# **Investor Presentation**

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## **Disclaimers**

#### **Forward-Looking Information**

This presentation contains forward-looking statements which are presented for the purpose of assisting the reader to contextualize the Company's financial position and understand management's expectations regarding the Company's strategic priorities, objectives and plans. These forward-looking statements may not be appropriate for other purposes. Forward-looking statements are identified by words or phrases such as "anticipates", "expects", "believes", "estimates", "intends", "could", "may", "plans", "predicts", "projects", "will", "would", "foresees" and other similar expressions or the negative of these terms.

These forward-looking statements include, but are not limited to, the following items:

- The Company's aim to increase total adjusted EPS through net earnings, growth, and share repurchases, as well as its intention to continue improving sales, gross margin (excluding fuel) and adjusted EBITDA margin, all of which could be impacted by several factors including a prolonged unfavourable macro-economic environment and unforeseen business challenges, as well as the factors identified in the "Risk Management" section of the fiscal 2023 MD&A;
- The Company's plan to invest capital in its store network including store expansions and renovations and renovate approximately 20% to 25% of the network over the next three years which could be impacted by cost of materials, availability of contractors, operating results, and other macro-economic impacts;
- The Company's plans to further grow and enhance the Own Brand portfolio, which may be impacted by future operating costs and customer response;
- The Company's expectation that it will continue to focus on driving efficiency and cost effectiveness initiatives which could be impacted by supplier relationships, labour relations, and other macro-economic impacts;
- The Company's plans to purchase for cancellation Class A shares under the normal course issuer bid, which may be impacted by market and macro-economic conditions, availability of sellers, changes in laws and regulations, and the results of operations;
- The Company's expectation that it will continue its e-commerce expansion with Voilà, which may be impacted by future operating and capital costs, customer response and the performance of its technology provider, Ocado; and
- The Company's expectations regarding the amount and timing of expenses relating to the completion of any future CFCs, which may be impacted by supply of materials and equipment, construction schedules and capacity of construction contractors.

#### **Non-GAAP Financial Measures & Financial Metrics**

There are measures and metrics included in this investor presentation that do not have a standardized meaning under generally accepted accounting principles ("GAAP") and therefore may not be comparable to similarly titled measures and metrics presented by other publicly traded companies. The Company includes these measures and metrics because it believes certain investors use these measures and metrics as a means of assessing financial performance.

In addition, management adjusts measures and metrics, including operating income, EBITDA and net earnings in an effort to provide investors and analysts with a more comparable year-over-year performance metric than the basic measure by excluding certain items. These items may impact the analysis of trends in performance and affect the comparability of the Company's core financial results. By excluding these items, management is not implying they are non-recurring.

For a more complete description of Empire's non-GAAP measures and metrics, please see Empire's Management's Discussion and Analysis for the first quarter ended August 5, 2023.



# Empire Company is *uniquely* positioned to capture the Omni-Channel future of grocery

## **Retail Network Assets** Connected by the Scene+ Loyalty Program Full Service(1) **Related Business** Discount **E-Commerce** voilà Sobeys **Lawtons** SAFEWAY () **FRESHCO** Rachelle CHAL®! FastFuel THRIFTY Bery 💉 **FOODS FRESHCO** SAFEWAY () LIQUOR FOODLAND **FOODS** JODEYS LIQUOR

Supported by Real Estate Assets:



Equity ownership in Crombie REIT (CRR-UN) at 41.5%



Equity ownership in the Genstar group of companies ranging from 37.1% to 49.0%



# Empire Company: Serving Canadians for 116 years through its Food Retailing and Real Estate Businesses

1,600+

Operating in all 10 provinces across a number of banners



\$30B+

Annual Sales

By calendar 2025, Empire will have 4 CFCs across Canada to support its Online Grocery Delivery Business

4 CFCs

to Support Voilà

28

Distribution Centres

Strategically positioned to service our national store network, including 3 fully automated facilities

51%
Interest in Longo's

88%
Interest in Farm Boy

41.5%

Interest in Crombie REIT



Quick Facts – EMP.A <sup>(1)</sup>	
Share price (C\$) <sup>(2)</sup>	\$34.74
52-Week Low-High <sup>(2)</sup>	\$33.09-\$38.51
30-day Average daily trading volume <sup>(2)</sup>	371,820
Shares outstanding (diluted)	252.2M
Market Capitalization (C\$)	\$8,761M
Quarterly dividend	\$0.1825

<sup>(1)</sup> As of Q1 fiscal 2024 (August 5, 2023) unless noted otherwise.

