forward-looking statements that involve risk and uncertainty. A number of important factors could cause our actual results to differ materially from those expressed in any forward-looking statements made by us in this report. Forward-looking statements are often identified by words like: believe , expect , estimate , anticipa intend , project and similar expressions or words which, by their nature, refer to future events.

In some cases, you can also identify forward-looking statements by terminology such as may, will, should, plan predicts, potential or continue or the negative of these terms or other comparable terminology. These statements are only predictions and involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors, including the risks in the section entitled "Risk Factors", which may cause our or our industry's actual results, levels of activity, performance or achievements to be materially different from any future results, levels of activity, performance or achievements expressed or implied by these forward-looking statements.

Although we believe that the expectations reflected in the forward-looking statements are reasonable, we cannot guarantee future results, levels of activity or achievements. Except as required by applicable law, including the securities laws of the United States, we do not intend to update any of the forward-looking statements to conform these statements to actual results.

Our financial statements are stated in United States Dollars (US\$) and are prepared in accordance with United States Generally Accepted Accounting Principles. All references to \$ refer to US Dollars, all references to CA\$ refer to Canadian Dollars, all references to RMB refer to Chinese Yuan and all references to "common shares" refer to the common shares in our capital stock.

As used in this annual report, the terms "we", "us", "our", the Company and "Sterling" mean Sterling Group Ventures, Inc., unless otherwise indicated.

Sterling is a mining and exploration company, involved in the development of Gaoping property, a phosphate deposit through its acquisition of Chenxi County Hongyu Mining Co. Ltd. (Hongyu) in Hunan, China, and is developing a mining operation on the Gaoping property. There is no assurance we will be able to commercially develop mineral deposits on the claims that we have under option. Further exploration may be required before a final evaluation as to the economic and legal feasibility of the claims is determined.

# PART I

# **ITEM 1. BUSINESS.**

# <u>General</u>

We were incorporated in the state of Nevada on September 13, 2001 and established a fiscal year end of May 31. Since our incorporation, we have engaged in the business of mining exploration and development. On January 20, 2004, Sterling completed the acquisition of all of the issued and outstanding shares of Micro Express Ltd. (Micro), which was incorporated on July 27, 1994 and engaged in exploration and development of Lithium. Pursuant to the transaction, the Company issued an aggregate of 25,000,000 shares of Sterling s common stock to the stockholders of Micro in exchange for 100% of the outstanding shares of Micro s common stock. The business combination was accounted for as a reverse acquisition whereby the purchase method of accounting was used with Micro being the accounting parent and the Company being the accounting subsidiary. The Company has since terminated the joint venture agreements related to the Lithium projects in 2011 as more fully described herein. On July 8, 2011, Sterling acquired a 90% interest in Chenxi County Hongyu Mining Co. Ltd. ( Hongyu ), and the other 10% of Hongyu was transferred to the nominees of Sterling. Pursuant to the transaction, Sterling issued 10,000,000 shares of its common stock to the existing Hongyu shareholders. On April 9, 2016 Sterling signed a Purchase and Sale Agreement ( the Agreement ) with Chenguo Capital Limited. Under the terms of the Agreement, Sterling issued 85,000,000 shares into escrow to be released upon transfer to Sterling of the Business Assets as described in that agreement, and provided \$295,726 in working capital towards the development of a timeshare platform. On September 5, 2016 Sterling, Chenguo, and Sterling Group Ventures (HK) Ltd. signed a Settlement and Termination Agreement terminating the aforementioned Purchase and Sale Agreement. As part of the termination, Sterling Group Ventures (HK) Ltd. (formerly named Euro Asia Premier Realty (HK) Ltd.) has been sold back to Chenguo and the Company paid \$16,090 to Sterling Group Ventures (HK) Ltd. for its expenses together with the sum of \$7,750 to a third party for his expenses incurred in relation to Sterling Group Ventures HK Ltd. to expedite the termination. Any shares issued pursuant to the Agreement have been cancelled. All parties to the Termination Agreement agree not to sue any of the other parties for anything performed or not performed under the Agreement before or after the signing of the Termination Agreement. See Note 10 of the consolidated financial statements for more information.

Given the Chenguo Agreement termination, we will be engaged in the search, exploration and development of phosphate and related minerals in China and other countries.

Our statutory registered agent's office is located at 123 West Nye Lane, Suite 129, Carson City, Nevada 89706 and our business office is located at 904 1455 Howe Street, Vancouver, B.C., Canada, V6Z 1C2. Our telephone and fax number is (604) 684-1001.

## **Phosphate Overview**

Phosphate rock is a general description applied to several kinds of rock which contain significant concentrations of phosphate minerals, which are minerals that contain the phosphate ion in their chemical structure, and is the eleventh most abundant element in the lithosphere.

Many kinds of rock contain mineral components containing phosphate or other phosphorus compounds in small amounts. However, rocks which contain phosphate in quantity and concentration which are economic to mine as ore, for their phosphate content, are not particularly common. The two main sources for phosphate are guano, formed from bird droppings, and rocks containing concentrations of the calcium phosphate mineral, apatite.

In general, lower concentrations of phosphate and lower quality deposits require increasing amounts of energy and chemicals in order to produce phosphate and can represent a significant increase in costs.

Phosphorus, P in the table of elements, is present in every living cell in both plants and animals and is essential to the process of photosynthesis in plants. As such, phosphorus, among other fertilizers, is essential to plant growth. Plants absorb phosphorus through the soil as various forms of phosphate. Besides nitrogen and potassium, phosphorus is one of the three nutrients required for plant growth and cannot be substituted. It is also insoluble so that it can be washed easily.

Phosphate content in currently mined rocks can range anywhere from 5% to 40%. Thus, the rocks must be processed to remove the bulk of the contained minerals and impurities normally through washing as the initial step thus increasing phosphate grades.

#### **Gaoping Phosphate Project**

On October 18, 2010, Sterling Group Ventures, Inc. (Sterling) signed two agreements (the Agreements) with Chenxi County Hongyu Mining Co. Ltd. (Hongyu) and its shareholders (Hongyu Shareholders) regarding the Gaoping phosphate mine (the GP Property) located in Tanjiachang village, Chenxi County, Hunan Province, China and other phosphate resources in Hunan Province.

Hongyu is a Chinese private mining company with connections and resources in Hunan, China. Hongyu was an inactive company holding a mining permit and a deposit of \$122,134 placed with local land administrative bureau for undertaking the restoration of land to its present condition when the lease term expires after the property is mined. Hongyu is interested in exploring, developing and expanding its Phosphate business. Hongyu is the holder of a mining permit (the **Permit**) in the GP Property located in Tanjiachang village, Chenxi County, Hunan Province, China. Due to lack of funds, Hongyu was inactive without current operations being conducted. The GP Property is a sedimentary phosphate type deposit. The number of the mining permit is 4300002009116120048322 and it is valid until November 10, 2014. On April 29, 2015, Hongyu obtained the renewal of the mining permit, which is valid until April 2, 2018. The area covered by the Permit is 0.4247 km2 (42.47 hectares). The mining permit allows initial production up to 100,000 tonnes of phosphate rock per year.

The Agreements required an investment company to be incorporated in Hong Kong (the Investment Company ) which was to be owned 20% by the Hongyu Shareholders and 80% by Sterling. On October 13, 2010, the Investment Company was incorporated in Hong Kong under the name Silver Castle Investments Ltd. (Silver Castle ). Silver Castle acquired 90% of Hongyu with the other 10% of Hongyu transferred to the nominees of Sterling. Upon completion of this acquisition, Hongyu became a Hong Kong / China joint venture company. Sterling received all required approvals from Chinese authorities for the completion of its acquisition of Hongyu pursuant to the Agreements dated October 18, 2010. The Company paid a total RMB 2,000,000 (\$310,438) to the Hongyu Shareholders with RMB 200,000 (US\$30,934) paid as down payment on December 14, 2010 and the remaining RMB1,800,000 (\$279,504) paid on July 8, 2011 for completion of the transaction.

Pursuant to the Agreements, Hongyu agreed to surrender its future exclusive cooperative rights to Sterling, and the Hongyu Shareholders agreed that Sterling shall have all Hongyu's title and interest in any phosphate properties, including but not limited to the GP Property, and Sterling should arrange for the financing of building a mining and processing plant on the GP Property together with other facilities required for a mining operation thereon.

When requested by Sterling, the Hongyu Shareholders agreed to sell their 20% interest in the Investment Company to Sterling for the issuance of 10,000,000 common shares of Sterling s capital stock. On July 5, 2011, Sterling issued 10,000,000 shares to the Hongyu Shareholders with the closing market price of the shares at \$0.22 for acquiring the remaining 20% equity interest in Silver Castle from the Hongyu Shareholders. As a result of this transaction, Sterling effectively controls 100% of Hongyu through its wholly owned subsidiary, Silver Castle Investments Ltd. which holds 90% of Hongyu with the other 10% held by the nominees of Sterling.

Sterling through its subsidiary company, Silver Castle Investments Ltd., also signed a letter of intent for a larger area known as Tanjiachang Exploration Concession with Chenxi County Merchants Bureau, Hunan Province, China. Tanjiachang Exploration Concession is surrounding the Gaoping Mining permit.

As a mining license was obtained for the Gaoping Phosphate Property and a Chinese engineering report was completed, Hongyu made the following progress. On February 13, 2012, Hongyu received approval for installing the power line for the Gaoping Phosphate Property. Hongyu also reached an understanding for land rental with a local village committee on March 17, 2012. Hongyu signed and completed a land rental agreement with each family in the mining area on March 27, 2012. On April 1, 2012, Hongyu also received conditional safety approval from the Supervision and Management Bureau for Safety Operation of Chenxi County and the project is essentially ready to begin production on a small scale basis to be further ramped up as the development and production plan takes effect.

On April 22, 2012, Hongyu signed a mining agreement with the mining contractor, Yichang Rongchang Mining Co. Ltd., to be the operator of the mining and production activities on the project. On June 16, 2012, Hongyu completed power line construction. On July 19, 2012, Hongyu received the explosive operation permit. Accommodations for mining people have been built. An onsite office and accommodations for workers and mining management are complete. The water supply for the mining operation and living quarters is connected to the site. The road to the mining site has been completed. Three adits have been dug and they will be used to access the phosphorite along its strike length.

On March 10, 2013, Hongyu signed a profit sharing agreement with Yichang Baolin Mining Engineering Co. Ltd (Baolin) for mining and processing phosphate rock from the Project. Baolin has a processing plant using a scrubbing processing which can process up to 100,000 t/a. However, Baolin has also built a new simple washing processing plant near Gaoping property to reduce the transportation cost. Hongyu has also signed an agreement with the Yichang Yinuo Biotech Co. Ltd (Yinuo) to jointly produce and market bio-phosphate fertilizer. Yinuo has its own microbial inoculants and its fertilizer market brand is Mingxinglinde which is an organic biofertilizer. The aforementioned progress is presented as an interim measure to gauge the ease and efficiency of the mining process together with the efficacy of the contractual arrangements made to produce and market the phosphate rock.

As a substantial decrease of phosphate rock and phosphate fertilizer market pricing has occurred, Hongyu has halted further exploration and development since August 2013 until the world market prices rebound and has kept the property in care and maintenance mode. Such an action preserves the phosphate rock in situ and saves operating capital while world prices for phosphate rock are in a depressed state. The Company s capital contributions to the project were held to a minimum by its contracting the mining and washing functions to Yichang Baolin Mining Engineering Co. Ltd.

The Company has continued the services of several key employees in China to review other mining properties and opportunities. In pursuit of one such opportunity, Hongyu has obtained a registration code from Customs of People s Republic of China for the import and export business which may afford the Company the opportunity to act as an agent or distributor for the importation and exportation of fertilizer products. Hongyu is also continuously reviewing and looking other opportunities in mining.

As of May 31, 2016, the Gaoping mineral property is still an exploration stage property as it does not yet have proven reserves.

# **Employees**

At present, we have 9 employees in China. We have no employees in Canada, other than our officers and directors. Our officers and directors do not have employment agreements with us, except consulting agreements which can be cancelled with 30 days notice.

# **ITEM 1A. RISK FACTORS**

We have sought to identify what we believe to be the most significant risks to our business. However, we cannot predict whether, or to what extent, any of such risks may be realized nor can we guarantee that we have identified all possible risks that might arise. Investors should carefully consider all of such risk factors before making an investment decision with respect to our Common Stock. We provide the following cautionary discussion of risks, uncertainties and possible inaccurate assumptions relevant to our business. These are factors that we think could cause our actual results to differ materially from expected results. Other factors besides those listed here could adversely affect us.

# Factors That May Affect Future Results and Market Price of Stock

The business of the Company involves a number of risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from results projected in any forward-looking statement, or statements, made in this report. These risks and uncertainties include, but are not necessarily limited to the risks set forth below. The Company's securities are speculative and investment in the Company's securities involves a high degree of risk and the possibility that the investor will suffer the loss of the entire amount invested.

## There is Substantial Doubt About the Company s Ability to Continue as a Going Concern

Sterling is engaged in acquisition, exploration and development of mineral properties. The Company has acquired the Gaoping phosphate properties located in Chenxi County, Hunan Province, China. The Company has not yet achieved profitable operations and is dependent on its ability to raise capital from shareholders or other sources to meet its obligations and repay its liabilities arising from normal business operations when they come due. These factors raise substantial doubt that the Company will be able to continue as a going concern.

Failure to comply with the United States Foreign Corrupt Practices Act could subject us to penalties and other adverse consequences.

We are subject to the United States Foreign Corrupt Practices Act, which generally prohibits U.S. companies from engaging in bribery or other prohibited payments to foreign officials for the purpose of obtaining or retaining business. In addition, we are required to maintain records that accurately and fairly represent our transactions and have an adequate system of internal accounting controls. Foreign companies, including some that may compete with us, are not subject to these prohibitions, and therefore may have a competitive advantage over us. Our executive officers and employees have not been subject to the United States Foreign Corrupt Practices Act prior to 2010. We have no control over whether our employees or other agents will or will not engage in such conduct for which we might be held responsible. If our employees or other agents are found to have engaged in such practices, we could suffer severe penalties and other consequences that may have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

# The PRC laws and regulations governing our current business operations are sometimes vague and uncertain. Any changes in such PRC laws and regulations may have a material and adverse effect on our business.

