



THE PROSPECTOR

RESOURCE INVESTMENT NEWS

JULY, 2021

**ENVIRONMENTAL,
SOCIAL, AND GOVERNANCE
(ESG) INVESTING IS GOING TO BE
THE DIFFERENCE TO FUNDING
A PROJECT OR NOT**

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ABORIGINAL MINER

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ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL, AND GOVERNANCE (ESG) INVESTING IS GOING TO BE THE DIFFERENCE TO FUNDING A PROJECT OR NOT

By Dr. Jane Lockwood

In the modern investment environment, ESG can be the difference between junior miners successfully raising the capital they need and being forced to close up shop. Modern investors want strong ESG credentials before they spend their money, and even more than that they want information so that they can make decisions that suit their goals. But with over 40 ESG standards competing for attention around the world, getting access to that information can often be a major obstacle. For miners themselves, communicating their ESG strategies can be a highly complicated endeavor.



These problems are just as significant for major capital providers like BlackRock and Orion as they are for retail investors. With that in mind, several representatives of the capital sector, such as Evy Hambro from BlackRock, approached Jamie Strauss, Founder and CEO of Digbee, to create a solution. Digbee, for those still missing out, is an ESG disclosure, data and research platform for the mining industry, with the ability for users to look up crucial information on hundreds of mining projects around the world. Now, Digbee ESG has been created in response to the vacuum of

credible, accessible ESG information on projects run by both public and private companies, at all stages from exploration to production. It is backed by the capital investment sector as the right solution for the mining industry.

submitted. The questionnaire can be circulated internally before submission, and after submission and payment adding up to around USD \$14,000 for an exploration-stage company with a single project, the responses are approved by the corporate's Board. Once this is done,

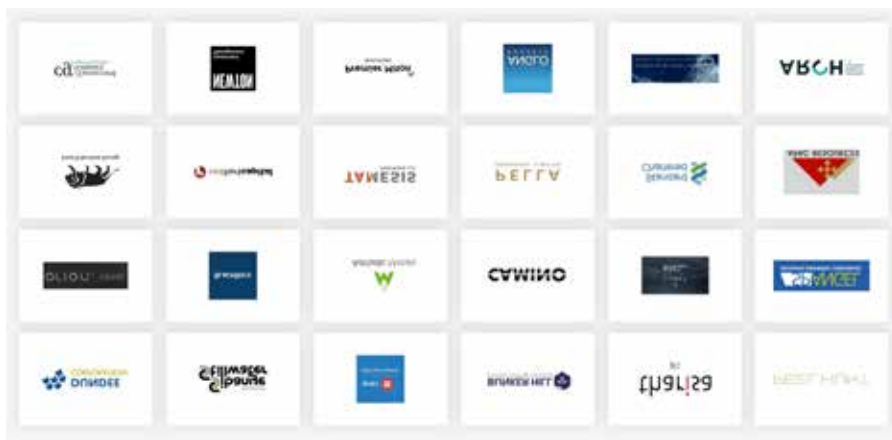


Traditional ratings agencies rank mining equal last amongst all industries, alongside oil and gas, for ESG. These agencies use algorithms to generate rankings, and are fundamentally backwards-looking in their approach. Jamie realized that mining needed a solution tailored to its particular challenges and accomplishments, because those within the industry know how much good it can do.

Digbee ESG is simple from both a corporate and investor perspective. Mining companies answer a free questionnaire, with questions that are tailored to specific industry standards. This can be done by someone from within the company, avoiding the need to bring on outside ESG consultants for the task. For each question, the relevant standards are displayed, and a supporting narrative can be included and evidence

Digbee will have the submission assessed by two ESG experts, who will generate a standardized report and scores for the assessed projects. The scores provide an overall rating, as well as more detailed information on particular issues, guided by the company's responses and verified by specific evidence. Companies also have the ability to hide their initial scores for up to 13 months after their inaugural submission, which is useful if, for example, they want to establish a direction of travel for their scores to show improvement.

From the investor side, Digbee ESG fights back against greenwashing and gives insight into specific projects, rather than a company-level assessment. Furthermore, submissions can be relied upon because they are approved by the company's Board of Directors and, most importantly, they



are assessed by independent ESG experts. Questions are responsive to the realities of the mining industry, since they are tailored to the stage of each project, and different projects from different companies can be compared with the click of a button. In addition to overall and detailed scores, the tool provides a list of ESG positives and negatives for each project, written by the independent assessors, easily allowing investors to get an overview or target a special interest.