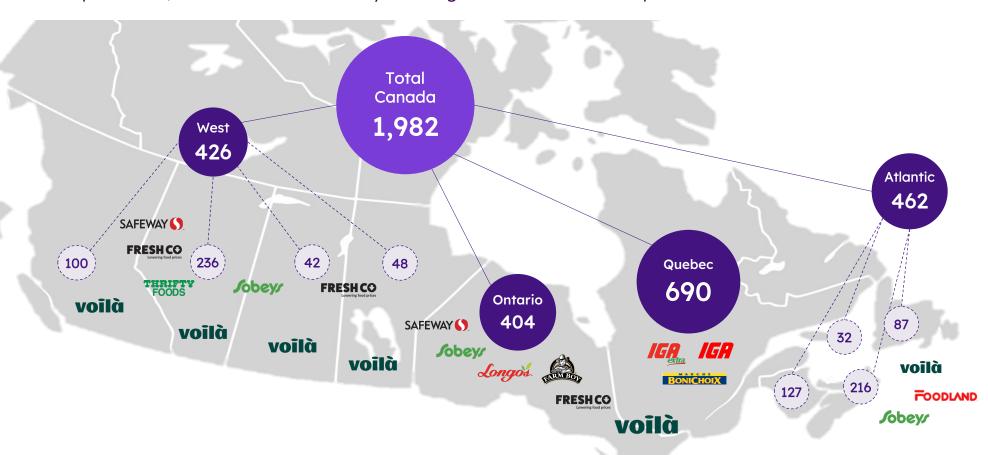




<sup>(2)</sup> As of September 12, 2023.

## One of Two Players with National Scale in Grocery

National scale and presence, operating close to **2,000** stores (including more than **350** retail fuel locations) in all **10** provinces, with **98** stores currently offering Voilà Curbside Pickup.



## Canadian Population by Province (Growth 2017–2022):

- British Columbia:
   5,368,266 (+8.3%)
- Alberta:
   4,601,314 (+8.1%)
- Saskatchewan + Manitoba: 1,205,119 (+4.4%) + 1,420,228 (+5.9%)
- Ontario: 15,262,660 (+7.9%)
- Quebec: 8,751,352 (+5.0%)
- Atlantic Canada:
   2,553,264 (+6.3%)



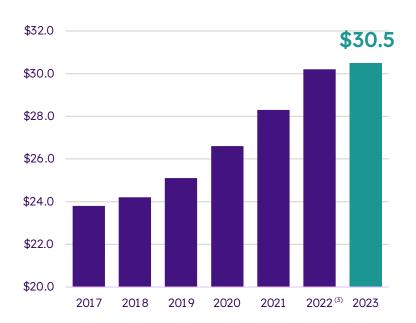


## **Strong Financial Performance**

Sales CAGR<sup>(1)</sup>

4.2%

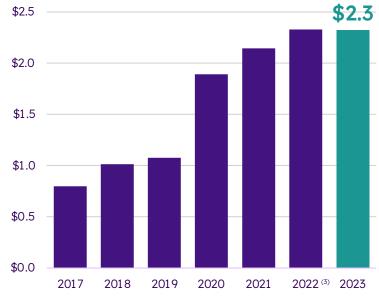
(\$ in billions)



Adjusted EBITDA CAGR<sup>(1)(2)</sup>

19.5%

(\$ in billions)



Adjusted EPS CAGR<sup>(1)(2)</sup>

26.0%

(\$ per share)





<sup>(1)</sup> Compound annual growth rate.

<sup>2)</sup> Effective fiscal 2020, Empire adopted IFRS 16 "Leases".

<sup>(3)</sup> F2022 included a 53rd week of operations.

## **Long-Term Financial Framework**

**Empire introduced its long-term financial framework:** 

8% to 11%

Long Term Average Adjusted EPS Growth

Driven by our intention to improve Sales, Gross Margin (ex. Fuel), and adjusted EBITDA margin

#### **Continued Focus on Stores**

We intend to invest capital in our store network and plan to renovate approximately 20% to 25% of the network over the next three years. Discount store expansion and Own Brands enhancement will also remain key focus areas.