The PRC s legal system is a civil law system based on written statutes, in which system-decided legal cases have little value as precedents unlike the common law system prevalent in the United States. There are substantial uncertainties regarding the interpretation and application of PRC laws and regulations, including but not limited to the laws and regulations governing our business, or the enforcement and performance of our arrangements with customers in the event of the imposition of statutory liens, death, bankruptcy and/or criminal proceedings. The Chinese government has been developing a comprehensive system of commercial laws, and considerable progress has been made in introducing laws and regulations dealing with economic matters such as foreign investment, corporate organization and governance, commerce, taxation and trade. However, because these laws and regulations are relatively new, and because of the limited volume of published cases and judicial interpretation and their lack of force as precedents, interpretation and enforcement of these laws and regulations involve significant uncertainties that are unclear at this time. New laws and regulations that affect existing and proposed future businesses may also be applied retroactively. We are considered a foreign persons or foreign funded enterprise under PRC laws, and as a result, we are required to comply with PRC laws and regulations. We cannot predict what effect the interpretation of existing or new PRC laws or regulations may have on our businesses. If the relevant authorities find us in violation of any PRC laws or regulations, they would have broad discretion in dealing with such a violation, including, without limitation:

- levying fines;
- revoking our business and other licenses;
- requiring that we restructure our ownership or operations; and/or
- requiring that we discontinue any portion or all of our business operations in the PRC.

## Restrictions on currency exchange may limit our ability to receive and use our foreign cash effectively.

Foreign exchange transactions by PRC operating subsidiaries under the capital account continue to be subject to significant foreign exchange controls and require the approval of or need to register with PRC government authorities, including State Administration of Foreign Exchange or SAFE. In particular, if the PRC subsidiaries borrow foreign currency through loans from us or other foreign lenders, these loans must be registered with SAFE, and if we finance the subsidiaries by means of additional capital contributions, these capital contributions must be approved by certain government authorities, including the Ministry of Commerce, or their respective local counterparts. These limitations could affect the PRC operating subsidiaries ability to obtain foreign exchange through debt or equity financing, which could limit our business operations and impact our future revenues and financial condition.

## Lack of Technical Training of Management

The Management of our Company has academic and scientific experience related to mining issues but lacks technical training and experience exploring for, commissioning and operating a mine. With no direct training or experience in these areas, management may not be fully aware of many of the specific requirements related to working within this industry. The decisions and choices may not take into account standard engineering or managerial approaches mineral exploration companies commonly use. Consequently, operations, earnings and the ultimate financial success of the Company could suffer irreparable harm due to management s lack of experience in this industry.

# Our disclosure controls and procedures and internal control over financial reporting were not effective, which may cause our financial reporting to be unreliable and lead to misinformation being disseminated to the public

Our management evaluated our disclosure controls and procedures as of May 31, 2016 and concluded that as of that date, our disclosure controls and procedures were not effective. In addition, there were material weaknesses in our internal control over financial reporting as of that date and that our internal control over financial reporting was not effective as of that date. A material weakness is a control deficiency, or combination of control deficiencies, such that

there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the financial statements will not be prevented or detected on a timely basis.

We have not yet remediated this material weakness and we believe that our disclosure controls and procedures and internal control over financial reporting continue to be ineffective. Until these issues are corrected, our ability to report financial results or other information required to be disclosed on a timely and accurate basis may be adversely affected and our financial reporting may continue to be unreliable, which could result in additional misinformation being disseminated to the public. Investors relying upon this misinformation may make an uninformed investment decision.

## Exploration Risk

Development of mineral properties is contingent upon obtaining satisfactory exploration results. Mineral exploration and development involves substantial expenses and a high degree of risk, which even a combination of experience, knowledge and careful evaluation may not be able to adequately mitigate.

The Gaoping property has been examined in the field by professional geologists/mining engineers. The Company received the National Instrument 43-101 report (Canadian Standard) entitled Property Evaluation Report (PER). The production decision announced was based on Chinese Technical Reports and the PER and not based on a Preliminary Economic Assessment (PEA) or mining study (a Prefeasibility or Feasibility Study) of mineral reserves demonstrating economic and technical viability. Resources that are not reserves do not have demonstrated economic viability. There is an increased risk of technical and economic failure because the development decision was based on inferred resources, without a preliminary economic analysis or mining study as defined by NI 43-101. Professional geologists also made an exploration proposal for the Tanjiachang Exploration Concession which is surrounding the Gaoping property which is under letter of intent with Chenxi County Merchants Bureau, Hunan Province, China. There is no assurance that the exploration license for the Tanjiachang Exploration Concession will be issued. There is also no assurance that, even if commercial quantities of ore are discovered, the Tanjiachang Exploration Concession will be brought into commercial production. Since 2012, the Central Government made its move to change the mining laws to provincial jurisdiction. The new application process was held. Previously issued licenses are being honored.

The discovery of mineral deposits is dependent upon a number of factors not the least of which is the technical skill of the exploration personnel involved. The commercial viability of a mineral deposit, once discovered, is also dependent upon a number of factors, some of which are the particular attributes of the deposit, such as size, grade and proximity to infrastructure, metal prices and government regulations, including regulations relating to royalties, allowable production, importing and exporting of minerals, and environmental protection. In addition, assuming discovery of a commercial ore body, depending on the type of mining operation involved, several years can elapse from the initial phase of drilling until commercial operations are commenced. Most of the above factors are beyond the control of the Company.

The properties may need exploration and such exploration processes shall be conducted in phases. When each phase of a particular project is completed, and upon analysis of the results thereto, the Company will make a decision on whether to proceed with each successive phase of the exploration program. There is no assurance that projects will be carried to completion.

## Limited Management Resource Development Experience

The Company does not have a track record of exploration and mining operation history. The Company's management has limited experience in mineral resource development and exploitation, and has relied on and may continue to rely upon consultants and others for development and operation expertise.

## Limited Financial Resources

Furthermore, the Company has limited financial resources with no assurance that sufficient funding will be available to it for future exploration and development or to fulfill its obligations under current agreements. There is no assurance that the Company will be able to obtain adequate financing in the future or that the terms of such financing will be favorable. Failure to obtain such additional financing could result in delay or indefinite postponement of further exploration and development of its projects.

## Limited Public Market, Possible Volatility of Share Price

The Company's Common Stock is currently quoted on the OTCQB marketplace under the ticker symbol SGGV. As of May 31, 2016, there were 75,730,341 shares of common stock outstanding. There is no assurance that a sufficient market will develop in our stock, in which case it could be difficult for shareholders to sell their stock. The market price of our common stock could fluctuate substantially due to a variety of factors, including market perception of our ability to achieve our planned growth, quarterly operating results of our competitors, trading volume in our common stock, changes in general conditions in the economy and the financial markets or other developments affecting our competitors or us. In addition, the stock market is subject to extreme price and volume fluctuations. This volatility has had a significant effect on the market price of securities issued by many companies for reasons unrelated to their operating performance and could have the same effect on our common stock.

# A decline in the price of our common stock could affect our ability to raise further working capital and adversely impact our ability to continue operations.

A prolonged decline in the price of our common stock could result in a reduction in the liquidity of our common stock and a reduction in our ability to raise capital. Because a significant portion of our operations have been and will be financed through the sale of equity securities, a decline in the price of our common stock could be especially detrimental to our liquidity and our operations. Such reductions may force us to reallocate funds from other planned uses and may have a significant negative effect on our business plan and operations, including our ability to develop new properties and continue our current operations. If our stock price declines, we can offer no assurance that we will be able to raise additional capital or generate funds from operations sufficient to meet our obligations. If we are unable to raise sufficient capital in the future, we may not be able to have the resources to continue our normal operations.

The market price for our common stock may also be affected by our ability to meet or exceed expectations of analysts or investors. Any failure to meet these expectations, even if minor, may have a material adverse effect on the market price of our common stock.

#### If we issue additional shares in the future, it will result in the dilution of our existing shareholders.

Our articles of incorporation, as amended, authorizes the issuance of up to 500,000,000 shares of common stock with a par value of \$0.001. Our board of directors may choose to issue some or all of such shares to acquire one or more businesses or to provide additional financing in the future. The issuance of any such shares will result in a reduction of the book value and market price of the outstanding shares of our common stock. If we issue any such additional shares, such issuance will cause a reduction in the proportionate ownership and voting power of all current shareholders. Further, such issuance may result in a change of control of our corporation.

### <u>Trading of our stock may be restricted by the Securities Exchange Commission</u> <u>s penny stock regulations, which may</u> <u>limit a stockholder</u> <u>s ability to buy and sell our stock</u>.

The Securities and Exchange Commission has adopted regulations which generally define penny stock to be any equity security that has a market price (as defined) less than \$5.00 per share or an exercise price of less than \$5.00 per share, subject to certain exceptions. Our securities are covered by the penny stock rules, which impose additional sales practice requirements on broker-dealers who sell to persons other than established customers and accredited investors. The term accredited investor refers generally to institutions with assets in excess of \$5,000,000 or individuals with a net worth in excess of \$1,000,000 or annual income exceeding \$200,000 or \$300,000 jointly with their spouse. The penny stock rules require a broker-dealer, prior to a transaction in a penny stock not otherwise exempt from the rules, to deliver a standardized risk disclosure document in a form prepared by the Securities and Exchange Commission, which provides information about penny stocks and the nature and level of risks in the penny stock market. The broker-dealer also must provide the customer with current bid and offer quotations for the penny stock, the compensation of the broker-dealer and its salesperson in the transaction and monthly account statements showing the market value of each penny stock held in the customer s account. The bid and offer quotations, and the broker-dealer and salesperson compensation information, must be given to the customer orally or in writing prior to effecting the transaction and must be given to the customer in writing before or with the customer s confirmation. In addition, the penny stock rules require that prior to a transaction in a penny stock not otherwise exempt from these rules, the broker-dealer must make a special written determination that the penny stock is a suitable investment for the purchaser and receive the purchaser s written agreement to the transaction. These disclosure requirements may have the effect of reducing the level of trading activity in the secondary market for the stock that is subject to these penny stock rules. Consequently, these penny stock rules may affect the ability of broker-dealers to trade our securities. We believe that the penny stock rules discourage investor interest in and limit the marketability of our common stock.

# The Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, or FINRA, has adopted sales practice requirements which may also limit a stockholder s ability to buy and sell our stock.

In addition to the penny stock rules described above, FINRA has adopted rules that require that in recommending an investment to a customer, a broker- dealer must have reasonable grounds for believing that the investment is suitable for that customer. Prior to recommending speculative low priced securities to their non-institutional customers, broker-dealers must make reasonable efforts to obtain information about the customer s financial status, tax status, investment objectives and other information. Under interpretations of these rules, FINRA believes that there is a high probability that speculative low priced securities will not be suitable for at least some customers. FINRA requirements make it more difficult for broker-dealers to recommend that their customers buy our common stock, which may limit your ability to buy and sell our stock and have an adverse effect on the market for our shares.

#### Dependence on Executive Officers and Technical Personnel

The success of our business plan depends on attracting qualified personnel, and failure to retain the necessary personnel could adversely affect our business. Competition for qualified personnel is intense, and we may need to pay premium wages to attract and retain personnel. Attracting and retaining qualified personnel is critical to our business. Inability to attract and retain the qualified personnel necessary would limit our ability to implement our business plan successfully.

#### Need for Additional Financing

The Company does not haves sufficient capital to meet its needs for at least the next 12 months, including the costs of compliance with the continuing reporting requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. If losses continue, it may have to seek loans or equity placements to cover longer-term cash needs to continue operations and expansion within the next 6 months. The Company does not currently have any commitments for financing.

No commitments to provide additional funds have been made by management or other stockholders. Accordingly, there can be no assurance that any additional funds will be available to the Company to allow it to cover operation expenses.

If future operations are unprofitable, the Company will be forced to develop another line of business, or to finance its operations through the sale of assets it has, or enter into the sale of stock for additional capital, none of which may be feasible when needed. The Company has no specific management ability or financial resources or plans to enter any other business as of this date.

#### Market Risk and Political Risks

The Company does not hold any derivatives or other investments that are subject to market risk. The carrying values of any financial instruments, approximate fair value as of those dates because of the relatively short-term maturity of these instruments, which eliminates any potential market risk associated with such instruments.

The market in China is monitored by the government, which could impose taxes or restrictions at any time which would make operations unprofitable and infeasible and cause a write-off of investment in the mineral properties. Other factors include political policy on foreign ownership, political policy to open the doors to foreign investors, and political policy on mineral claims and metal prices.

The disruptions in the financial markets and economic conditions have adversely affected the US and the world economy. Turmoil in global credit markets and turmoil in the geopolitical environment in many parts of the world have adversely affected global economic conditions. There can be no assurances that government responses to the disruptions in financial markets will restore investor confidence and economic activity. This could affect our ability to raise capital.

Additionally, the uncertain economic environment may cause farmers to use less fertilizer to cut costs, which will adversely affect the demand for phosphate. A similar situation occurred in 2008 leading to a sharp decline in phosphate prices.

The Hongyu s phosphate deposit is located in China which, as a result of its operations, exposes the Company to political and market risks in China. Exports of phosphate rock are currently subject to an export tax due to domestic phosphate requirements.

#### Other Risks and Uncertainties

The business of mineral deposit exploration and development involves a high degree of risk. Few properties that are explored are ultimately developed into production. Other risks facing the Company include competition, reliance on third parties and joint-venture partners, environmental and insurance risks, political and environmental instability, statutory and regulatory requirements, fluctuations in mineral prices and foreign currency, share price volatility, title risks, and uncertainty of additional financing.

# ITEM 1B. UNRESOLVED STAFF COMMENTS

Not applicable.