The ESG landscape is evolving, with the approach of Boards transitioning from a principles-based to a regulatory one. This, in part, explains the proliferation of ESG standards worldwide. Jamie Strauss's experience indicates that mining companies want to showcase their ESG achievements, and for capital providers like Evy Hambro at BlackRock, accessing that information is vital in order to justify investment in an industry that has an imperfect ESG track record. Investors need a framework to assess projects and companies, but it is unrealistic for all

but the most niche of experts to engage with every standard a company might use to disclose. On top of that, mining corporates themselves face a headache when trying to decide how and what to disclose. Digbee ESG smooths this process for both parties, and provides access to information aligned to the top standards around the globe. With the world gearing up for the transition to a green economy, investors know that the mining industry will be at the core of the change because it provides the raw materials that green technologies need, and with Digbee ESG they can research and explain their investments without spending time and money to understand highly disparate disclosure methods.

With a digital ESG presence like Digbee ESG offers, miners can engage local stakeholders, insurers and investors to show their work. It allows Boards to get an objective idea of how they are performing and to understand their risks, and directly encourages investment in ESG. Digbee ESG answers a direct call from capital providers and miners alike to streamline the ESG disclosure process.

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A SUSTAINABLE APPROACH TO STRIKING GOLD

CARTIER RESOURCES COLLABORATES WITH THE CREE FIRST NATION OF WASWANUPI TO SUSTAINABLY ADVANCE ABITIBI GOLD BELT PROJECTS

By Amanda Dawn Graff, M.A.

2021 has been a year of milestones for Cartier Resources Inc. (TSX.V: ECR), a mineral explorer that acquires and discovers highly prospective projects in Québec's Abitibi Gold Belt, with a current focus on its flagship Chimo Mine.

A few short months ago, Cartier filed an NI 43-101 Technical Report on SEDAR that presented an updated mineral resource estimate for the Chimo Mine, increasing the resource to 684,000 ounces indicated and 1,358,000 ounces inferred. Furthermore, industrial ore sorting tests revealed that the mineralization can be pre-concentrated with less than 50% of the mass of original material and a 170% increase in gold content.

In addition to the Chimo Mine, the company's portfolio includes the Benoist, Fenton, Wilson, Dollier, and MacCormack deposits, all situated in one of the world's best mining jurisdictions.

With exploration drilling planned on its next flagship, the Benoist project, Cartier recently entered into a Mineral Exploration Agreement (MEA) with The Cree First Nation of Waswanipi (CFNW) to build a framework for collaboration throughout each phase of planned activities that will occur on traditional lands.

A MAJOR RESOURCE ADJACENT TO ROBUST INFRASTRUCTURE

Located in close proximity to six ore processing mills in Val-d'Or, the 100% owned Chimo Mine is accessible all year round and is home to 27 gold zones hosted within 17 gold structures. The property is supported by robust infrastructure that includes a 7 km network of drifts distributed over nine levels and connected by a three-compartment shaft. It also hosts a 25 kV power line and sandpit.

Cartier's drilling to date on the 334-hectare property has consisted of 124 holes totalling 58,054 metres and 21,867 samples collected for gold analysis.

The company is currently focused on completing internal engineering studies that will lead to a Preliminary Economic Assessment of the project.

Recently, the company announced an updated mineral resource estimate on the property that surpassed expectations. Cartier's latest NI 43-101 Technical Report revealed 6,616,000 tonnes at an average grade of 3.21 g/t Au for a total of 684,000 ounces of gold indicated and 15,240,000 tonnes at an average grade of 2.77 g/t Au for a total of 1,358,000 ounces of gold inferred.

"The results are above and beyond what we expected," said Philippe Cloutier, P.Geo., President, CEO & Director, Cartier Resources.

We've confirmed that this past producing mine now has 2 million ounces of resource within 500 metres of existing infrastructure. This positioning will make the resource easier to develop than originally anticipated and it lays a strong foundation for advanced engineering studies to produce optimal mining design scenarios.

These latest results encompass the north, central and south gold corridors with strong potential to increase resources below and peripheral to all gold zones in addition to the eastern section of the property.

Close proximity to existing infrastructure will not only make the resource easier to develop, but it also aligns with new guidelines prescribed by the Canadian Institute of Mining, Metallurgy and Petroleum's (CIM) Mineral Resources and Mineral Reserves Committee.

In 2019, best practice guidelines were updated from an earlier version to incorporate stricter reporting filters. In addition to reporting the resource, Mineral Resource statements for underground mining scenarios must now satisfy requirements related to reasonable prospects for eventual economic extraction.

"With mineralization located so close to existing infrastructure on the Chimo



The MEA creates a foundation for CFNW and Cartier to collaborate throughout all phases of exploration

Mine project, our latest resource estimate passed the test with flying colours," said Philippe Cloutier, Cartier Resources.