## **Enhanced Focus on Digital and Data**

Our focus on digital and data will include continued ecommerce expansion with Voilà, loyalty through Scene+, personalization, improved space productivity and the continued improvement of promotional optimization.

## **Efficiency and Cost Optimization**

We will continue to focus on driving efficiency and cost effectiveness through initiatives related to strategic sourcing and supply chain productivity.



**Continued Share Repurchases** 



## **Continued Focus on Stores**

## Renovations



## 20%-25% of network over 3 years

- Sales and margin uplift
- Enhanced store productivity
- Store department optimization

## **Discount Expansion**



## Continue to pursue expansion by market

#### West:

- 45 new FreshCo stores since F18
- Two additional stores planned for F24
- Continued focus on store conversions

## **Ontario**:

- Opened 100th FreshCo in Q2 F24
- Additional opportunities in Canada's largest province

## **Space Productivity**



Improve store layouts, optimize category/product adjacencies, tailoring assortment

BETTER DATA

STORE FOCUSED SALES/SQ.FT.

Customer-Centric
SHELF PRODUCTIVITY ENABLER
Better Planograms

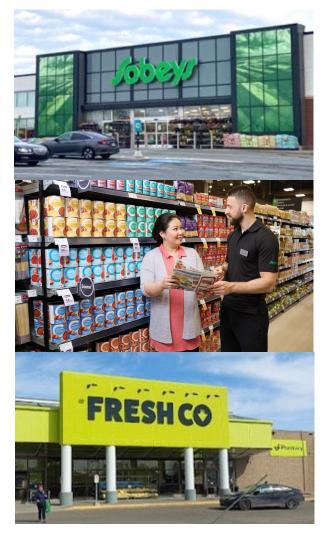
## **Own Brands**



## 1,000+ new private label SKUs since F20

- Own Brands sales growth of +19.4% since F20
- ~600 new SKUs over the next three years







## **Enhanced Focus on Digital and Data**



Launched and rolled out Scene+, a differentiated national loyalty platform — driving incremental sales and earnings in year one



Co-owner



Differentiated Experience



Personalization at Scale



Connected Banners to Drive Omni-Channel Strategy



Drive Incrementality



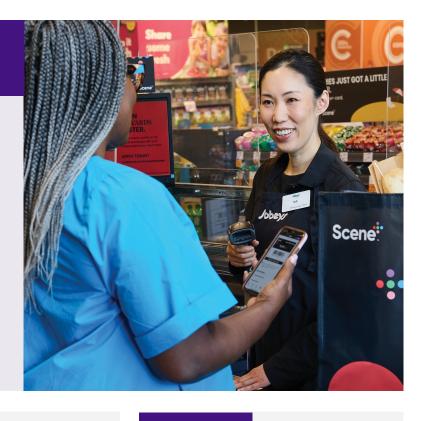
**New Customer Acquisitions** 



Data Ownership to Drive Insights



**Enhanced Customer Loyalty** 



14M

Scene+ now has over 14 million members



Approximately
4 million new
members have
joined since Scene+
launched at Empire



40%+ more active loyalty members year over year

#2

Scene+ is the second largest loyalty program in Canada



# Enhanced Focus on Digital and Data voilà

## Key Areas of Focus



## **Superior In-Stock Position**

Extremely low substitution rate, Differentiated Freshness



Ongoing Innovation
Ocado Re:Imagined



## **Best-in-Class Delivery Experience**White glove delivery



**Loyalty & Personalization**Increased engagement



## **Substantial Assortment** 39K SKUs at mature CFCs



Omni-Channel Focus
Omni AOV<sup>(1)</sup> is ~1.5x Voilà AOV
Voilà AOV<sup>(2)</sup> is ~3.5x in-store AOV



Target: **95%** 

Weekly on-time delivery score

ABOVE TARGET



Target: F

98%

Fulfillment rate

ABOVE TARGET



Target: 70 NPS

Net Promoter Score (NPS) – industry best-in-class

ABOVE TARGET





<sup>(1)</sup> AOV is average order value.

<sup>(2)</sup> Omni AOV refers to customers who shop both through Voilà and in-store.