# **ITEM 2. PROPERTY**

#### **Gaoping Phosphate Property**

Gaoping Phosphate Property which is surrounded by Tanjiachang Phosphate Exploration Concession is located in NEE 80° direction of Chenxi County town with distance 38 km and is under jurisdiction of Tanjiachang village, Chenxi county of Hunan Province. Geographical coordinates of mining permit s ranges:

Longitude East 110°26'15" ~ 110°27'05", Latitude North 28°01'49" ~ 28°03'14".

Geological coordinates of Tanjiachang Phosphate Exploration Concession s ranges: Longitude East 110° 25'15' ~ 110° 30'00", Latitude North 28°00'00" ~ 28° 07'30". The area is about 32 km<sup>2</sup>.

The location of the property is shown in the following map.

The property is located in Hunan Province in South Eastern China some 250 kilometers west of the Provincial Capital of Changsha and 120 kilometers north east of the regional center of Huaihua and 38 kilometers east of the County seat at Chenxi. There are several flights per day into Changsha from Beijing or Shanghai and three flights per week into Huaihua. Several daily bus schedules are available from Changsha to Huaihua and Chenxi. Huaihua is a city of about six million people. The County of Chenxi has a population of five million and the city of Chenxi is the county seat. Chenxi has no air service and is quite agrarian in its culture. Currently high speed trains are available in Huaihua city.

The Gaoping Phosphate property consists of a mining permit outlined by the following UTM Coordinates:

1. X=3102000	Y=37444690	2. X=3102985 Y=37444925
3. X=3103920	Y=37445430	4. X=3104210 Y=37445300
5. X=3104593	Y=37445604	6. X=3104555 Y=37445715
7. X=3104215	Y=37445465	8. X=3103910 Y=37445600
9. X=3102915	Y=37445065	10. X=3102000 Y=37444850

The Gaoping mining permit was issued on November 10, 2009 and valid until November 10, 2014. On April 29, 2015, Hongyu obtained the renewal of the mining permit, which is valid until April 2, 2018. The number of the permit is 4300002009116120048322. The permit is 0.4247 km<sup>2</sup> and the elevation is from +600m to +510m. These 10 boundary points of Gaoping mining permit are surveyed by official land surveyors.

The mining permit allows initial production up to 100,000 tonnes phosphate ore per year. In order to acquire more resources under the mining permit, Hongyu needs to invest not less than RMB 20 million Yuan in county including paying resource fees to the Chinese government according to related Chinese regulations and applies to expand the scale of current mining permit through the legal process in China.

The Tanjiachang phosphate district is located in the Xiuxi-Luojiawan anticlinorium and Tanjiachang syncline. The strata generally occur in an undeformed or weak monoclinal structure. Strata outcropping in Tanjiachang region ranges from Banxi Group of Upper Proterozoic to Cambrian of the Lower Paleozoic.

Strata outcropping in the mine area includes Jiangkou Formation, Xiangmeng Formation and Hongjiang Formation of Lower Sinian and Jinjiadong Formation, Liuchapo Formation of Upper Sinian and Xiaoyanxi Formation of Lower Cambrian. The phosphorite deposits lie in the middle part of Jinjiadong Formation. The phosphorite is Interbedded with argillaceous & silty platy shale. The deposit is in shallow marine sediment deposit type.

The regional geological structure is relatively complicated and the main structure is Xiuxi- Luojiawan Anticlinorium with many cross faults. Geological structure of mine area is relatively simple in general. The strata strikes NNE and dips SEE.

The main mineral resource with industrial significance in this region is the phosphorite, and is the middle to lower part of Jinjiadong Formation, Upper Sinian. Some Pb- Zn mineralization has been discovered in the lower part of the Jinjiadong Formation and Cu mineralization has been discovered in middle part of the sandy slabby shale beds. The lower part is green grey laminar sandy slate. Manganese carbonate within black platy shale of Xiangmeng Formation could set up local industry scale operations. Manganese carbonate is easy to process, with good market conditions, providing realistic opportunities to do exploration and development.

There is a history of mining in the Gaoping area. In the past, numerous artisanal lead zinc mines have been worked. In the permit area the phosphorite has been mined for many years and there are at least ten adits old and new, which have accessed the phosphorite and where the local artisanal miners have harvested this material for sale to the local agriculture industry.

Regional Geology Survey with scale of 1:200,000 had been done by Regional Geology Survey Team of Hunan Provincial Geology in 1970 s and Mineral Resources Bureau and Regional Geology Survey Report (in scale of 1:200,000) and Regional Mineral Resources Report have been submitted. The No. 407 Geology Team from Hunan Provincial Geology and Mineral Resources Bureau launched the General Survey for Pb-Zn Mineralization in Upper-Jingzhuxi, Lower-Jingzhuxi inside Tanjiachang mining area and Dabanlin outside of Tanjiachang, etc in 1980s. They drilled five boreholes but the data is unavailable for data collection. Chemical Geology Exploration Institute, Hunan Province had organized early stage big area scouting and field trips in September to October 1992 and chose Jingzhuxi section as the General Geology Survey working area in the year of 1993 which has been defined as Tanjiachang.As the General Geology Survey work moving forward, Tanjiachang Phosphorite Mining Area becomes enlarged step by step and it has been divided into three sections of Jingzhuxi, Gaoping and Wenshuitang.

The following table summarizes the geological works conducted by Chemical Geology Exploration Institute, Hunan Province.

Item	Unit	Quantity			sub-total	Remarks
item		1993	1994	1995	sub-total	Remarks
1:10000 Geology Mapping	km <sup>2</sup>	10.9	10.5	10.5	31.9	
1:1000 Onsite Geology Section Mapping	m	2305	2212	1,450	5,967	5 lines
Trenching and Logging	m <sup>3</sup>	1,521.3	1,200	1,125	3,846.3	47 lines
Channel Sampling & Basic Assay		121	126	144	391	
Identification of Rock and Minerals		30	22	21	73	
Small Weight Sample Testing		30	20	25	75	
Basic Chemical Assay		121	126	144	391	
Assembly Assay			6	6	12	

Trenches have been created to disclose the phosphorite ore layers with spacing 400m (mainly 300- 500m) and a total of 47 trenches have been finished with earthwork volume of 3,846.3 m<sup>3</sup>. The operation of trenches is accurate and the spacing is tried to be placed evenly. All the trenches have demonstrated good surface control effects on ore layers except for TC20 (the surface cover is too thick and it can t control ore layers) and TC 47 (ore layers are missing due to fault) according to Chemical Geology Exploration Institute, Hunan Province. The trenches and sampling are all following State Code of *Original Geology Logging General Principles for Solid Mineral Exploration Registration (china)* and data has been logged in time.

Basic assay samples all came from channel sampling of trench projects and the samples are representative and following China State Code and Geology Standard. The scale of channel sampling is 5cm\*3cm and the length is mainly 1m, separately sampled from different layers. Totally, 391 samples have been sampled from ore layers and their top and bottom plates. The samples have been prepared in time according with ID, tag, record and onsite logs. Small weight samples have been collected with representative year by year in history and certain related relationship has been detected between density of phosphorite and  $P_2O_5$  content. In general, the density and grade are with positive correlation. The petrology identification and testing samples are coming during onsite geology section survey to determine the lithology and mineral compositions. Totally, 73 samples have been collected. Based on basic assay results, composite sample has been made on backup samples from selected representatives 12 trenches to determine the useful and harmful components in the ore.

There are at least ten exploration adits driven into favorable locations along the mountain side. The artisans essentially find an outcrop move six to ten meters below the bed and drive into the mountain. Those adits, intersect the phosphorite and are turned into producing mines. By building a chute off the end of the waste pile at the entrance to the adit, the infrastructure for an artisanal mining operation is complete. The transportation infrastructures is completed by building a service road under the chute and loading the phosphorite onto the truck for haulage to the buyer in Chenxi. Contract haulers do the hauling. No drilling has been done on the property. Some exploratory trenching has been done at the various outcrops along the sidehill to test the validity of the above described adit exploration methods. Five samples were collected by Norm Tribe - an independent geologist from the active adits along the strike of the phosphorite bed. The results vary from 19.40%<sup>P2O5to 32.86% P2O5. The assays of</sup> the samples collected serve to verify the existence and grade of the deposit.

Hunan has a humid, subtropical climate. The monsoon rain falls mostly in April, May, and June. July and August are hot and humid. Annual rainfall is 1,250 - 1,750 millimeters (49.2 to 68.9 inches) in Chenxi and is probably higher at

the property due to an increase in elevation. Temperatures are 4°C to 8°C in January and 26°C to 30°C in July. The area is said to have a variety of animals including 70 kinds of mammals, including tigers, bears and macaques, 310 kinds of birds, over 70 kinds of creeping animals and over 160 kinds of fish. The mining permit is in mountainous terrain with steep hill sides forested with native species and some planted pine forest. No wildlife was noted in the area. The valley bottoms are developed into terraced rice paddies. The coincident phosphate deposits which have been cut by the erosion of the steeply incised valleys has rendered these valley bottoms very fertile. Local infrastructure is at a low level but adequate for small mining. The roads are adequate for start up, the population is moderate with a collection of experienced miners available in the area. A moderate level power line passes through the property but would require upgrading for heavy industrial use. Artisanal miners working the property at this time are using readily available trucking contractors, to haul their product to the railhead. Railhead infrastructure is available 58 kilometers away at Chenxi. Water is abundant in the valley bottoms but will require some infrastructure to accommodate the mining. Telecommunication is very good. Cellular phone can be accessed in the property area. Transportation is good and truck can arrive in the property area.

As of May 31, 2016, the Company has incurred mineral property costs of \$1,176,475 on the Gaoping Phosphate property in addition to acquisition costs \$3,271,005.

As a result of prolonged and significant decline in the phosphate metal price and the lack of a planned exploration program on the property in the foreseeable future, the carrying value of the mineral properties and environmental deposit of \$3,271,005 was impaired to a nominal amount.

#### **ITEM 3. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS**

None.

#### **ITEM 4. MINE SAFETY DISCLOSURES**

None.

#### PART II

# ITEM 5. MARKET FOR THE REGISTRANT'S COMMON EQUITY, RELATED STOCKHOLDER MATTERS AND ISSUER PURCHASES OF EQUITY SECURITIES

#### Common Stock

Our common stock is traded on the OTCQB Marketplace under the symbol SGGV. The table below sets forth the high and low sales prices for the Company s common stock for the fiscal years ended May 31, 2015 and 2016. The quotations below reflect inter-dealer prices, without retail markup, markdown or commission and may not represent actual transactions.

Quarter Ended	High (\$)	Low (\$)
August 31, 2014	0.06	0.02
November 30, 2014	0.02	0.01
February 28, 2015	0.02	0.01
May 31, 2015	0.03	0.01
August 31, 2015	0.03	0.01
November 30, 2015	0.02	0.01
February 29, 2016	0.02	0.01
May 31, 2016	0.04	0.01

Pacific Stock Transfer Company is the registrar and transfer agent for our common shares, and is located at 6725 Via Austi Pkwy, Suite 300 Las Vegas, NV 89119 (Telephone: (702) 361-3033; Facsimile: (702) 433-1979).

On September 15, 2016, we had 75,730,341 shares of common stock outstanding and we had approximately 50 stockholders of record plus common shares held by brokerage clearing houses, depositories or other entity.

#### **Dividend Policy**

We currently intend to retain all future earnings to fund the development and growth of our business. We have not paid dividends on our common stock and do not anticipate paying cash dividends in the immediate future. We did not

repurchase any of our equity securities and have not adopted a stock repurchase program.

# **Recent Sales of Unregistered Securities**

None.

#### **Equity Compensation Plan Information**

On February 3, 2004, the Board of Directors of the Company approved the 2004 Stock Option Plan, which was also approved at the Company s Annual Meeting of Shareholders on January 17, 2005, and registered on May 12, 2004. Pursuant to the stock option plan, the number of shares that may be issued under the plan may not exceed 15% of the issued and outstanding shares of the company.

On April 27, 2011, the Company granted 4,700,000 stock options to directors, officers and consultants at an exercise price of \$0.25 each expiring on February 3, 2019. The options were vested immediately.

On November 3, 2011, the Company granted 500,000 stock options to a consultant at an exercise price of \$0.25 each expiring on February 3, 2019. The options were vested immediately.

At May 31, 2016, there were 5,200,000 stock options outstanding with an exercise price at \$0.25 each expiring on February 3, 2019. The option plan was approved by the shareholders of the Company.

#### **Share Purchase Warrants**

As of May 31, 2016, the Company has a total of 3,817,500 and 20,752,500 Series A and D share purchase warrants outstanding, respectively.

Each Series A warrant entitles the holder thereof the right to purchase one common share at \$0.50 per share expiring on the earlier of:

- 1) February 17, 2017; or
- 2) The 30th day after the day on which the weighted average trading price of the Company's shares exceeds \$0.80 per share for 20 consecutive trading days.

Upon exercise of the Series "A" Share Purchase Warrant at \$0.50 each, the holder will receive one Common Share of the Company and a Series "B" Share Purchase Warrant exercisable at \$1.00 expiring one year after the occurrence of either (1) or (2) as described above.

On February 10, 2015, the Company re-extended the expiry date of 3,817,500 Series "A" share purchase warrants from February 17, 2015 to the earlier of February 17, 2017 or the close of business on the 30th day after a takeover bid for the Company's issued and outstanding share capital has been made by a third party and approved by the shareholders of the Company. Upon exercise of the Series A Share Purchase Warrants at \$0.50 each, the holder will receive one Common Share of the Company and a Series B Share Purchase Warrant exercisable at \$1.00 for another year.

On February 10, 2015, the Company re-extended the expiry date of the 20,752,500 Series D Share Purchase Warrants (the D Warrants) from February 17, 2015 to the earlier of February 17, 2017 or the close of business on the 30th day after a takeover bid for the Company s issued and outstanding share capital has been made by a third party and approved by the shareholders of the Company. The exercise price of the D Warrants remains unchanged at \$0.15 per share.