To further enhance the success of the mine, Cartier is committed to continuously enhancing infrastructure on the property. The company recently completed a study on the hoisting capacity of the existing shaft which revealed that internal components of the shaft could be used to hoist two skips with a loading capacity of 20 metric tonnes each. This would allow for hoisting of 4,921 metric tons per day or 1.7 million metric tons per year.

By replacing existing guides with steel guides, there is potential to increase this capacity to 6,151 metric tons per day or 2.2 million metric tons per year. This study represents only one of several ongoing engineering studies aimed at developing and producing optimal mine designs to minimize costs and recover the most ounces of gold possible.

OPTIMIZING ORE RECOVERY, REDUCING ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

In addition to exploration, Cartier is also actively focused on optimizing ore recovery. The company has undertaken ore sorting tests to increase the grade of pre-concentrated material prior to milling while enhancing recovery rates at the mill.

Ore sorting involves separating out waste rock from ore at the early stages of mining to maximize cash values per tonne, reduce haulage costs, and minimize environmental impact. The process allows waste material to be rejected without significant capital expenditure.

Tests applied to the Chimo Mine resource, which were carried out by laboratories Corem and Steinert US, included the two types of mineralized facies present on the mine: quartz veins with coarse visible gold grains and zones of silica-rich mafic rocks.

The tests produced a concentrate representing more than 50% of the mass of original material with a 170% bump in gold content compared to the feed of the sorter. The significant increase in content has reduced costs related to transportation, milling and environmental restoration while creating a lighter footprint. It also bodes well for increasing the overall value of the resource.

Gold is becoming harder to mine, so once you find it, you don't want to leave any of it behind,"said Philippe Cloutier,

Cartier Resources. Ore sorting allows us to process resources more efficiently – we no longer need to include material that will never yield an ounce of gold. As an added benefit, we're also using less energy and are better positioned to meet our sustainability goals.

**MEANINGFUL CONSULTATION,
A MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL
PARTNERSHIP**

Cartier Resources is governed by a sustainable development policy that prioritizes stakeholder consultation while ensuring that projects add value to surrounding communities. In line with this, the company recently entered into a Mineral Exploration Agreement (MEA) with The Cree First Nation of Waswanipi (CFNW) to further exploration on its Benoist property.

Drilling at the property will explore extensions of the Pusticamica gold deposit and its peripheral potential. Current resource estimates consist of 1,455,400 tonnes at an average grade of 2.87 g/t AuEq for a total of 134,400 ounces of gold indicated, and 1,449,600 tonnes at an average grade of 2.30 g/t AuEq for a

total of 107,000 ounces of gold inferred. The MEA creates a foundation for CFNW and Cartier to collaborate throughout all phases of exploration, ensuring that meaningful consultation occurs at the outset. As part of the agreement, the progress of exploration activities on the Benoist property will be shared with CFNW in real time. Furthermore, the agreement will ensure the protection of special wildlife interests essential to sustaining the Cree way of life.

We're taking a proactive approach to protecting traditional lands and ways of life," said Joshua Blacksmith, Mining Coordinator, Cree First Nation of Waswanipi. "Often, these agreements come into play at later stages of mining, creating a consultation gap during prospecting and exploration. The MEA closes this gap, ensuring that traditional knowledge is shared early on.

A framework for effective consultation dates back to 2002 with the enactment of The Paix des Braves Agreement, also known as The Agreement Respecting a New Relationship Between the Cree Nation and the Government of Québec.

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The agreement established a new nation-to-nation relationship based on principles of trust and mutual respect. Areas of focus include sustainable development, equitable participation in the natural resource industries, and the protection of traditional ways of life. The agreement also provides for revenue sharing and joint management with regards to mining, forestry and hydroelectric projects occurring on Cree lands.

The Paix des Braves agreement established a proper consultation process for forestry activities which allows for the protection of special wildlife interests essential to the sustainability of our Cree way of life," stated Chief Marcel Happyjack, Cree First Nation of Waswanipi. "The MEA represents a big step forward in meaningful consultation during the prospecting and exploration stages of mining.

Joshua Blacksmith, Cree First Nation of Waswanipi adds:

"This agreement is the result of a true collaboration between many parties including Director of Natural Resources Stephen Blacksmith, Deputy Chief

Ronnie Ottereyes, and Chief Happyjack. Through ongoing dialogue, we've come to an agreement that aligns with our values. Namely, protecting our way of life, safeguarding hunting and trapping rights, and encouraging sustainable development."

The consultation process outlined by the MEA will incorporate significant participation of the CFNW Elders Council which was established to represent Cree history, culture and language, serving as advisors to the Chief, Council and members of the community.

The elders are the first stewards of the land with a vast knowledge base regarding traditional ways of life," said Philippe Cloutier, Cartier Resources. "Their guidance is imperative to these agreements, lending a much-needed perspective on the ways in which mining operations from discovery to production will impact their local territory.