## **Efficiency and Cost Optimization**

## Strategic Sourcing



Drive efficiency and cost effectiveness through various initiatives (non exhaustive):

- Labour and transport
- Goods not for resale
- Store services and maintenance
- Marketing
- Information technology

## **Supply Chain**



- Drive supply chain productivity and cost effectiveness
- Focus on processes/technology to improve cost to serve and improve resiliency
- Continue to expand automation capabilities
- Enabler for outstanding store service, profitability and sustainable growth

## Organization



- Turnaround Era (F18 F23):
   Transitioned from a regional to national organizational structure
- Next Chapter: Pursuing strategies to optimize our organization and improve efficiencies



## **Disciplined and Balanced Capital Allocation**

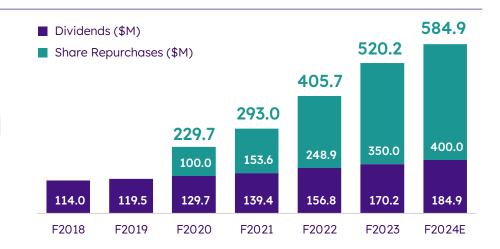
## Significant Shareholder Return and Growing



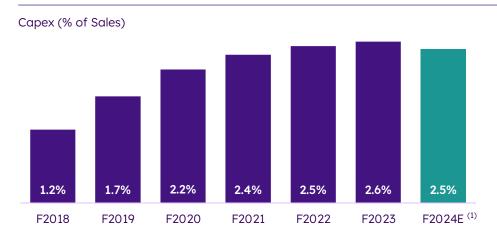
Return of Capital (Dividends + NCIB)

As a percentage of Market Capitalization:

Empire will return ~6.6% to shareholders in F24 vs. grocery peers at ~5.0%.



## **Capital Intensity**



#### **M&A Execution**



## **F2019** (26 stores acquired)

One of the fastest growing and successful food retailers based in Ontario. Opened an additional 21 stores since acquisition.



#### F2019

An Asian food retailer with a strong presence in Quebec.

(3 stores acquired)



#### F2021

(38 stores acquired)

A family-run supermarket chain serving Southern Ontario. Now at 38 stores, with strong growth plans.

## **RICARDO**

#### F2022

An integrated and complementary food media company with a strong emphasis in Quebec, but with a national presence as well.



## ESG<sup>1</sup> Goals: Steady and tangible progress

## **Planet**



We're reducing our impacts and taking action on climate change to do OurPart<sup>™</sup> to protect our planet for future generations.

## **Products**



delivering sustainable and ethical product choices for our customers.

## **People**



We're focused on growing and empowering a diverse, equitable and inclusive workforce to enable our customers and communities to thrive.

#### CLIMATE ACTION

Near-term Scope 1 and 2 targets validated by Science Based Targets initiative (SBTi): Committed to reducina absolute Scope 1 and Scope 2 GHG emissions by a minimum of 55% by 2030 from a 2019 base year

CLIMATE ACTION

15%

reduction in Scope 1 and 2 compared to 2019 baseline - on track to achieve nearterm targets

CLIMATE ACTION

75%

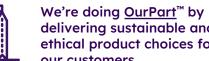
of suppliers by spend engaged on CDP Supply Chain program

#### CLIMATE ACTION

Conducted first climate scenario risk assessment on operational footprint and published inaugural Task force on Climate-Related Financial Disclosures TCFD-aligned report

FOOD WASTE

Close to 15M pounds of surplus food donated, gaining recognition from Second Harvest as Canada's top food-rescue partner for 2022



ETHICAL & SUSTAINABLE SOURCING

**Seafood Metrics** program launched, improving traceability



ETHICAL & SUSTAINABLE SOURCING

77%

of palm oil in products certified sustainable



SUPPLIER PARTNERSHIPS

390+

women entrepreneurs supported in fiscal 2023



DIVERSITY, EQUITY & INCLUSION

of Directors and above set DE&I performance and accountability goals

DIVERSITY, EQUITY & INCLUSION

Achieved Phase 1 Progressive Aboriginal Relations certification from the Canadian Council for Aboriginal Business

DIVERSITY, EQUITY & INCLUSION

78% leaders in offices, corporate stores, and distribution centres completed Speak Freely training