## ITEM 6. SELECTED FINANCIAL DATA

Not applicable.

# ITEM 7. MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

### Introduction

The information presented here should be read in conjunction with Sterling Group Venture Inc.'s financial statements and other information included in this Form 10-K. When used in this Form 10-K, the words "expects," "anticipates," "estimates" and similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements. Such statements are subject to risks and uncertainties, including those set forth below under "Risks and Uncertainties," that could cause actual results to differ materially from those projected. These forward-looking statements speak only as of the date hereof. The Company expressly disclaims any obligation or undertaking to release publicly any updates or revisions to any forward-looking statements contained herein to reflect any change in the Company's expectations with regard thereto or any change in events, conditions or circumstances on which any statement is based.

## **Results of Operations**

The Company had no operating revenue except interest income of \$10,961 for the year ended May 31, 2016 compared with interest income of \$21,017 for the year ended May 31, 2015. The comprehensive loss increased to \$3,091,745 for the year ended May 31, 2016, as compared to \$370,332 for the year ended May 31, 2015 mainly due to the provision of impairment on the mineral properties and environmental deposit of \$3,271,005.

Due diligent costs increased by \$295,726 due to the signed Purchase and Sale Agreement with Chenguo Capital Limited on April 9, 2016.

Finance expense decreased by \$107,006 for the year ended May 31, 2016 when compared to the year ended May 31, 2015. This mainly related to the stock-based compensation decreasing to \$Nil in the year ended May 31, 2016 compared with stock-based compensation of \$107,006 in the year ended May 31, 2015. The stock-based compensation arose due to the extension of share purchase warrants during the year ended May 31, 2015.

Accounting, audit, legal and professional fees decreased by \$8,883 for the year ended May 31, 2016 when compared to the year ended May 31, 2015 as a result of less activity in the interim reviews

Foreign exchange gain decreased by \$31,515 for the year ended May 31, 2016 when compared to the year ended May 31, 2015, because of the exchange rate fluctuation among US dollar, Canadian dollar and RMB.

Mineral property costs decreased by \$51,764 for the year ended May 31, 2016 when compared to the year ended May 31, 2015, because developing the Gaoping phosphate property and building the mining facility was paused during the period ended May 31, 2016 due to ongoing challenges on the phosphate market. In particular, decreases in travel costs by \$19,765, consulting Fees by \$11,984, and administrative costs by \$14,321 for the year ended May 31, 2016 when compared to the year ended May 31, 2015 comprised a large portion of the decrease.

Depreciation decreased by \$12,639 for the year ended May 31, 2016 when compared to the year ended May 31, 2015 as a result of normal depreciation of the capital assets.

Corporate travel and entertainment increased by \$7,163 for the year ended May 31, 2016 when compared to the year ended May 31, 2015 due to additional flights to China to negotiate the April 2016 Purchase and Sale Agreement.

The Company expects the trend of losses to continue until we can achieve commercial production at the Gaoping phosphate project, of which there can be no assurance as described in Risk Factors.

## Liquidity and Working Capital

As of May 31, 2016 the Company had total current assets of \$919,778, and total current liabilities of \$426,566. As of May 31, 2016, the Company had cash of \$907,158 and working capital of \$493,212. A balance of approximately \$774,776 of cash is held on deposit in China at May 31, 2016. Accessing the cash held on deposits in Hongyu is difficult due to the People Republic of China laws and regulations relating to intercorporate transfers and capital accounts.

Cash used in operating activities for the year ended May 31, 2016 was \$507,249 as compared with \$204,966 for the year ended May 31, 2015.

The Company has no other capital resources other than the ability to use its common stock to raise additional capital or the exercise of the warrants by the unit holders. If all warrants outstanding are exercised, the Company will receive approximately \$5 million in cash. The Company s current cash cannot meet its needs for the next 12 months. The Company is currently looking at funding its activities such as a private placement, related party advances, sale of

non-core assets and possible repatriation of our foreign capital. The Company believes it needs to raise \$100,000 in order to meet its needs for the next 12 months. The cash will be mainly used for general administrative, corporate (accounting, audit, and legal), financing and management. The Company currently does not have commitments in place for financing as of the date of this filing.No other commitments to provide additional funds have been made by management or other stockholders except as set forth above. Accordingly, there can be no assurance that any additional funds will be available to the Company to allow it to cover operation expenses. This raises substantial doubt that the Company will be able to continue as a going concern. In order to continue as a going concern, we require additional financing.

## **Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements**

As of May 31, 2016, we were not involved in any form of off-balance sheet arrangement.

# **Application of Critical Accounting Policies**

Our consolidated financial statements are prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States. The preparation of these financial statements requires that we make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenue and expenses during the reporting period. We base our estimates on historical experience and on various other assumptions that we believe to be reasonable under the circumstances. We evaluate our estimates and assumptions on an ongoing basis. Our actual results may differ significantly from these estimates under different assumptions or conditions. There have been no material changes to these estimates for the periods presented in this report.

We believe that of our significant accounting policies, which are described in Note 2 to our annual financial statements, the following accounting policies involve a greater degree of judgment and complexity. Accordingly, the following policies are the most critical to aid in fully understanding and evaluating our financial condition and results of operations.

## Mineral Property Costs

Costs of acquiring mineral properties are capitalized by the project area. Costs to maintain mineral rights and leases are expensed as incurred. When a property reaches the production state, the related capitalized costs are amortized using the unit of production method on the basis of annual estimates of ore reserves. The Company does not consider a resource property to be at the development stage until such time as either mineral reserve are proven or permits to operate the mineral resource property are received and financing to complete the development has been obtained. Development expenditures incurred subsequent to a development decision, and to increase or to extend the life of existing production, are capitalized and amortized on the unit of production method based upon estimated proven and probable reserves or resources.

Management reviews the carrying value of mineral properties at least annually and will recognize impairment in value based upon current exploration results, and any impairment or subsequent losses are charged to operations at the time of impairment. If a property is abandoned or sold, its capitalized costs are charged to operations. Mineral property exploration costs are expensed as incurred. Exploration activities conducted jointly with others are reflected at the Company s proportionate interest in such activities. As at May 31, 2016 and 2015, the Company did not have proven or probable ore reserves. As at May 31, 2016, management reviewed the carrying value of the mineral properties and the environmental deposit and determined that the prolonged and significant decline in phosphate prices and the lack of a current and foreseeable planned exploration budget on its Gaoping phosphate property and has impaired these assets to a nominal value. An impairment charge of \$3,271,005 has been recorded in the consolidated statement of operations.

# Stock-based Compensation

The Company accounts for stock-based compensation in accordance with ASC Topic 718-10, *Compensation - Stock Compensation Overall*.

In accordance with ASC 718-10, the compensation expense is amortized on a straight- line basis over the requisite service period which approximates the vesting period. ASC Topic 718-10 requires excess tax benefits to be reported as a financing cash inflow rather than as a reduction of taxes paid. The Company has elected to use the Black-Scholes option pricing model to determine the fair value of options and the extension of the expiry date of share purchase

warrants previously granted.

#### Foreign Currency Translation

Our functional and reporting currency is U.S. dollars. Our consolidated financial statements are translated to U.S. dollars in accordance with ASC 830, *Foreign Currency Matters*. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated using the exchange rate prevailing at the balance sheet date. Gains and losses arising on translation or settlement of foreign currency denominated transactions or balances are included in the determination of income. We have not, to the date of these consolidated financial statements, entered into derivative instruments to offset the impact of foreign currency fluctuations.

#### Use of Estimates

The preparation of consolidated financial statements in conformity with GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosures of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the consolidated financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenditures during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from these estimates.

#### Going Concern

The Company s financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis which assumes that adequate sources of financing will be obtained as required, and that our assets will be realized and liabilities settled in the ordinary course of business. These consolidated financial statements do not include any adjustments related to the recoverability of assets and classification of assets and liabilities that might be necessary if we are unable to continue as a going concern.

In order to continue as a going concern, we require additional financing. There can be no assurance that additional financing will be available to us when needed or, if available, that it can be obtained on commercially reasonable terms. If we are not able to continue as a going concern, we would likely be unable to realize the carrying value of our assets reflected in the balances set out in the preparation of the consolidated financial statements.

At May 31, 2016, the Company had not yet achieved profitable operations and has accumulated losses of \$10,321,662 since its inception and expects to incur further losses in the development of its business, all of which casts substantial doubt about the Company s ability to continue as a going concern. The Company s ability to continue as a going concern is dependent upon its ability to generate future profitable operations and/or to obtain the necessary financing to meet its obligations and repay its liabilities arising from normal business operations when they come due. Management has no formal plan in place to address this concern but considers that the Company will be able to obtain additional funds by equity financing and/or related party advances, however there is no assurance of additional funding being available.

Sterling is involved in the development of Phosphate in Hunan, China. The projects are not yet commercial and have not reached profitability.

## ITEM 7A. QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK

In addition to the U.S. Dollar, we conduct our business in Chinese Yuan (RMB) and Canadian Dollar and, therefore, are subject to foreign currency exchange risk on cash flows related to expenses and investing transactions. In July 2005, the Chinese government began to permit the Chinese Yuan to float against the U.S. Dollar. All of our costs to operate our Chinese project are paid in Chinese Yuan and all of our costs to operate our principal executive office in Canada are paid in Canadian dollar. Our exploration costs in China may be incurred under contracts denominated in Chinese Yuan or U.S. Dollars. If the Chinese Yuan continues to weaken with respect to the U.S. Dollar, our costs in China may increase. If the Canadian Dollar continues to weaken with respect to the U.S. Dollar, our costs in Canada may increase and vice versa. To date we have not engaged in hedging activities to hedge our foreign currency exposure. In the future, we may enter into hedging instruments to manage our foreign currency exchange risk or continue to be subject to exchange rate risk. If the exchange rate increased by 10%, it is estimated that our costs would have been approximately \$22,000 lower in the year ended May 31, 2016. If the exchange rate were 10% lower during the fiscal year, our costs would increase by approximately \$27,000.

Although inflation has not materially impacted our operations in the recent past, increased inflation in China or Canada could have a negative impact on our operating and general and administrative expenses, as these costs could increase. China has recently experienced inflationary pressures, which could increase our costs associated with our operations in China. If there are material changes in our costs, we may seek to raise additional funds earlier than

# anticipated.

# ITEM 8. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND SUPPLEMENTARY DATA

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Tel: 604 688 5421	BDO Canada LLP
Fax: 604 688 5132	600 Cathedral Place
www.bdo.ca	925 West Georgia Street
	Vancouver BC V6C 3L2 Canada

#### **Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm**

## To the Stockholders of Sterling Group Ventures, Inc.

We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheets of Sterling Group Ventures, Inc. (the "Company") and its subsidiaries as of May 31, 2016 and 2015, and the related consolidated statements of operations, changes in stockholders' equity and cash flows for the years then ended. These consolidated financial statements are the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these consolidated financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the consolidated financial statements are free of material misstatement. The Company is not required to have, nor were we engaged to perform, an audit of its internal control over financial reporting. Our audit included consideration of internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the consolidated financial statements, assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the consolidated financial statements. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the consolidated financial position of Sterling Group Ventures, Inc. and its subsidiaries as of May 31, 2016 and 2015, and the consolidated results of its operations and its cash flows for the years then ended, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States.

## **Emphasis of Matter Regarding Going Concern**

The accompanying consolidated financial statements have been prepared assuming that the Company will continue as a going concern. As discussed in Note 1 to the consolidated financial statements, the Company has incurred a net loss of \$3,091,745 during the year ended May 31, 2016 and has a cumulative deficit of \$10,321,662 and expects to incur further losses in the development of its business. These factors, along with other matters as set forth in Note 1, raise substantial doubt about the Company's ability to continue as a going concern. The consolidated financial statements do not include any adjustments that might result from the outcome of this uncertainty.

/s/ BDO Canada LLP

**Chartered Professional Accountants** 

Vancouver, Canada September 15, 2016

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# STERLING GROUP VENTURES, INC. CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS May 31, 2016 and 2015

Stated in U.S. dollars	Μ	ay 31, 2016		May 31, 2015	
ASSETS					
Current Assets					
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	,	\$	1,433,109	
Prepaid expenses and other receivables		12,620		12,762	
Total current assets		919,778		1,445,871	
Equipment - Note 4		71,422		108,309	
Environmental deposit, net of provision - Note 3		1		127,393	
Mineral Properties, net of provision - Note 3		1		3,148,740	
Total Assets	\$	991,202	\$	4,830,313	
LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY					
Current Liabilities					
Accounts payable and other accrued liabilities - Note 5	\$	426,566	\$	420,973	
Deferred income tax liability - Note 9		-		732,687	
Total Liabilities		426,566		1,153,660	
C4 L4 - L4					
Stockholders' Equity Common Stock : \$0.001 Par Value - Note 6					
Authorized : 500,000,000					
Issued and Outstanding : 75,730,341 (May 31, 2015: 75,730,341)		75,730		75,730	
Additional Paid In Capital		10,831,422		10,831,422	
Accumulated Other Comprehensive Loss		(20,854)		(582)	
Accumulated deficit		(10,321,662)		(7,229,917)	
Total Stockholders' Equity		564,636		3,676,653	
Total Stockholuel's Equily		504,050		5,070,055	
Total Liabilities and Stockholders' Equity	\$	991,202	\$	4,830,313	
See accompanying notes to consoli		,	Ψ	1,000,010	
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# STERLING GROUP VENTURES, INC. CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS For the years ended May 31, 2016 and 2015