In addition to the MEA, the mutually beneficial relationship between Cartier Resources and CFNW has also resulted in training and employment opportunities within the community.

Exploration activities including prospecting, line cutting, drilling, and camp building are often undertaken by Cree of Waswanipi-owned enterprises.

These enterprises include Miyuukaa Corporation which specializes in a wider range of services including road construction, environmental decontamination, concrete work, excavation, crushing and screening, and civil engineering. Where services are available and competitive, preference is given to these organizations. Philippe Cloutier, Cartier Resources comments:

As demand for metals continues to climb, modern day miners are focusing more and more on best practices around corporate citizenship and the environment, while creating a sense of connection on our projects through training and employment opportunities that benefit surrounding communities.

[Learn more about Cartier Resources Inc. at resourcescartier.com](https://resourcescartier.com)

[Learn more about The Cree First Nation of Waswanipi at waswanipi.com](https://waswanipi.com)



GOLD MOUNTAIN DEVELOPS STRATEGIC ALLIANCES, HITS MAJOR MILESTONES

PARTNERSHIPS WITH NEW GOLD & NHWELMEN-LAKE ARE HELPING TO FAST TRACK THE PAST-PRODUCING ELK GOLD MINE

By Amanda Dawn Graff, M.A.

Since releasing an updated preliminary economic assessment in September, **Gold Mountain Mining Corp. (TSX.V: GMTN)** has hit the ground running, achieving major milestones at the Elk Gold Mine.

For starters, the company recently received a draft mining permit for the project, with a final permit to follow shortly. Once received, the company will begin large-scale waste rock mining in addition to mining its high-grade 1300 vein.

Phase 1 of the company’s multi-phase drill program is currently underway and has significantly increased the

project’s resource to 810,000 ounces, advancing towards Gold Mountain’s vision of 1 million ounces.

Furthermore, an ore purchase agreement with New Gold Corp. and longstanding partnership with majority Indigenous-owned construction contractor Nhwelmen-Lake LP has allowed the company to achieve cost certainty for the life of the mine.

With a commitment to scaling up the Elk Gold Mine through mutually beneficial partnerships, Gold Mountain recently entered into three Memorandums of Understanding (“MOU”)s with local Indigenous communities which will provide

a framework for ongoing engagement, social and economic collaboration.

ACHIEVING A 100% HIT RATE ON A MASSIVE, PAST-PRODUCING LAND PACKAGE

With a total mine life of 11 years, the Elk Gold property is a massive, past-producing land package nestled in southern B.C. that is serviced by an all-season, four-lane highway connecting Kelowna and Merritt.

Home to a high-grade gold-bearing mesothermal quartz and sulphide vein deposit, over 127,069 metres of

TSX.V: GMTN | F5XFA



GOLD MOUNTAIN MINING CORP.

KEVIN SMITH, DIRECTOR, AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

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Nhwelmen-Lake has mobilized various pieces of equipment to the Elk Gold Mine in support of construction

drilling has historically occurred on the property. It was acquired from Equinox Gold in May 2019 for C\$10 million, and since acquisition, Gold Mountain has adhered to an ambitious roadmap on this open-pit, underground operation.

In January of this year, the company started Phase 1 of a multi-phase drill

program that encompassed 8,739 metres and yielded a 100% hit rate. Mineralization was discovered in all 41 holes at grades reaching 124 g/t, while highly prospective Siwash vein systems on the property were extended.

Every drill hole returned significant gold intercepts,” said Kevin Smith,

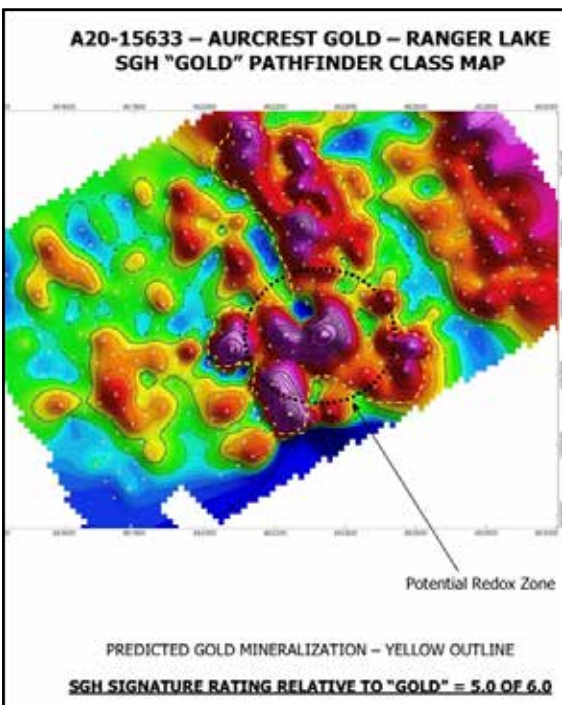
CEO & Director, Gold Mountain. “There are more ounces to find in our shallow open pit scenario, and we’re really starting to understand the potential of the mine.