COMMUNITY INVESTMENT

~19M

donated to support healthy bodies and minds in our communities (~\$7M in corporate donations and ~\$12M raised)





## **Summary of Financial Results**

	Fiscal Year							
	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	
	52 weeks	53 weeks	52 weeks	52 weeks	52 weeks	52 weeks	52 weeks	
	6-May-23	7-May-22	1-May-21	2-May-20 <sup>(1)</sup>	4-May-19 <sup>(2)</sup>	5-May-18	6-May-17	
Sales	\$30,478.1	\$30,162.4	\$28,268.3	\$26,588.2	\$25,142.0	\$24,214.6	\$23,806.2	
Same store sales growth (decline), excluding fuel	1.5%	(2.1%)	5.6%	5.7%	2.7%	0.5%	(2.2)%	
Gross profit	\$7,792.7	\$7,659.7	\$7,199.3	\$6,633.3	\$6,083.6	\$5,900.5	\$5,707.2	
Gross margin	25.6%	25.4%	25.5%	24.9%	24.2%	24.4%	24.0%	
Adjusted EBITDA	\$2,322.1	\$2,330.8	\$2,143.8	\$1,892.4	\$1,076.2	\$1,014.7	\$796.9	
Adjusted EBITDA margin	7.6%	7.7%	7.6%	7.1%	4.3%	4.2%	3.3%	
Adjusted earnings per share	\$2.80	\$2.80	\$2.60	\$2.20	\$1.50	\$1.27	\$0.70	
Free cash flow <sup>(3)</sup>	\$191.5	\$811.2	\$744.9	\$1,130.8	\$540.7	\$808.9	\$619.7	
Capital expenditures	\$796.7	\$767.2	\$679.2	\$574.8	\$434.6	\$288.0	\$514.5	
Dividends per share	\$0.66	\$0.60	\$0.52	\$0.48	\$0.44	\$0.42	\$0.41	
Share price	\$35.14	\$42.05	\$38.66	\$31.01	\$29.94	\$25.01	\$21.50	



Note: Please see Appendix [X] for Empire's 12-Quarter Review
(1) Certain financial metrics were impacted by the implementation of IFRS 16 in the fiscal year ended May 2, 2020.

<sup>(2)</sup> Empire's results for fiscal year ended May 4, 2019 include 21 weeks of Farm Boy operations.(3) The Company revised the definition of free cash flow in Q4 F19. All amounts in the chart have been restated to reflect the new definition.

## Empire Company — A Compelling Investment Opportunity

#2 in Grocery Market Share	Leveraging national retail network to deliver outsized growth and attractive financial performance amid solid population growth trends.
Long-Term Financial Framework	Long-term financial framework to achieve 8%-11% EPS growth, by focusing on priorities such as:  • Continued Focus on the Store  • Enhanced Focus on Digital and Data  • Efficiency and Cost Optimization
Positioned for Success as Inflation Eases	Tapering inflation will provide a tailwind for SSS trends in the near-to-medium term. Empire's business model is built to succeed in a normalized inflationary environment.
Balanced Capital Allocation Strategy	Capital allocation strategy is well-balanced to support investment/growth and shareholder returns.
Solid Balance Sheet	Investment grade rating and solid balance sheet to support growth initiatives.
Significant Valuation Upside	EMP.A is trading at a lower valuation versus historical levels and its peers.





# Appendices



## Appendix A: A Review of Turnaround Initiatives

## **Project Sunrise**



**Financial Targets** 

>\$550M Cost Savings



#### **Initiatives**

- Organization realignment to a true national structure
- Driving operational efficiencies across the board
- Optimizing cost of goods sold to drive gross margin enhancements

## **Project Horizon**



## **Financial Targets**

\$500M
Incremental
annualized EBITDA



50 bps (1)
Of EBITDA margin improvement

ACHIEVED

~13%<sup>(1)</sup>
EPS CAGR



#### **Initiatives**

- **Growth in market share** through purposeful initiatives
- Further build on margin and cost discipline



## **Appendix B: Scene+ Reward Categories**



Grocery, Liquor, **Pharmacy** 





































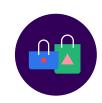
**Banking** 



**Entertainment** 



**Travel** 



Shopping (redeem only)



**Dining** 































PLUS many more...