		Year ended May	31,
Stated in U.S. dollars		2016	2015
Expenses			
Accounting, audit, legal and professional fees	\$	67,451 \$	76,334
Bank charges	·	459	636
Consulting fees - Note 5		20,035	22,750
Depreciation - Note 4		32,138	44,777
Filing fees and transfer agent		8,610	9,752
General and administrative		1,941	1,161
Travel and entertainment		7,163	-
Mineral property costs - Note 3		101,774	153,538
Shareholder information and investor relations		6,700	8,359
Due diligence costs - Note 10		295,726	-
Provision of impairment of mineral properties and deposit - Note 3	;	3,271,005	-
Project development cost		23,840	-
		(3,836,842)	(317,307)
Other items before tax			
Interest income		10,961	21,017
Finance expense - Note 6b		-	(107,006)
Foreign exchange gain(loss)		1,449	32,964
		12,410	(53,025)
		(3,824,432)	(370,332)
Current and deferred tax			
Deferred tax recovery -Note 9		732,687	-
Net loss and Comprehensive loss for the year	\$	(3,091,745) \$	(370,332)
Basic and diluted loss per share	\$	(0.04) \$	(0.00)
Weighted average number of shares outstanding		75,730,341	75,730,341
See accompanying notes to consolidate	d finan	cial statements	

# STERLING GROUP VENTURES, INC. CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY For the years ended May 31, 2016 and 2015

Stated in U.S. dollars	Common Shares	Stock Amount At Par Value	Additional Paid In Capital	Accumulated Other Comprehensive Loss	Deficit Accumulated During The Exploration Stage	Total
Balance, May 31, 2014	75,730,341	\$ 75,730	\$ 10,724,416	\$ (582)	\$ (6,859,585)	\$ 3,939,979
Revaluation of share purchase warrants	-	-	107,006	-	-	107,006
Net loss for the year	-	-	-	-	(370,332)	(370,332)
Balance, May 31, 2015	75,730,341	75,730	10,831,422	(582)	(7,229,917)	\$ 3,676,653
Issuance of shares - Note 10	93,000,000	-	-	-	-	-
Issuance of shares in escrow - Note 10	(93,000,000)	-	-	-	-	-
Net loss for the year	-	-	-	-	(3,091,745)	(3,091,745)
Translation adjustment	-	-	-	(20,272)	-	(20,272)
Balance, May 31, 2016	75,730,341	\$ 75,730	\$ 10,831,422	\$ (20,854)	\$ (10,321,662)	\$ 564,636
	C			1 . 1		

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements

# STERLING GROUP VENTURES, INC. CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS For the years ended May 31, 2016 and 2015

		Year ended May 31,		
Stated in U.S. dollars		2016	2015	
Cash flows from operating activities				
Net loss for the year	\$	(3,091,745) \$	(370,332)	
Adjustments to reconcile net loss to net cash used in operating				
activities				
Depreciation		32,138	44,777	
Stock based compensation		-	107,006	
Foreign exchange		(9,276)	(2,388)	
Provision of impairments		3,271,005	-	
Deferred tax recovery		(732,687)	-	
Changes in non-cash working capital items				
Prepaid expenses and other receivables		(260)	16,586	
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities		23,576	(615)	
Net cash used in operating activities		(507,249)	(204,966)	
Cash flows from investing activity				
Additions to equipment		(733)	(397)	
Net cash used in investing activity		(733)	(397)	
Cash flows from financing activity				
Amounts repaid to a director included in accounts				
payable and other accrued liabilities		(17,969)	(34,976)	
Net cash used in financing activity		(17,969)	(34,976)	
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents		(525,951)	(240,339)	
Cash and cash equivalents - beginning of the year		1,433,109	1,673,448	
Cash and cash equivalents - end of the year	\$	907,158 \$	1,433,109	
See accompanying notes to consolidat	ad financ	ial statements		

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements

Sterling Group Ventures, Inc. Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements May 31, 2016 (Stated in US Dollars)

#### Note 1 Nature of Operations and Ability to Continue as a Going Concern

Sterling Group Ventures, Inc. was incorporated in the State of Nevada on September 13, 2001 and its fiscal year-end is May 31. On January 20, 2004, the Company acquired all of the issued and outstanding shares of Micro Express Ltd. (Micro), which was incorporated on July 27, 1994. The business combination was accounted for as a reverse acquisition whereby the purchase method of accounting was used with Micro being the accounting acquirer and the Company being the accounting subsidiary.

Sterling Group Ventures, Inc. (the Company ) is in the exploration stage. The Company entered into joint venture agreements to explore and develop mineral properties located in China and has not yet determined whether these properties contain reserves that are economically recoverable. The recoverability of amounts from these properties will be dependent upon the discovery of economically recoverable reserves, the ability of the Company to obtain necessary financing to satisfy the expenditure requirements under the joint venture agreements and to complete the development of the properties and upon future profitable production or proceeds from the sale thereof.

These consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles applicable to a going concern, which assumes that the Company will be able to meet its obligations and continue its operations for its next fiscal year. Realization values may be substantially different from carrying values as shown as these consolidated financial statements do not give effect to adjustments that would be necessary to the carrying values and classification of assets and liabilities should the Company be unable to continue as a going concern. The Company incurred a net loss of \$3,091,745 during the year ended May 31, 2016 and, as at that date, had a cumulative loss of \$10,321,662 since its inception and expects to incur further losses in the development of its business, all of which casts substantial doubt about the Company's ability to continue as a going concern. The Company's ability to continue as a going concern is dependent upon its ability to generate future profitable operations and/or to obtain the necessary financing to meet its obligations and repay its liabilities arising from normal business operations when they come due. Management has no formal plan in place to address this concern but considers that the Company will be able to obtain additional funds by equity financing and/or related party advances; however, there is no assurance of additional funding being available.

#### Note 2 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

The consolidated financial statements of the Company have been prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles in the United States of America. Because a precise determination of many assets and liabilities is dependent upon future events, the preparation of consolidated financial statements for a period necessarily involves the use of estimates, which have been made using careful judgement. Actual results may vary from these estimates.

The consolidated financial statements have, in management s opinion, been properly prepared within the framework of the significant accounting policies summarized below:

Sterling Group Ventures, Inc. Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements May 31, 2016 (Stated in US Dollars)

#### Note 2 <u>Summary of Significant Accounting Policies - (cont\_d</u>)

#### Principles of Consolidation

The following subsidiaries were incorporated under the laws of the Territory of the British Virgin Islands on the following dates: Micro Express Holdings Inc. was incorporated on February 25, 2004; Micro Express Ltd. was incorporated on July 27, 1994; Huyana Ventures Limited was incorporated on August 18, 2004; Makaelo Holdings Inc. was incorporated on March 21, 2005, and Makaelo Limited was incorporated on February 14, 2005. Silver Castle Investments Ltd. and Sterling Group Ventures (HK) Limited (formerly Euro Asia Premier Real Estate (HK) Limited) were incorporated in Hong Kong on October 13, 2010 and on October 15, 2014 respectively, and Chenxi County Hongyu Mining Co. Ltd. was incorporated in China on July 4, 2006.

These consolidated financial statements include the accounts of the Company and its wholly-owned subsidiaries, Micro Express Holdings Inc., Micro Express Ltd., Huyana Ventures Limited, Makaelo Holdings Inc., Makaelo Limited, Sterling Group Ventures (HK) Limited ("Sterling HK"), Silver Castle Investments Ltd. ("Silver Castle") and its 100% controlled subsidiary, Chenxi County Hongyu Mining Co. Ltd. ("Hongyu"). All inter-company transactions and account balances have been eliminated.

# Mineral Properties

Costs of acquiring mineral properties are capitalized by the project area (Note 3). Costs to maintain mineral rights and leases are expensed as incurred. When a property reaches the production state, the related capitalized costs are amortized using the unit of production method on the basis of annual estimates of ore reserves. Management reviews the carrying value of mineral properties at least annually and will recognize impairment in value based upon current exploration results, and any impairment or subsequent losses are charged to operations at the time of impairment. If a property is abandoned or sold, its capitalized costs are charged to operations. Mineral property exploration costs are expensed as incurred. Exploration activities conducted jointly with others are reflected at the Company s proportionate interest in such activities. As at May 31, 2016 and 2015, the Company did not have proven or probable ore reserves.

#### Impairment of Long-lived Assets

In accordance with ASC Topic 360-10, Property, Plant and Equipment - Overall, the carrying value of intangible assets and other long-lived assets is reviewed on a regular basis for the existence of facts or circumstances that may suggest impairment. The Company recognizes impairment when the sum of the expected undiscounted future cash flows is less than the carrying amount of the asset. Impairment losses, if any, are measured as the excess of the carrying amount of the asset over its estimated fair value.

#### Asset Retirement Obligations

The Company recognizes the fair value of a liability for an asset retirement obligation in the year in which it is incurred when a reasonable estimate of fair value can be made. The carrying amount of the related long-lived asset is increased by the same amount as the liability.

Changes in the liability for an asset retirement obligation due to the passage of time will be measured by applying an interest method of allocation. The amount will be recognized as an increase in the liability and an accretion expense in the statement of operations. Changes resulting from revisions to the timing or the amount of the original estimate of undiscounted cash flows are recognized as an increase or a decrease in the carrying amount of the liability for an asset retirement obligation and the related asset retirement cost capitalized as part of the carrying amount of the related long-lived asset. No asset retirement obligation was required to be recognized at May 31, 2016 and 2015.

Sterling Group Ventures, Inc. Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements May 31, 2016 (Stated in US Dollars)

#### Note 2 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies - (cont d)

#### Property and Equipment

Property and equipment is stated at cost. Depreciation is primarily computed using the straight-line method, by charges to operations in amounts estimated to allocate the cost of the assets over their estimated useful lives, as follows:

Asset classification	Estimated useful life
Computer equipment	3 years
Automobile	5 years
Office equipment	3 years
Machinery	3 to 10 years

#### Income Taxes

The Company accounts for income taxes under the provisions of ASC Topic 740, *Income Taxes*. Under ASC Topic 740, deferred tax assets and liabilities are recognized for the future tax consequences attributable to differences between the financial statement carrying amounts of existing assets and liabilities and their respective tax bases. Deferred income taxes are provided using the liability method. Under this method, deferred income taxes are recognized for the tax consequences of temporary differences by applying enacted statutory rates applicable to future years to differences between the financial statement carrying amounts and the tax bases of existing assets and liabilities. The tax basis of an asset or liability is the amount attributed to that asset or liability for tax purposes. The effect on deferred taxes of a change in tax rates is recognized in income in the period of change. A valuation allowance is provided to reduce the amount of deferred tax assets if it is considered more likely than not that some portion of, or all of, the deferred tax assets will not be realized.

ASC Topic 740 contains a two-step approach to recognizing and measuring uncertain tax positions taken or expected to be taken in a tax return. The first step is to determine if the weight of available evidence indicates that it is more likely than not that the tax position will be sustained in an audit, including resolution of any related appeals or litigation processes. The second step is to measure the tax benefit as the largest amount that is more than 50% likely to be realized upon ultimate settlement. The Company recognizes interest and penalties accrued on unrecognized tax benefits within general and administrative expense. To the extent that accrued interest and penalties do not ultimately become payable, amounts accrued will be reduced and reflected as a reduction in general and administrative expenses in the period that such determination is made. The tax returns for fiscal 2012 through 2016 are subject to audit or review by the US tax authority, whereas fiscal 2008 through 2016 are subject to audit or review by the Canadian tax authority.

#### Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with US GAAP requires management to make estimates and judgments that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities on the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. The Company bases its estimates and judgments on historical experience and on various other assumptions and information that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. Estimates and assumptions of future events and their effects cannot be perceived with certainty and, accordingly, these estimates may change as new events occur,

as more experience is acquired, as additional information is obtained and as our operating environment changes. Significant estimates and judgement by management include: useful lives of long-lived assets, impairment considerations and recoverable analysis on our mineral properties and environmental deposit, deferred taxes and ability to continue as a going concern. While the Company believes that the estimates and assumptions used in the preparation of the consolidation financial statements are appropriate, actual results could differ from those estimates.

Sterling Group Ventures, Inc. Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements May 31, 2016 (Stated in US Dollars)

#### Note 2 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies - (cont d)

#### <u>Use of Estimates (cont</u> d)

Estimates and assumptions are periodically reviewed and the effects of revisions are reflected in the consolidated financial statements in the period they are determined to be necessary.

#### Fair Value of Financial Instruments

The Company applies the provisions of ASC 820, Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures". ASC 820 defines fair value, establishes a framework for measuring fair value under generally accepted accounting principles and enhances disclosures about fair value measurements. Fair value is defined under ASC 820 as the exchange price that would be received for an asset or paid to transfer a liability (an exit price) in the principal or most advantageous market for the asset or liability in an orderly transaction between market participants on the measurement date. Valuation techniques used to measure fair value under ASC 820 must maximize the use of observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs. The standard describes a fair value hierarchy based on three levels of inputs, of which the first two are considered observable and the last unobservable, that may be used to measure fair value which are the following:

Level 1 - quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities;

Level 2 - observable inputs other than Level I, quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities in active markets, quoted prices for identical or similar assets and liabilities in markets that are not active, and model-derived prices whose inputs are observable or whose significant value drivers are observable; and

Level 3 - assets and liabilities whose significant value drivers are unobservable by little or no market activity and that are significant to the fair value of the assets or liabilities.

The Company did not have any assets or liabilities stated at fair value utilizing Level 1, Level 2 or Level 3 inputs as at May 31, 2016 or 2015.

The Company s consolidated financial instruments consist of cash, other receivables and accounts payable and accrued liabilities. The carrying values of the Company s financial instruments approximate fair value due to the short maturity of these instruments. Unless otherwise noted, it is management s opinion that the Company is not exposed to significant interest, currency or credit risks arising from these consolidated financial instruments.