Phase 2 is currently underway with a total of 10,000 metres planned. This phase of the program is focused on expanding the property’s Siwash North, Gold Creek and Elusive zones, while uncovering new intercepts in satellite areas. The Siwash zone includes pit constrained resources of 454,000 ounces AuEq measured and indicated, and 95,000 ounces AuEq inferred.

Results of the drill program have surpassed expectations. In May of this year, the company released an updated NI 43-101 that increased the property’s resource to 651,000 ounces measured and indicated at 6.1 g/t Au, and 159,000 ounces inferred at 4.8 g/t Au, for a total of 810,000 ounces.

Kevin Smith, Gold Mountain, comments: “Anytime you can add ounces at less than \$8.00 per ounce, you have a highly scalable project — we’re now on track to reach over 1 million ounces of resource by early fall.”

The updated PEA released in September incorporated this increased resource along with underground mining which allowed the company to eliminate 50



AURCREST GOLD WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE SMALL TOWNS, FIRST NATIONS, AND CITIES OF NORTHERN ONTARIO FOR THEIR SUPPORT OF THE MINING INDUSTRY. CHRISTOPHER ANGECONEB - AURCREST PRESIDENT & CEO, BAND MEMBER OF THE LAC SEUL FIRST NATION - WOULD PARTICULARLY LIKE TO THANK THE PEOPLE OF THE RED LAKE MINING DISTRICT AS WE BEGIN DRILLING OUR “RANGER LAKE” PROJECT. LOCATED ON THE MUNICIPAL BOUNDARY OF RED LAKE 10KM’S DUE EAST OF THE RED LAKE MINE COMPLEX - THIS UNDER-EXPLORED AREA HAS NEVER BEEN DRILLED. MODERN TECHNOLOGY INCLUDING THE WINDFALL GEOTEK CARDS ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE SYSTEM AND THE ACTLABS SGH SAMPLING (PICTURED HERE) HAVE LEAD TO THE DISCOVERY OF THIS NEW TARGET AREA. **AURCREST GOLD INC TSXV:AGO - the full report on SGH and Windfall CARDS AI results are available at www.aurcrest.ca**

million tons of waste rock. The PEA also benefited from a lean cost structure made possible through strategic partnerships with New Gold Corp. and Nhwelmen-Lake LP.

DE-RISKING ELK GOLD THROUGH AN ORE PURCHASE AGREEMENT

In line with Gold Mountain’s objective to increase agility and production potential, the company entered into a three year ore purchase agreement with New Gold Corp. The agreement outlines parameters for the delivery of ore from the Elk Gold Mine to the mill at New Gold’s New Afton Mine, located approximately 133km from the project.

In June, Gold Mountain and New Gold signed a letter of intent to increase tonnage delivered to the mill from 70,000 to 350,000 tonnes per year, which will start in the fourth year of production. This reflects a 400% bump in delivery commitments outlined in the original agreement, providing a clear path to scale up mining operations.

Foregoing the construction of an on-site mill and tailings storage facilities has been instrumental to reducing all-in sustaining costs from \$735 per ounce to \$554 per ounce. The decision was based in part on results from ongoing prefeasibility studies that have been carried out by JDS Energy and Mines on the Elk Gold Project. Kevin Smith, Gold Mountain, explains:

This new plan eliminates a large amount of capital expenditure while reducing environmental impacts. We can now reallocate capital to advancing exploration and accelerating remediation, positioning us to produce more gold sooner.

As part of the agreement, ore will be sampled and weighed at the Elk Gold Mine to determine the contained ounces of gold and silver. Following delivery, New Gold will pay Gold Mountain at the end of each calendar month based on the value of resource in the ore, net of the agreed metallurgical recovery and concentrate selling costs.

By avoiding environmental impacts related to building an on-site mill, Gold Mountain can streamline the permitting process required to scale production. Furthermore, New Gold has submitted its Notice of Departure to receive ore from the Elk Gold Mine, and the production schedule is on track with ore delivery planned for October 2021.

PARTNERING TO FAST-TRACK PRODUCTION

Gold Mountain was pleased to announce that it recently secured a draft Mine Permit from the Ministry of Energy, Mines & Low Carbon Innovation, (“EMLI”), which will support the company in achieving its milestones.

They’re currently finalizing feedback and permit language and will then submit a final permit to EMLI for approval. The permit represents the most definitive authorization required to go into production and its receipt provides Gold Mountain with confidence that other authorizations will soon follow.