HARVEY'S

milestones

Prime Pubs



# **Appendix C:** Voilà Timeline

## January 2018

Sobeys signs agreement with Ocado to bring world's leading online grocery delivery solution to Canada.



F2019

#### November 2021

E-commerce option available for customers in every province.



F2022

#### January 2022

Ocado announces new innovations, including next generation robots and grids, to be considered for future CFCs<sup>(1)</sup>.

#### March 2022

Voilà par IGA launches for Quebec customers. (CFC #2)





#### **April 2022**

Voilà by Sobeys expands to Ottawa via Spoke facility from CFC #1.

Greater Vancouver CFC to open.

C2025

## F2021

June 2020

Voilà by Sobeys launches for GTA customers. (CFC #1)





## F2024

• June 2023

Calgary CFC began deliveries servicing the majority of Alberta.



## **July 2023**

Grocery Gateway merged into Voilà.





## Appendix D: Financial Results – 12 Quarter Review

	Fiscal 2024	Fiscal 2023			Fiscal 2022 <sup>(1)</sup>				Fiscal 2021			
	Q1 F24	Q4 F23	Q3 F23	Q2 F23	Q1 F23	Q4 F22 <sup>(1)</sup>	Q3 F22	Q2 F22	Q1 F22	Q4 F21	Q3 F21	Q2 F21
	August 5	May 6	Feb. 4	Nov. 5	Aug. 6	May 7	Jan. 29	Oct. 30	Jul. 31	May 1	Jan. 30	Oct. 31
	2023	2023	2023	2022	2022	2022	2022	2021	2021	2021	2021	2020
Sales	\$8,075.5	\$7,408.4	\$7,489.3	\$7,642.8	\$7,937.6	\$7,840.8	\$7,377.3	\$7,318.3	\$7,626.0	\$6,920.0	\$7,018.7	\$6,975.4
Same store sales growth (decline), excluding fuel	4.1%	2.6%	0.1%	3.1%	0.4%	(2.5%)	(1.7%)	(1.3%)	(2.2%)	(6.1%)	10.7%	8.7%
Gross profit	\$2,074.5	\$1,959.0	\$1,900.6	\$1,955.2	\$1,977.9	\$2,004.0	\$1,892.7	\$1,850.8	\$1,912.2	\$1,795.7	\$1,803.9	\$1,751.1
Gross margin	25.7%	26.4%	25.4%	25.6%	24.9%	25.6%	25.7%	25.3%	25.1%	25.9%	25.7%	25.1%
Adjusted EBITDA	\$641.4	\$598.8	\$545.1	\$584.2	\$594.0	\$586.2	\$597.5	\$565.2	\$581.9	\$514.4	\$533.5	\$513.4
Adjusted EBITDA margin	7.9%	8.1%	7.3%	7.6%	7.5%	7.5%	8.1%	7.7%	7.6%	7.4%	7.6%	7.4%
Adjusted EPS	\$0.78	\$0.72	\$0.64	\$0.73	\$0.71	\$0.68	\$0.77	\$0.66	\$0.70	\$0.64	\$0.66	\$0.60
Free cash flow	\$339.8	\$209.2	\$78.0	(\$127.0)	\$31.3	\$48.9	\$545.4	\$108.3	\$108.6	\$208.9	\$315.7	\$75.2
Capital expenditures	\$123.6	\$243.1	\$143.4	\$254.7	\$155.5	\$273.4	\$159.5	\$188.6	\$147.0	\$231.6	\$207.1	\$120.7
Dividend per share	\$0.1825	\$0.165	\$0.165	\$0.165	\$0.165	\$0.15	\$0.15	\$0.15	\$0.15	\$0.13	\$0.13	\$0.13
Share price - end of period	\$35.00	\$35.14	\$37.15	\$34.76	\$38.26	\$42.05	\$38.87	\$37.00	\$40.97	\$38.66	\$36.48	\$36.69



# **Appendix E:** Executive Leadership Team





Pierre St-Laurent
Chief Operating Officer



Matt Reindel
Chief Financial Officer



Sandra Sanderson Chief Marketing Officer



Doug Nathanson

EVP, Chief Development
Officer & General Counsel



Julia Knox
Chief Technology and
Analytics Officer



Simon Gagné
Chief Human
Resources Officer