#### Loss per Share

The Company reports basic and diluted loss per share in accordance with the ASC Topic 260-10, Earnings Per Share - Overall . Basic loss per share is computed using the weighted average number of shares outstanding during the period. Diluted loss per share is computed similar to basic loss per share except that the denominator is increased to include the number of additional common shares that would have been outstanding if the dilutive potential common shares had been issued. In addition, in computing the dilutive effect of convertible securities, the numerator is adjusted to add back any convertible preferred dividend and the after-tax amount of interest in the period associated with any convertible debt. The numerator is

also adjusted for any other changes in income or loss that would result from the assumed conversion of these potential common shares. Common share equivalents represent the dilutive effect of the assumed exercise of the outstanding stock options and warrants, using the treasury stock method, at either the beginning of the respective period presented or the date of issuance, whichever is later, and only if the common stock equivalents are considered dilutive based upon the Company s net loss position at the calculation date. At May 31, 2016, the Company had 29,770,000 (2015 - 29,770,000) common share equivalents in respect to options and warrants. Because the Company incurred a loss, the dilutive impact of the outstanding options and warrants have been excluded as the impact would be anti-dilutive.

Sterling Group Ventures, Inc. Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements May 31, 2016 (Stated in US Dollars)

#### Note 2 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies - (cont d)

#### Concentration of Credit Risk

The Company places its cash and cash equivalents with high credit quality financial institutions in Canada, Hong Kong and China. As of May 31, 2016, the Company s maximum exposure to credit risk is the carrying value of the Company s cash, and other receivables. The market in China is monitored by the central government, which could impose taxes or restrictions at any time which would make operations unprofitable and infeasible and cause a write- off of investment in the mineral properties. Other factors include political policy on foreign ownership, political policy to open the doors to foreign investors, and political policy on mineral claims and metal prices.

#### Comprehensive Loss

The Company reports comprehensive income (loss) in accordance with ASC Topic 220-10, Comprehensive Income - Overall . Comprehensive loss is comprised of foreign currency translation adjustments.

#### Foreign Currency Translation

Foreign currency transactions are translated into US dollars, the functional and reporting currency of the Company, by the use of the exchange rate in effect at the date of the transaction, in accordance with ASC Topic 830-20, Foreign Currency Matters - Foreign Currency Translation .

Assets and liabilities denominated in a foreign currency are translated at the exchange rate in effect at the period end and capital accounts are translated at historical rates. Income statement accounts are translated at the average rates of exchange prevailing during the period which approximates the exchange rate in effect at the date of the transaction. Translation adjustments from the use of different exchange rates from period to period are included in the Comprehensive Income account in Stockholders Equity, if applicable.

Transactions undertaken in currencies other than the functional currency of the entity are translated using the exchange rate in effect as of the transaction date. Any exchange gains and losses are included in the Statement of Operations.

#### Stock-based Compensation

The Company accounts for stock-based compensation in accordance with ASC Topic 718-10, *Compensation - Stock Compensation Overall.* Under this application, the Company is required to record compensation expense, based on the fair value of the awards. In accordance with ASC 718-10, the compensation expense is amortized on a straight- line basis over the requisite service period. ASC Topic 718-10 requires excess tax benefits to be reported as a financing cash inflow rather than as a reduction of taxes paid.

The Company has elected to use the Black-Scholes option pricing model to determine the fair value of the options and the extension of the expiry dates of share purchase warrants previously granted.

Sterling Group Ventures, Inc. Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements May 31, 2016 (Stated in US Dollars)

#### Note 2 <u>Summary of Significant Accounting Policies - (cont d</u>)

#### Recent Accounting Pronouncements

In April 2015, the FASB issued ASU 2015-03, Interest Imputation of Interest (Subtopic 835-30): Simplifying the Presentation of Debt Issuance Costs, which changes the presentation of debt issuance costs in the financial statements. Under the ASU, an entity should present such costs in the balance sheet as a direct deduction from the related debt liability rather than as an asset. Amortization of the costs is reported as interest expense. This new guidance is effective for annual reporting periods (including interim reporting periods within those periods) beginning after December 15, 2015; early adoption is allowed for all entities for financial statements that have not been previously issued. Entities would apply the new guidance retrospectively to all prior periods. The Company is currently evaluating the potential impact of adoption of this guidance on its consolidated financial statements.

In August, 2014, the FASB issued ASU 2014-15, Disclosure of Uncertainties About an Entity's Ability to Continue as a Going Concern, which provides guidance on determining when and how to disclose going-concern uncertainties in the financial statements. The new standard requires management to perform interim and annual assessments of an entity's ability to continue as a going concern within one year of the date the financial statements are issued. An entity must provide certain disclosures if

conditions or events raise substantial doubt about the entity s ability to continue as a going concern. The ASU applies to all entities and is effective for annual periods ending after December 15, 2016, and interim periods thereafter, with early adoption permitted. The Company is currently evaluating the potential impact of adoption of this guidance on its consolidated financial statements.

In November 2015, the FASB issued ASU 2015-17, Income Taxes (Topic 740): Balance Sheet Classification of Deferred Taxes (ASU No. 2015-17). The guidance eliminates the requirement to present deferred tax assets and liabilities as current and noncurrent amounts in a classified balance sheet. The new standard requires deferred tax assets and liabilities to be classified as noncurrent. The amendments in this update are effective for financial statements issued for annual periods beginning after December 15, 2016, and interim periods within those annual periods. Earlier application is permitted for all entities as of the beginning of an interim or annual reporting period and may be applied either prospectively or retrospectively to all periods presented. The Company is currently evaluating the potential impact of adoption of this guidance on its consolidated financial statements

In February 2016, the FASB issued Accounting Standards Update (ASU) 2016-02, Leases (ASU No. 2016-02). The guidance requires that lessees will be required to recognize assets and liabilities on the balance sheet for the rights and obligations created by all leases with terms of more than 12 months. The ASU also will require disclosures designed to give financial statement users information on the amount, timing, and uncertainty of cash flows arising from leases. These disclosures include qualitative and quantitative information. For public companies, the standard will take effect for fiscal years, and interim periods within those fiscal years, beginning after Dec. 15, 2018 with earlier application permitted. The Company is still evaluating the impact of ASU No. 2016-02 on its consolidated financial position and results of operations.

In June 2014, the FASB issued Accounting Standard Update (ASU) 2014-12, Accounting for Share-Based Payments When the Terms of an Award Allow a Performance Target to Be Achieved After the Requisite

Service Period, which requires that a performance target that could be achieved after the requisite service period be treated as a performance condition that affects the vesting of the award. The amendments in ASU 2014-12 are effective for annual periods and interim periods within those annual periods beginning after December 15, 2015. Early adoption is permitted. Entities may apply the amendments in ASU 2014-12 either: (i) prospectively to all awards granted or modified after the effective date; or (ii) retrospectively to all awards with performance targets that are outstanding as of the beginning of the earliest annual period presented in the financial statements and to all new or modified awards thereafter. The Company is currently evaluating the potential impact of the adoption of this guidance on its consolidated financial statements.

Sterling Group Ventures, Inc. Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements May 31, 2016 (Stated in US Dollars)

#### Note 3 Mineral Properties

A summary of mineral property costs for the cumulative years ended May 31, 2016 and 2015 were incurred and accounted for in the consolidated statement of operations as follows:

Summary of mineral property expenditures	Gao	oping Phosphate Property
Balance, May 31, 2014	\$	921,163
Administrative		17,682
Consulting fees		28,307
Engineering		2,181
Mining permit		12,925
Travel & promotion		32,857
Wages and benefits		59,586
Balance, May 31, 2015	\$	1,074,701
Administrative		3,362
Consulting fees		16,323
Mining permit		10,922
Travel & promotion		13,092
Wages and benefits		58,075
Balance, May 31, 2016	\$	1,176,475

# Gaoping Phosphate Property

During the year ended May 31, 2016, the Company incurred mineral property expenditures of \$101,774 (May 31, 2015: \$153,538). As of May 31, 2016, the Company has incurred total mineral property costs of \$1,176,475 (May 31, 2015: \$1,074,701) on this property which have been expensed to the statement of operations as disclosed in the table above.

On May 31, 2016, in accordance with its accounting policy, the Company performed an impairment test on the carrying value of the Gaoping Phosphate Property. Due to the prolonged and significant decline in the phosphate price and the lack of planned exploration program on the property, the Company recorded impairment provisions to the mineral properties and its related environmental deposit of \$3,147,801 and \$123,204, respectively.

# Note 4 Equipment

	Cost	May 31, 2016 Accumulated Depreciation	Net Book Value	Cost	May 31, 2015 Accumulated Depreciation	Net Book Value
Computer equipment	\$ 14,742	\$ 14,073	\$ 669	\$ 14,126	\$ 13,809	\$ 317
Automobile	56,738	47,962	8,776	60,256	38,801	21,455
Office equipment	3,381	3,381	-	3,590	3,590	-

	Machinery	155,012		93,035		61,977	164,625		78,088	86,537	
		\$ 229,873	\$	158,451	\$	71,422	\$ 242,597	\$	134,288	\$ 108,309	
The depreciation for the year ended May 31, 2016 was \$32,138 (May 31, 2015: \$44,777).											

Sterling Group Ventures, Inc. Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements May 31, 2016 (Stated in US Dollars)

#### Note 5 <u>Related Party Transactions</u>

The Company was charged consulting fees for administrative, corporate, financial, engineering, and management services during the year ended May 31, 2016 totalling \$18,019 (May 31, 2015: \$20,728) by companies controlled by a former director and corporate secretary of the Company.

Included in accounts payable and accrued liabilities is \$397,181 (May 31, 2015: \$415,150) which was due to companies controlled by the directors and former directors for their services provided in previous years.

These transactions were measured at the amount of consideration established and agreed to by the related parties.

#### Note 6 Capital Stock

#### a) Capital Stock

There were 93,000,000 shares issued in escrow during the year ended May 31, 2016 in connection with the Purchase and Sale Agreement (Note 10). There was no share issuance during the year ended May 31, 2015.

#### b) Stock Options

There were no stock options granted during the years ended May 31, 2016 and 2015.

At May 31, 2016, there were 5,200,000 stock options (May 31, 2015: 5,200,000) outstanding and exercisable with an exercise price at \$0.25 each expiring on February 3, 2019, with an aggregate intrinsic value of \$nil (May 31, 2015: \$nil) and a weighted average remaining contractual term of 2.68 years (May 31, 2015: 3.68 years).

#### c) Share Purchase Warrants

At May 31, 2016, there were 24,570,000 share purchase warrants (May 31, 2015: 24,570,000) outstanding and exercisable with weighted average exercise price at \$0.204.

Series	Number	Price	Expiry Date
"A"	3,817,500 \$	0.50	February 17,
			2017
"D"	20,752,500 \$	0.15	February 17,
			2017
	24,570,000		

On February 10, 2015, the Board of Directors of Sterling Group Ventures Inc. ("the Company") approved the extension of 3,817,500 Series "A" Share Purchase Warrants (the "A" Warrants) to the earlier of February 17, 2017 or the close of business on the 30th day after a takeover bid for the Company's issued and outstanding share capital has been made by a third party and approved by the shareholders of the Company. The additional fair value of the 3,817,500 extended life Series A Share Purchase Warrants was estimated at \$11,305 using the Black-Scholes Option Pricing Model with the following weighted average assumptions: dividend yield of 0%, expected volatility of 183%,

risk-free interest rates of 0.25% and expected life of two years, and is included in finance expense in the consolidated statement of operations.

The Board of Directors of the Company also approved the extension of the 20,752,500 Series "D" Share Purchase Warrants (the "D" Warrants) to the earlier of February 17, 2017 or the close of business on the 30th day after a takeover bid for the Company's issued and outstanding share capital has been made by a third party and approved by the shareholders of the Company. The exercise price of the "D" Warrants remains unchanged at \$0.15 per share. The Series "D" Share Purchase Warrants were originally issued pursuant to a private placement commencing in December 2010. The additional fair value of the 20,752,500 extended life Series D Share Purchase Warrants was estimated at \$95,701 using the Black-Scholes Option Pricing Model with the following weighted average assumptions: dividend yield of 0%, expected volatility of 183%, risk-free interest rates of 0.25% and expected life of two years, and is included in Finance expense.

Sterling Group Ventures, Inc. Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements May 31, 2016 (Stated in US Dollars)

#### Note 7 Foreign Currency Risk

The Company is exposed to fluctuations in foreign currencies through amounts held in China in RMB: Cash and cash equivalents \$30,615 (May 31, 2015 - \$465,187).

The Company is exposed to fluctuations in foreign currencies through amounts held in Canada in CAD: Cash \$15,595 (May 31, 2015 - \$3,076).

The Company is exposed to fluctuations in foreign currencies through amounts held in Hong Kong in HKD: Cash \$76 (May 31, 2015 - \$110).

#### Note 8 Segment Information

The Company operates in one segment and two geographic locations, Canada and China, with operations in the mineral resources sector. The Company s assets are allocated to each country as follows:

		Μ	lay 31, 201	6		May 31, 201	5
	Canad	ı	China	Total	Canada	China	Total
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 132,38	\$2	774,776	\$ 907,158	\$ 174,003	\$ 1,259,106	\$ 1,433,109
Prepaid expense, GST receivable and other							
receivable	6,43	8	6,182	12,620	5,638	7,124	12,762
Advance to third party		-	-	-	-	-	-
Equipment	1.	4	71,268	71,422	286	108,023	108,309
Environmental deposit		-	1	1	-	127,393	127,393
Mineral properties		-	1	1	-	3,148,740	3,148,740
	\$ 138,97	4\$	852,228 32	\$ 991,202	\$ 179,927	\$ 4,650,386	\$ 4,830,313

Sterling Group Ventures, Inc. Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements May 31, 2016 (Stated in US Dollars)

### Note 9 Deferred Tax Assets

The Company's income tax expense/(recovery) for the years ended May 31, 2016 and 2015 differs from the statutory rates as follows:

	2016	2015
Statutory tay rate	2501	2501
Statutory tax rate	35%	35%
Loss before income taxes	\$ (3,091,745) \$	(370,332)
Statutory rate applied to loss before income taxes	(1,082,100)	(129,600)
Foreign income taxed at other than US statutory rates	282,200	3,600
Permanent difference	-	52,500
Change in valuation allowance	67,213	73,500
Income tax expense/(recovery)	\$ (732,687) \$	-

The significant components of the Company s deferred tax assets and liabilities are approximately as follows:

	2016	2015
Deferred tax assets		
Equipment	\$ 33,500	\$ 26,400
Stock based compensation	1,096,800	1,096,800
Mineral property	54,500	-
Net operating losses	966,200	961,600
Deferred tax assets	2,151,000	2,084,800
Valuation allowance	(2,151,000)	(2,084,800)
Net deferred tax asset	-	-
Deferred tax liabilities:		
Mineral property	-	(732,687)
Net deferred tax liability	\$ -	\$ (732,687)

At May 31, 2016, the Company has incurred accumulated net operating losses approximately \$2,845,000 (2015: \$3,016,000) which are available to reduce taxable income in future taxation years. If not utilized to reduce future taxable income, the Company's net operating loss carryforwards will start to expire in 2024.