AMANEXRESOURCEGROUPCOMPANY



Bravada Gold Corporation (BVA-TSX.V; BGAVF-OTCQB; BRTN-Stuttgart) is an exploration and development company with a portfolio of ten high-quality properties for 810 claims, 6,500 ha in two prolific Nevada gold trends. Currently, three of its properties are funded by partners. The Company also holds a royalty on a high-grade gold property in Ontario. Bravada’s value is underpinned by a substantial gold and silver resource with a positive PEA at Wind Mountain.

Partners typically spend approximately US\$1,000,000 on Bravada’s properties each year advancing the company’s projects.

- **Wind Mountain Au/Ag project**
 - Current drilling completed 13 drill holes for 2,186.8 metres.
 - Substantial gold and silver resource with current positive PEA
 - Updated resource and PEA expected in early 2022
- **Highland** – Signs Definitive Agreement for Highland Au/Ag Prospect with Headwater Gold Inc.
- **SF/HC** – Two “Proof-of-Concept” drill holes in 2019 confirmed the presence of a gold system in favorable host rocks and structures that are similar to those at the large, high-grade Goldrush deposit nearby. Adjacent HC claims were acquired, and additional claims were staked to allow further exploration of this large Carlin-type gold system.
- **Baxter** – Drill ready after detailed soil-sampling program.
- **Pete Hanson & Gabel** – Expected to be drill ready after a soil-sampling program on each.
- **North Lone Mtn** – Zinc and gold soil anomalies drill ready.
- **Shoshone Pediment** – Permitting two barite open pits by Baxter Hughes, Royalty to Bravada possible in 2021/2022.

TSX: BVA.V | BRTN: STUTTGART | BGAVF: OTCQB | WEBSITE: www.bravadagold.com | EMAIL: ir@mnx ltd.com

We've been committed to aggressive timelines and getting into production since coming to trade in December of 2020," said Kevin Smith, Gold Mountain. "Operations will be in full stride once we receive our mining permit amendment.

Further fast tracking the project is Gold Mountain's Notice of Departure, received in April, which authorizes the company to undertake certain construction and site preparation work at the Elk Gold Mine under the M-199 Mines Act permit.

This work is now underway and is being supported through a Mining Contract with Nhwelmen-Lake LP, a majority Indigenous-owned construction contractor with a proven track record of successful operations throughout the province.

The contract provides local communities with access to training and employment, including up to 30 on-site jobs, helping to strengthen the region's economy over the next 10

years. It also provides Gold Mountain with certainty in capital and operating costs related to mining and ore haulage, while ensuring the protection of environmental and cultural resources.

We've aligned ourselves with first-class contractor Nhwelmen-Lake to reduce our initial capex and leverage their expertise to develop the province's next high-grade gold and silver producer," said Kevin Smith, Gold Mountain. "They have first right of refusal on all work for the life of the mine, resulting in long term training and employment opportunities for the surrounding community."

As part of the contract, Nhwelmen-Lake is paid a fixed price per tonne mined at a price that's in line with PEA metrics based on planned production rate, mined volumes, haulage distances and equipment productivity.

Nhwelmen-Lake has mobilized various pieces of equipment to the Elk Gold Mine in support of site construction activities.

This equipment includes tracked dozers, excavators, a production blast-hole drill, rock trucks and a mobile jaw crusher. Other equipment currently on the way includes a weigh scale, fuel storage, office facilities, and generator structures.

A key component of the site construction includes the use of a gravel borrow to conduct waste rock mining at Pit 2 and repurpose the existing soil and gravel to develop roads and laydowns. Nhwelmen-Lake has cleared overburden and conducted the first blast of waste rock near Pit 2. They're now crushing and screening the blasted rock and have begun road and laydown construction.

Furthermore, on May 7, 2021, the Company received a letter of authorization from the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy related to dewatering of the historical open pits under the existing Effluent Discharge Permit. As of June 8, the Company has pumped out 46,500m³ of water from Pit 2.

Once the final Mine Permit is issued,

Equity Metals Corporation
TSX.V: EQTY | OTCQB: EQMEF

SILVER QUEEN GOLD-SILVER PROJECT
BRITISH COLUMBIA, CANADA
100% OWNED WITH A HIGH-GRADE NI43-101 AU-AG-ZN MINERAL RESOURCE

HIGH-GRADE SILVER INTERSECTED IN 2020 DRILLING:
0.3M of 56,115 g/t Ag within 1.65M of 12,448 g/t Ag

THE SILVER QUEEN ADVANTAGE:

- 18,852ha with no underlying royalties
- Management and exploration team with proven track record of discovery in BC
- Superior access and logistics in mature mining region for low exploration costs
- 2021 Phase III drill program on the Silver Queen property in which 13 holes were completed for a total of 4,991.3 metres including a 0.3 metre interval grading 14,035g/t Ag, 0.1g/t Au, 0.5% Cu, 1.3% Pb and 3.3% Zn (14,256g/t AgEq or 190.1g/t AuEq)
- 31 holes totaling 9,983m completed with bonanza gold and silver intercepts
- More than 20 different veins have been identified on the property
- Drill sites and targets for up to 15,000 metres of drilling are currently in the planning and permitting stage -Budget +\$2.0M

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The Elk Gold Mine is home to a high-grade gold-bearing mesothermal quartz and sulphide vein deposit

Gold Mountain will commence large scale waste rock mining with a goal to mine the high-grade 1300 vein for ore delivery to New Gold in October.

