

| OMB APPROVAL | |
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STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* <u>Naftzger J. Christopher</u> <hr/> (Last) (First) (Middle) <u>C/O ARBUTUS BIOPHARMA CORPORATION</u> <u>701 VETERANS CIRCLE</u> <hr/> (Street) <u>WARMINSTER PA 18974</u> <hr/> (City) (State) (Zip) | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol <u>Arbutus Biopharma Corp [ABUS]</u> | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) Director _____ 10% Owner _____ Officer (give title below) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (specify below) _____ <u>General Counsel and CCO</u> |
| | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) <u>07/10/2023</u> | |
| | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year) | |

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | | 4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | | | 5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|------------|-------|---|--|---|
| | | | Code | V | Amount | (A) or (D) | Price | | | |

Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

| 1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security | 3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | | 5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | | 7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 3 and 4) | | 8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5) | 9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 4) | 10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|-----|--|-----------------|---|----------------------------|--|--|---|--|
| | | | | Code | V | (A) | (D) | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | Title | Amount or Number of Shares | | | | |
| Stock Option (Right to Buy) | \$2.26 ⁽¹⁾ | 07/10/2023 | | A | | 500,000 | | (2) | 07/10/2033 | Common Shares | 500,000 | \$0 | 500,000 | D | |

Explanation of Responses:

- Reflects the closing price of the Issuer's common shares on the Nasdaq Stock Market on July 10, 2023, the date of the grant.
- This option shall vest over a four-year period, with 25% of the shares subject to the option vesting on the first anniversary of the grant date and the remaining 75% of the shares subject to the option vesting over the subsequent three-year period in substantially equal monthly installments at a rate of 1/48th of the total shares subject to the option each month, subject to the Reporting Person's continuous service as of each vesting date.

Remarks:

/s/ David C. Hastings as attorney-in-fact for J. Christopher Naftzger 07/12/2023
 ** Signature of Reporting Person Date

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4 (b)(v).

** Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB Number.