The amount taken into income as deferred tax assets must reflect that portion of the income tax loss carryforwards that is more likely-than-not to be realized from future operations. The Company has chosen to provide an allowance of 100% against all available income tax loss carryforwards, regardless of their time of expiry.

The Company operates in foreign jurisdictions and is subject to audit by taxing authorities. These audits may result in the assessment of amounts different than the amounts recorded in the consolidated financial statements. The Company liaises with the relevant authorities in these jurisdictions in regard to its income tax and other returns. Management believes the Company has adequately provided for any taxes, penalties and interest that may fall due.

Sterling Group Ventures, Inc. Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements May 31, 2016 (Stated in US Dollars)

#### Note 10 Purchase and Sale Agreement

On April 9, 2016, the Company signed a Purchase and Sale Agreement ("Agreement") with Chenguo Capital Limited ("Chenguo"). As a result of the transaction, the Company had plans to diversify and become a timeshare exchange provider, a manager of timeshare assets through agreements, and a developer of timeshare assets with fee relationships with other organizations or resorts.

Under the terms of the Agreement, the Company issued 85,000,000 shares on April 19, 2016 to Chenguo. Pursuant to an escrow agreement, the 85,000,000 shares are contingently issuable and only released from escrow upon the completion of the transaction and when the timeshare assets are transferred to the Company. In connection with this agreement, the Company also issued 8,000,000 shares, pursuant to an escrow agreement representing a finder's fee to be released on completion of the transaction.

The Company also remitted RMB1,895,353 (\$295,726) to the other party on April 22, 2016 for the development of the timeshare platform.

On September 5, 2016, both parties agreed to terminate the Agreement and the Company agreed to reimburse the parties to the Agreement HK\$125,000 (\$16,090) on the related expenses incurred.

Pursuant to the termination agreement, on September 9, 2016 the Company cancelled the 85,000,000 shares and 8,000,000 shares issued as finder's fees, subject to the escrow agreement. The Company also expensed in project development cost \$295,726 funds advanced for the development of timeshare platform and recorded \$16,090 and an additional \$7,750 for expenses incurred by other parties affiliated with the Chenguo termination in due diligence cost in the consolidated statement of operations. The Company has determined there is a contingent liability related to the cancellation of the 8,000,000 shares related to the finder's fee. Based on the early stage of the claim and evaluation of the facts available at this time, the amount or range of reasonably possible losses to which the Company is exposed cannot be estimated and the ultimate resolution of this matter and the associated financial impact to the Company, if any, remains uncertain at this time. We believe the claim is without merit and intend to defend ourselves vigorously.

# ITEM 9. CHANGES IN AND DISAGREEMENTS WITH ACCOUNTANTS ON ACCOUNTING AND FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE

None.

# **ITEM 9A. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES**

# a. Evaluation of Disclosure Controls and Procedures:

As required by paragraph (b) of Rules 13a-15 under the Exchange Act, our principal executive officer and principal financial officer evaluated our company s disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) of the Exchange Act) as of the end of the period covered by this annual report on Form 10-K. Based on this evaluation, these officers concluded that as of the end of the period covered by this annual report on Form 10-K, our company s disclosure controls and procedures were not effective. The ineffectiveness of our company s disclosure controls and procedures was due to the existence of material weaknesses identified below.

The disclosure controls and procedures are controls and procedures that are designed to ensure that the information required to be disclosed by our company in reports it files or submits under the Exchange Act is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in the rules and forms of the Securities and Exchange Commission and include controls and procedures designed to ensure that such information is accumulated and communicated to our company s management, including our company s principal executive officer and principal financial officer, to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure. Because of the inherent limitations in all control systems, no evaluation of controls can provide absolute assurance that all control issues, if any, within our company have been detected. These inherent limitations include the realities that judgments in decision-making can be faulty and that breakdowns can occur because of simple error or mistake.

# b. Management's Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting

The Company's management, including our chief executive officer and chief financial officer, is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting. Internal control over financial reporting is a process designed by, or under the supervision of, our chief executive and chief financial officers and implemented by our board of directors, management and other personnel, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles and includes those policies and procedures that: (i) pertain to the maintenance of records that, in reasonable detail, accurately and fairly reflect the transactions and dispositions of our assets; (ii) provide reasonable assurance that transactions are recorded as necessary to permit preparation of financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, and that our receipts and expenditures are being made only in accordance with authorizations of our management and directors; and (iii) provide reasonable assurance regarding prevention or timely detection of unauthorized acquisition, use or disposition of our assets that could have a material effect on the financial statements. Because of their inherent limitations, internal control over financial reporting may not prevent or detect misstatements. Also, projections of any evaluation of effectiveness to future periods are subject to the risk that controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate.

Based on our evaluation under the framework in Internal Control-Integrated Framework issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commissions (COSO) (1992 framework), our chief executive officer and our chief financial officer concluded that our internal control over financial reporting were not effective as of May 31, 2016. The ineffectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting was due to the existence of significant deficiencies constituting material weaknesses. A material weakness is a control deficiency, or combination of control deficiencies, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the financial statements will not be prevented or detected on a timely basis.

Management has identified the following material weaknesses:

- We do not have accounting staff with sufficient U.S. GAAP expertise;
- There was insufficient segregation of duties in our finance and accounting function due to limited personnel. During the year ended May 31, 2016, we had limited staff that performed nearly all aspects of our financial reporting process, including, but not limited to, access to the underlying accounting records and systems, the ability to post and record journal entries and responsibility for the preparation of the financial statements. This creates certain incompatible duties and a lack of review over the financial reporting process that would likely result in a failure to detect errors in spreadsheets, calculations, or assumptions used to compile the financial statements and related disclosures as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission. These control deficiencies could result in a material misstatement to our financial statements that would not be prevented or detected; and

• The Company s Board of Directors has only three directors, with one being independent and the other two not independent directors constituting the audit committee. While not being legally obligated to have an audit committee or independent audit committee financial expert, it is the management s view that to have an audit committee, comprised of independent board members, and an independent audit committee financial expert is an important entity-level control over the Company s consolidated financial statements.

We intend to take appropriate and reasonable steps to make the necessary improvements to remediate these material weaknesses. In particular, we intend to hire more staff or contract external consultants with U.S. GAAP expertise if we can obtain additional financing and seek an independent audit committee director.

Because of its inherent limitations, internal control over financial reporting may not prevent or detect misstatements. In addition, projections of any evaluation of effectiveness to future periods are subject to the risk that controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions and that the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate.

c. Changes in Internal Control over Financial Reporting:

There were changes in the Company s internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the last quarter ended May 31, 2016 that have materially affected or are reasonably likely to materially affect our internal control over financial reporting. A new Chief Financial Officer that was appointed on April 11, 2016 and the formation of a two member audit committee who are not independent are the changes in the internal control over financial reporting environment which resulted in informal corporate governance, monitoring and financial statement reviews.

# **ITEM 9B. OTHER INFORMATION**

None.

# PART III

# ITEM 10. DIRECTORS, EXECUTIVE OFFICERS AND CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

All directors of the Company hold office until the next annual general meeting of the shareholders or until their successors are duly elected and qualified. The officers of our company are appointed by our board of directors and hold office until the earlier of death, retirement, resignation or removal.

As at May 31, 2016, our directors, executive officers and other significant employees, their ages, positions held and duration each person has held that position, are as follows:

Name	Position Held with the Company	Age	Date First Elected / Appointed
Christopher Tsakok	Chairman of the Board CEO	36	July 18, 2014 July 18, 2014
Gerald Runolfson	Director	74	April 5, 2004
Robert Smiley	Director CFO	72	June 6, 2007 April 11, 2016
Hanwei Guo	Director	43	April 19, 2016

As at August 22, 2016 Mr. Hanwei Guo resigned as a Director of the Company.

#### **Business Experience**

The following sets forth the business experience of each of the Company's directors and executive officers:

#### Christopher J. Tsakok, Chairman & CEO

Mr. Tsakok has been in the investment business for the past 10 years. He is President and CEO of Richco Investors, Inc., a company whose principal business is to provide financial, management and other administrative services to early development stage business. He holds a Bachelor of Commerce (B.Comm.), an MBA degree, and is a Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA).

#### Gerald Runolfson, Professional Engineer, Director

Mr. Runolfson is a professional engineer (P. Eng.) and has been in the construction industry for over 40 years. He is currently President and controlling shareholder of Elkon Products Inc., a company that has the distribution rights for all silica fume produced in Canada. Silica fume is used in oil well cementing operation and concrete construction. Major customers include Halliburton and BJ Services. Mr. Runolfson has been a Director of a number of public companies.

#### Robert G. Smiley, J. D, Director

Mr. Smiley is a business consultant working with junior companies. He has been self-employed in this capacity for the past ten years. He is a former lawyer who specialized in oil and gas and securities law for twenty-five years. He is currently a director of Richco Investors Inc, Canadian Imperial Ventures Corp., and Silver Grail Resources Inc. He has served on the boards of a number of junior and intermediate companies in the past.

Our directors, executive officers and control persons have not been involved in any of the following events during the past five years:

- 1. any bankruptcy petition filed by or against any business of which such person was a general partner or executive officer either at the time of the bankruptcy or within two years prior to that time;
- 2. any conviction in a criminal proceeding or being subject to a pending criminal proceeding (excluding traffic violations and other minor offenses);
- 3. being subject to any order, judgment, or decree, not subsequently reversed, suspended or vacated, of any court of competent jurisdiction, permanently or temporarily enjoining, barring, suspending or otherwise limiting his involvement in any type of business, securities or banking activities;
- 4. being found by a court of competent jurisdiction (in a civil action), the Securities and Exchange Commission or the Commodity Futures Trading Commission to have violated a federal or state securities or commodities law, and the judgment has not been reversed, suspended, or vacated;
- 5. being the subject of, or a party to, any federal or state judicial or administrative order, judgment, decree, or finding, not subsequently reversed, suspended or vacated, relating to an alleged violation of: (i) any federal or state securities or commodities law or regulation; or (ii) any law or regulation respecting financial institutions or insurance companies including, but not limited to, a temporary or permanent injunction, order of disgorgement or restitution, civil money penalty or temporary or permanent cease-and-desist order, or removal or prohibition order; or (iii) any law or regulation prohibiting mail or wire fraud or fraud in connection with any business entity; or
- 6. being the subject of, or a party to, any sanction or order, not subsequently reversed, suspended or vacated, of any self- regulatory organization (as defined in Section 3(a)(26) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934), any registered entity (as defined in Section 1(a)(29) of the Commodity Exchange Act), or any equivalent exchange, association, entity or organization that has disciplinary authority over its members or persons associated with a member.

#### Term of Office

Our directors hold office until the next annual meeting of shareholders and until their successors have been elected and qualified, or until they resign or are removed. Our officers are elected by our board of directors. Our officers hold office until the next annual meeting of our board of directors and until their successions have been elected and qualified, or until they resign or are removed.

#### Family Relationships

A former director of the Company who resigned April 2016 is the husband of the corporate secretary. There are no other family relationships among our directors or officers.



# **Audit Committee and Charter**

We have an audit committee and audit committee charter. Our audit committee is comprised of Mr. Christopher Tsakok, and Mr. Robert Smiley. Mr. Christopher Tsakok qualifies as an "audit committee financial expert" as defined in Item 407(5)(ii) of Regulation S-K. We believe that the audit committee members are collectively capable of analyzing and evaluating our financial statements and understanding internal controls and procedures for financial reporting. During the year ended May 31, 2016, the audit committee met six times. A copy of our audit committee charter is filed as an exhibit to the Form 10-K on August 28, 2009.

The Audit Committee's responsibilities include:

- selecting and reviewing our independent registered public accounting firm and their services;
- reviewing and discussing the audited financial statements, related accounting and auditing principles, practices and disclosures with the appropriate members of management;
- reviewing and discussing our quarterly financial statements prior to the filing of those quarterly financial statements;
- establishing procedures for the receipt of, and response to, any complaints received regarding accounting, internal accounting controls, or auditing matters, including anonymous submissions by employees;
- reviewing the accounting principles and auditing practices and procedures to be used for the audit of our financial statements and reviewing the results of those audits; and
- monitoring the adequacy of our operating and internal controls as reported by management and the independent registered public accounting firm.

# **Code of Ethics**

We have adopted a corporate code of ethics that applies to all employees, including our directors and officers. A copy of the code of ethics is filed as an exhibit to the Form 10-K on August 28, 2009. We believe our code of ethics is reasonably designed to deter wrongdoing and promote honest and ethical conduct; provide full, fair, accurate, timely and understandable disclosure in public reports; comply with applicable laws; ensure prompt internal reporting of code violations; and provide accountability for adherence to the code.

# **ITEM 11. EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION**

(a) Officers' Compensation.

Compensation paid by the Company for all services provided up to the fiscal years ended May 31, 2016 and 2015 to each of the executive officers and to all officers as a group is set forth below.