TAKING AN INCLUSIVE, COLLABORATIVE APPROACH TO PROJECT ADVANCEMENT

As part of Gold Mountain's commitment to inclusivity and adding value to surrounding communities, the company

was pleased to announce the recent signing of three Memorandums of Understanding ("MOU"s) with surrounding Indigenous communities. The MOUs will establish a process for ongoing engagement towards social and economic collaboration on the Elk Gold Project.

By taking an inclusive approach since we acquired the project, we continue to build a strong foundation with surrounding

Indigenous communities and governments," said Kevin Smith, Gold Mountain. "The MOUs and mining contract with Nhwelmen-Lake are based on our belief that First Nations partnerships are critical to project success.

The MOUs will strengthen Gold Mountain's corporate initiatives and further demonstrate the company's efforts to prioritize investment in Indigenous communities within the Nicola Thompson region. The execution of the MOUs also represents the company's commitment to open and collaborative working relationships for all mine-related activities moving forward.

Furthermore, the MOUs facilitate early consultation, providing a foundation to establish long-term, mutually beneficial partnerships, and carry this momentum forward into the environmental assessment process.

Learn more about Gold Mountain Mining Corp. at: gold-mountain.ca

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ADVANCING A 100% SILVER RESOURCE IN B.C.'S GOLDEN TRIANGLE

DOLLY VARDEN SILVER COLLABORATES WITH INDIGENOUS-OWNED SAVAGE PADS TO ADVANCE ONE OF THE PUREST SILVER ASSETS IN CANADA

By Amanda Dawn Graff, M.A.

Dolly Varden Silver Corporation (TSXV: DV) is a mineral explorer focused on growing high-grade silver resources in the southern tip of B.C.'s Golden Triangle. The company owns 100% interest in the flagship Dolly Varden Silver Project and is gaining serious traction among investors, in part due to the price of silver breaking out to new eight-year highs — the company's stock jumped 132% over the past year alone.

Dolly Varden has a strong cash position of C\$24 million and secured several sizeable private placements last year including a strategic investment by renowned silver investor Eric Sprott that increased his holdings to 19.9%.

The Dolly Varden Silver Project is at the advanced stage of exploration with a 43-101 compliant 100% silver resource, offering investors leverage to silver prices. Considered highly prospective for hosting precious metal deposits, the property shares the same structural and stratigraphic setting as numerous other high-grade deposits including the Eskay Creek and Brucejack mines.

Phase 1 field activities are set to commence on the property which will kick off a two-year drill program to aggressively expand and upgrade the project's past producing Torbrit mine and test several well-defined targets for discovery.

The mining camp is more than 100 years old, yet we're still making new discoveries using modern geological and modelling techniques," said Robert van Egmond, P.Geo, Chief Geologist, Dolly Varden Silver. "We're upgrading a silver resource asset towards a mining scenario with significant exploration potential – there's still a lot of ground to cover.

To further advance exploration activities, Dolly Varden Silver has partnered with local, Indigenous-owned Savage Pads, a construction contractor that provides training and employment opportunities to members of the Nisga'a First Nation.

By tapping into highly specialized skill sets that include the development of customized helicopter and drill pads, land reclamation, and road and bridge construction, the mutually beneficial relationship with Savage Pads is empowering Dolly Varden's mission to build silver resources.

A HIGHLY PROSPECTIVE, PURE SILVER PLAY



The Dolly Varden mine is one of Canada's only pure silver plays

8,800 hectares in size, the highly prospective Dolly Varden Silver Project is located north of the Alice Arm community in northwestern B.C. and includes four historic mines – Torbrit, Dolly Varden, Wolf, and North Star.

Collectively, the historic mines host 3.42 million metric tons of indicated resource averaging 299.8 grams per

metric ton or 32.93 million oz of silver plus 1.29 million metric tons of inferred resource averaging 277 g/t or 11.45 million oz of silver. The property is largely untapped as only 3% has been explored in detail.

Last year, Dolly Varden embarked on an exploration program that included infill and step-out drilling at Torbrit as well as regional mapping, surface sampling and exploration drilling to expand high-grade zones within the known mineral deposit.

