

**INITIAL STATEMENT OF BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES**

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

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* FRANZINO JOHN  (Last) (First) (Middle) 8560 MAIN STREET, SUITE 4  (Street)  WILLIAMSVILLE, NY 14221  (City) (State) (Zip)	2. Date of Event Requiring Statement (Month/Day/Year) 06/03/2020	3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol 22nd Century Group, Inc. [XXII]	
		4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer  (Check all applicable) <input type="checkbox"/> Director <input type="checkbox"/> 10% Owner <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer (give title below) <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify below) CFO	5. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)
			6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person <input type="checkbox"/> Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

**Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned**

1. Title of Security (Instr. 4)	2. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned (Instr. 4)	3. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)
Restricted Common Stock Units (1)	100,000	D	

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

SEC 1473 (7-02)

**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 control number.**

**Table II - Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)**

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 4)	2. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		3. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 4)		4. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	5. Ownership Form of Derivative Security: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)
	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares			

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
FRANZINO JOHN 8560 MAIN STREET SUITE 4 WILLIAMSVILLE, NY 14221			CFO	

## Signatures

/s/ John Franzino by John Wolfel, as Attorney-in-Fact	06/05/2020
Signature of Reporting Person	Date

## Explanation of Responses:

- \* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 5(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).
- (1) The restricted stock units vest 50% on the one year anniversary of the date of grant and 50% on the two year anniversary of the date of grant.

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

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

**POWER OF ATTORNEY**

Know all by these presents, that, for good and valuable consideration, the sufficiency and receipt of which are hereby acknowledged, the undersigned hereby constitutes and appoints Michael B. Kirwan and John J. Wolfel, and each or either of them, the undersigned's true and lawful attorney-in-fact to:

1. prepare, execute in the name of the undersigned, and submit to the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") a Form ID, including amendments thereto, and any other documents necessary or appropriate to obtain codes and passwords enabling the undersigned to make electronic filings with the SEC;
2. execute for and on behalf of the undersigned (in accordance with Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, and the rules thereunder (the "Exchange Act")), in the undersigned's capacity as an officer and/or director of 22<sup>nd</sup> Century Group, Inc. (the "Company"), any and all Forms 3, 4 and/or 5, and any amendments thereto, that are necessary or advisable for the undersigned to file under Section 16(a) (such forms along with the Form ID are collectively, "Documents");
3. do and perform any and all acts for and on behalf of the undersigned that may be necessary or desirable to complete and execute any such Documents and timely file such Documents with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission and any stock exchange or similar authority; and
4. take any other action of any type whatsoever in connection with the foregoing which, in the opinion of such attorney-in-fact, may be of benefit to, in the best interest of, or legally required by, the undersigned, it being understood that the Documents executed by such attorney-in-fact on behalf of the undersigned pursuant to this Power of Attorney shall be in such form and shall contain such terms and conditions as such attorney-in-fact may approve in such attorney-in-fact's discretion.

The undersigned hereby grants to such attorney-in-fact full power and authority to do and perform any and every act and thing whatsoever requisite, necessary or proper to be done in the exercise of any of the rights and powers herein granted, as fully to all intents and purposes as the undersigned might or could do if personally present, with full power of substitution or revocation, hereby ratifying and confirming all that such attorney-in-fact (or such attorney-in-fact's substitute or substitutes) shall lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue of this power of attorney and the rights and powers herein granted. The undersigned acknowledges that such attorney-in-fact, in serving in such capacity at the request of the undersigned, is not assuming, nor is such attorney-in-fact's substitute or substitutes assuming, any of the undersigned's responsibilities to comply with the Exchange Act. The undersigned agrees to defend and hold harmless such attorney-in-fact (and such attorney-in-fact's substitute or substitutes) from and against any and all loss, damage or liability that such attorney-in-fact may sustain as a result of any action taken in good faith hereunder.

This Power of Attorney shall remain in full force and effect until the undersigned is no longer required to file Documents with respect to the undersigned's holdings of and transactions in securities issued by the Company, unless earlier revoked by the undersigned in a signed writing delivered to the foregoing attorney-in-fact.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, the undersigned has caused this Power of Attorney to be executed as of this 29th day of May, 2020.

/s/ John Franzino

Signature

Name: John Franzino