(For fiscal years ended May 31, 2016 and 2015)

			ish Comp	ensation	Security Grants	TOTAL (\$)
Name and Principal Position	Year ended May 31,	Salary (\$)(1)	Bonus (\$)	All Other Compensation (\$) (2)	Option Awards (\$)	
Richard	2016	0	0	0	0	0
Shao President (resigned on April 3, 2016)	2015	0	0	0	0	0
Christopher	2016	0	0	0	0	0
Tsakok Chairman & CEO	2015	0	0	0	0	0
Kathy	2016	0	0	18,019	0	18,019
Wang Secretary	2015	0	0	20,728	0	20,728
Robert	2016	0	0	0	0	0
Smiley CFO	2015	0	0	0	0	0
Officers as	2016	0	0	18,019	0	18,019
A Group	2015	0	0	20,728	0	20,728

(1) Executive officers did not receive any salary during the fiscal years ended May 31, 2016 or 2015.

(2) The amounts listed under the Column entitled All other Compensation in the Summary Compensation Table related to consulting fees earned during the period reported.

(b) Directors' Compensation

Directors who are also officers receive no cash compensation for services as a director. However, the directors will be reimbursed for out-of-pocket expenses incurred in connection with attendance at board and committee meetings. The Company granted options to directors under its 2004 Incentive Stock Option Plan subsequently adopted.

#### SUMMARY COMPENSATION TABLE OF DIRECTORS

(For fiscal years ended May 31, 2016 and 2015)

		Cash Compensation			Security Grants		TOTAL (\$)
Name and Principal Position	Year ended May 31,	Annual RetainerMeeting Fees (\$)Consulting Fees/Fees (\$)Fees (\$)Other Fees (\$)		Other	Option Awards (\$)(1)	All Other Compensation (\$)	
	2016	0	0	0	0	0	0

Christopher Tsakok Director	2015	0	0	0	0	0	0
Richard Shao	2016	0	0	0	0	0	0
Director (resigned on April 3, 2016)	2015	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gerald	2016	0	0	0	0	0	0
Runolfson Director	2015	0	0	0	0	0	0
Robert G.	2016	0	0	0	0	0	0
Smiley Director	2015	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hanwei Guo	2016	0	0	0	0	0	0
Director	N/A	0	0	0	0	0	0
Directors as a	2016	0	0	0	0	0	0
Group	2015	0	0	0	0	0	0

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(1) Please refer Note 6(b) to the financial statements included herein.

During the year ended May 31, 2011, we granted 3,100,000 stock options to our directors or officers. The options are granted at an exercise price of \$0.25 per share and expiring on February 3, 2019.

# OUTSTANDING EQUITY AWARDS AT FISCAL YEAR-END

(For fiscal years ended May 31, 2016)

-			7						
Name	Number of securities Underlying Unexercised Options (#) Exercisable	Number of Securities Underlying Unexercised Options (#) Unexercisable	Number of Securities Underlying Unexercised Unearned Options (#)	Option Exercise Price (\$)	Option Expiration Date	Number of Unvested Shares (#)	Market Value of Unvested Shares (\$)	Number of Unearned Unvested Shares (#)	Marke Value of Unearn Unvest Shares
Richard Shao President (resigned on April 3, 2016)	800,000	0	0	\$0.25	Feb 3, 2019	0	0	0	0
Christopher Tsakok Chairman	300,000	0	0	\$0.25	Feb 3, 2019	0	0	0	0
Kathy Wang Secretary	300,000	0	0	\$0.25	Feb 3, 2019	0	0	0	0
Gerald Runolfson Director	600,000	0	0	\$0.25	Feb 3, 2019	0	0	0	0
Robert G. Smiley Director	600,000	0	0	\$0.25	Feb 3, 2019	0	0	0	0
Total	2,600,000	0	0			0	0	0	0

Directors are entitled to reimbursement for reasonable travel and other out-of-pocket expenses incurred in connection with attendance at meetings of our board of directors. Our board of directors may award special remuneration to any director undertaking any special services on our behalf other than services ordinarily required of a director. No director received and/or accrued any compensation for their services as a director, including committee participation and/or special assignments.

There are no management agreements with our directors or executive officers and we do not anticipate that written agreements will be put in place in the foreseeable future.

We have no plans or arrangements in respect of remuneration received or that may be received by our executive officers to compensate such officers in the event of termination of employment (as a result of resignation, retirement, change of control) or a change of responsibilities following a change of control.

There are no plans or arrangements in which we provide pension, retirement or similar benefits for directors or executive officers. We have no material bonus or profit sharing plans pursuant to which cash or non-cash compensation is or may be paid to our directors or executive officers, except that stock options may be granted at the discretion of the Board of Directors or a committee thereof.

# ITEM 12. SECURITY OWNERSHIP OF CERTAIN BENEFICIAL OWNERS AND MANAGEMENT AND RELATED STOCKHOLDER MATTERS

The following table sets forth, as of September 15, 2016, certain information with respect to the beneficial ownership of our common shares by each shareholder known to us to be the beneficial owner of 5% of our common shares, and by each of our officers and directors. Each person has sole voting power with respect to the common shares, except as otherwise indicated. Beneficial ownership consists of a direct interest in the common shares, except as otherwise indicated. As of September 15, 2016, there were 75,730,341 common shares issued and outstanding.

Title of Class	Name and Address of Beneficial Owner (1)	Amount and Nature of Beneficial Ownership	Percentage of Class(2)
Common stock	Raoul Tsakok	15,800,000 (3) (5)	20.86%
Common stock	Richard Shao	4,000,000	5.28%
Common stock	Christopher Tsakok	1,910,000 (7)	2.52%
Common stock	Gerald Runolfson	2,000,000 (4)(6)	2.64%
Common stock	Robert Smiley	600,000 (6)	0.79%
	TOTAL	24,310,000	32.10%

(1) The address of each beneficial owner is 904 1455 Howe Street, Vancouver, BC Canada V6Z 1C2 40

- (2) Based on 75,730,341 shares outstanding as of September 15, 2016 and, as to a specific person, shares issuable pursuant to the conversion or exercise, as the case may be, of currently exercisable or convertible debentures, share purchase warrants and stock options within 60 days.
- (3) 15,000,000 common shares held through Cobilco Inc., a company 100% owned by Mr. Raoul Tsakok.
- (4) Includes 800,000 common shares and 300,000 A warrants, and 300,000 B warrants held through Elkon Products Inc., a company 100% owned by Mr. Runolfson
- (5) Includes 800,000 stock options.
- (6) Includes 600,000 stock options.
- (7) Includes 300,000 stock options.

#### **Changes in Control**

As of September 15, 2016, management had no knowledge of any arrangements which may at a subsequent date result in a change in control of the Company.

# ITEM 13. CERTAIN RELATIONSHIPS AND RELATED TRANSACTIONS, AND DIRECTOR INDEPENDENCE

There have been no transactions, or proposed transactions, which have materially affected or will materially affect us in which any director, executive officer or beneficial holder of more than 10% of the outstanding common stock, or any of their respective relatives, spouses, associates or affiliates, has had or will have any direct or material indirect interest.

As at the date of this annual report, we do not have any policies in place with respect to whether we will enter into agreements with related parties in the future.

We have determined that Gerald Runolfson is an independent director.

# ITEM 14. PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTING FEES AND SERVICES

#### **Audit Fees**

BDO Canada LLP (BDO) provided audit services to the Company in connection with its annual report for the fiscal years ended May 31, 2016 and May 31, 2015. The aggregate fees billed by BDO for the May 31, 2016 year ended audit and the fiscal year 2016 quarterly reviews of the Company was \$81,120. The aggregate fees billed by BDO for the May 31, 2015 year ended audit and the fiscal year 2015 quarterly reviews of the Company was \$67,945.

#### **Audit Related Fees**

No fees were billed by BDO to the Company for professional services that are reasonably related to the audit or review of the Company's financial statements.

# Tax Fees

No fees were billed by BDO to the Company in the years ended May 31, 2016 and 2015 for professional tax services.

# **All Other Fees**

No fees were billed by BDO to the Company for other professional services rendered or any other services not disclosed above during the years ended May 31, 2016 and 2015.

#### **Audit Committee Pre-Approval**

The Audit Committee has the sole authority to appoint, terminate and replace our independent auditor and to approve the scope, fees and terms of all audit engagements, as well as all permissible non-audit engagements of our independent auditor. All the services provided by the auditors were approved by our Audit Committee.

All audit work was performed by the auditors' full time employees.

# PART IV

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# ITEM 15. EXHIBITS AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT SCHEDULES

The following documents are filed as part of this report:

	<u>Page</u>
Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm	<u>19</u>
Consolidated Balance Sheets	<u>20</u>
Consolidated Statements of Operations	<u>21</u>
Consolidated Statements of Changes in Stockholders' Equity	<u>22</u>
Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows	<u>23</u>
Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements	<u>24-34</u>

#### 2. Financial statement schedules and supplementary information required to be submitted.

Schedules other than that listed above are omitted because they are not applicable.

#### 3. Exhibits

A list of the exhibits filed or furnished with this report on Form 10-K (or incorporated by reference to exhibits previously filed or furnished by us) is provided in the Exhibit Index beginning on page 43 of this report. Those exhibits incorporated by reference herein are indicated as such by the information supplied in the parenthetical thereafter. Otherwise, the exhibits are filed herewith.

# SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

# STERLING GROUP VENTURES INC.

By:	<u>/s/ Christopher Tsakok</u>
	Christopher Tsakok
	Chief Executive Officer and President, (Principal Executive Officer)

Date: September 15, 2016

Pursuant to the requirements of Securities Exchange Act of 1934, this report has been signed below by the following persons on behalf of the registrant and in the capacities and on the dates indicated.

<u>Signature</u>	Title	Date
/s/ <u>Christopher Tsakok</u> Christopher Tsakok	President and Chief Executive Officer (Principal Executive Officer)	September 15, 2016
/s/ Robert Smiley Robert Smiley	Chief Financial Officer	September 15, 2016
/s/ Gerald Runolfson Gerald Runolfson	Director 42	September 15, 2016

# **Index of Exhibits**

Exhibit Number	Description
3.1	Articles of Incorporation of the Company, (filed as Exhibit 3.1 to the Company's Registration Statement on Form SB-2 filed on July 26, 2002, and incorporated herein by reference).
3.2	Bylaws of the Company (filed as Exhibit 3.2 to the Company's Registration Statement on Form SB-2 filed on July 26, 2002, and incorporated herein by reference).
4.1	Specimen stock certificate (filed as Exhibit 4.1 to the Company's Registration Statement on Form SB-2 filed on July 26, 2002, and incorporated herein by reference).
10.1	Acquisition Agreement between the Company and Micro Express Ltd., dated January 20, 2004. (Filed as Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's current report on Form 8-K filed on January 29, 2004, and incorporated herein by reference).
10.2	Joint Venture Contract between Micro Express Ltd. (the Company's wholly subsidiary) and Sichuan Province Mining Ltd., dated April 5, 2005 (Filed as Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's current report on Form 8-K filed on April 11, 2005, and incorporated herein by reference).
10.3	Agreement for Development of DXC Salt Lake Property between Micro Express Holdings Inc. (the Company s wholly subsidiary) and Beijing Mianping Salt Lake Research Institute, dated September 16, 2005 (Filed as Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's current report on Form 8-K filed on September 21, 2005, and incorporated herein by reference).
10.4	Agreement for Termination of Joint Venture between Micro Express Ltd. and Sichuan Province Mining Ltd., dated March 3, 2006 (Filed as Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's current report on Form 8-K filed on March 6, 2006, and incorporated herein by reference).
10.5	Agreement between the Company, Zhong Chuan International Mining Holding Co., Ltd., and shareholders of Monte Sea Holdings Ltd., dated July 8, 2008 (Filed as Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's current report on Form 8-K filed on July 15, 2008, and incorporated herein by reference).
10.6	Agreement between the Company, Hongyu Mining Co., Ltd., and the shareholders of Hongyu Mining Co., Ltd., dated October 18, 2010 (Filed as Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's current report on Form 8-K filed on October 21, 2010, and incorporated herein by reference).
10.7	Letter of Intent between the Company and Shimen County Merchants Bureau, dated November 10, 2010 (Filed as Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's current report on Form 8-K filed on November 16, 2010, and incorporated herein by reference).
10.8	Agreement for Termination of Joint Venture between the Company, Micro Express Holdings Inc. and Beijing Mianping Salt Lake Research Institute, dated October 31, 2011 (Filed as Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's current report on Form 8-K filed on November 3, 2011, and incorporated herein by reference).
10.9	PURCHASE AND SALE AGREEMENT between the Company, Chenguo Capital Limited, and Euro Asia Premier Real Estate (HK), Dated April 9, 2016 (Filed as Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's current report on Form 8- K filed on April 12, 2016, and incorporated herein by reference).

10.10 Settlement and Termination Agreement between the Company, Chenguo Capital Limited, and Sterling Group Ventures (HK) Ltd., Dated August 30, 2016 and Related Undertaking Agreement Dated September 4, 2016 (Filed as Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's current report on Form 8-K filed on September 7, 2016, and incorporated herein by reference).

- 14.1 Code of Ethics. (Filed as Exhibit 14.1 to the Company's annual report on Form 10-K filed on August 28, 2009, and incorporated herein by reference).
- 31.1 Certification of Chief Executive Officer under Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002. Filed herewith.
- 31.2 Certification of Chief Financial Officer under Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002. Filed herewith.
- 32.1 Certification of Chief Executive Officer Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Sec. 1350 as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002. Filed herewith.
- 32.2 Certification of Chief Financial Officer Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Sec. 1350 as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002. Filed herewith.
- 99.1 Audit Committee Charter. (Filed as Exhibit 99.1 to the Company's annual report on Form 10-K filed on August 28, 2009, and incorporated herein by reference).
- 101.INS XBRL Instance Document. Furnished herewith.
- 101.SCH XBRL Taxonomy Extension Schema Document. Furnished herewith.
- 101.CAL XBRL Taxonomy Extension Calculation Linkbase Document. Furnished herewith.
- 101.DEF XBRL Taxonomy Extension Definition Linkbase Document. Furnished herewith.
- 101.LAB XBRL Taxonomy Extension Label Linkbase Document. Furnished herewith.
- 101.PRE XBRL Taxonomy Extension Presentation Linkbase Document. Furnished herewith.