The comprehensive program was comprised of 11,397 metres in 40 drill holes. 19 holes were completed in the Torbrit area, and 21 reconnaissance and exploration holes were drilled to

test multiple areas throughout the property. Results included intersecting 302 g/t silver over 31.95 metres, including 642 g/t silver over 4 metres for Hole DV20-217, a 50 metre step-out from the previous hole. Other significant highlights included:

- Hole DV20-211: 351 g/t silver over 12.75 metres, including 1083 g/t silver over 2.70 metres

- Hole DV20-213: 135 g/t silver over 37.50 metres, including 906 g/t silver over 1.00 metres
- Hole DV20-222: 204 g/t silver over 15.55 metres, including 310 g/t silver over 6.00 metres
- Hole DV20-244: 304 g/t silver over 45.82 metres, including 642 g/t silver over 4.00 metres
- Hole DV20-246: 306 g/t silver over 5.10 metres, including 1,290 g/t silver over 0.60 metres

The Torbrit mine hosts the bulk of the resources on the Dolly Varden Silver Project and it's considered among the most advanced pure silver deposits in Canada, with further room for expansion at depth and along strike.

“What’s unique about the Dolly Varden Silver Project is that it’s a clean, pure silver play – this type of deposit is generally only found in locations such as Mexico, Peru or Bolivia. As a high-grade silver deposit in Canada, it’s in a safe jurisdiction with stable and well-established mining and tax laws,” said Robert van Egmond, Dolly Varden Silver.

BACKED BY ROBUST INFRASTRUCTURE

In Q4 of last year, Dolly Varden announced the acquisition of surface rights and fee simple lands within the community of Alice Arm, B.C., which was originally developed in the early 1900s to support silver mining in the area.

Surface rights acquired include lands where the exploration camp, offices, logging and sampling facilities reside, in addition to core storage areas. One parcel of the land is located directly along the waterfront, offering the potential to construct deep water loading facilities. Exploration activities are also supported by direct road access to deep tidewater docks located in the Alice Arm community.

“We have an advantage in that the Dolly Varden property is not hidden away in the mountains – we’re adjacent to major infrastructure including a 28 km road that provides access in and out of the mine site,” said Rob van Egmond, Dolly Varden Silver.

Field activities recently resumed on the property, with a focus on expanding and upgrading the Torbrit deposit along with multiple silver-rich satellite targets that were generated by the company’s geological team. Crews have mobilized to prepare the camp and facilities located on tidewater in Alice Arm, with drilling to commence shortly after.

The planned program is split in two phases with 5,000 metres allocated to delineating and expanding the Torbrit deposit and 5,000 metres dedicated to exploration drilling with a focus on discovering new deposits. Resource modelling at the high-grade Torbrit deposit has integrated drilling results from 2019 and 2020, making it possible to target specific areas for conversion from Inferred to Indicated/Measured resource categories.

Dolly Varden’s updated geological model suggests that the Torbrit silver-rich horizon dips underneath the bottom of the valley that hosts the deposit. As such, exploration drilling will include some deeper holes that



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In addition to building heli and drill pads, Savage Pads also sets up mining camps

will further explore this down plunge extension potential.

Drilling will also explore for new high-grade deposits within favourable host rocks where alteration and geochemical signatures have indicated the strongest presence of volcanogenic-related silver mineralization. As part of the program, geotechnical logging will be undertaken to inform upcoming mining studies.

STRENGTH IN NUMBERS

Underpinning Dolly Varden Silver's success is an ongoing commitment to collaboration with local communities. The company is a founding member of the B.C. Regional Mining Alliance (BCRMA), a strategic partnership between Indigenous groups, industry, and the provincial government.

The organization fosters productive, mutually beneficial relationships to encourage responsible resource development, sustainable investment opportunities, and positive economic outcomes for local communities.

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“The BCRMA is a consortium between First Nations, industry, and government that provides a valuable opportunity to stand together and collaborate for the good of our province and local communities,” said Robert van Egmond, Dolly Varden Silver.

Dolly Varden Silver is also supporting local economic development by partnering with Indigenous-owned Savage Pads, a full-service construction contractor that specializes in the mining industry. Savage Pads was founded by Phillip Clayton who was contracted to work on the Dolly Varden Silver Project back in 2011, applying his extensive skill set to build helicopter and drill pads, in addition to setting up camps.

Phillip originally learned to engineer and construct solid, stable pads from heli-loggers, using a method that didn't require timber to be flown in for lumber. Leveraging this knowledge base, he formed the fully incorporated Savage Pads with a mission to provide skills training and employment opportunities to members of the local Nisga'a First Nation.

“It started as a family business,” said Phillip Clayton, Owner & Chief Operator, Savage Pads. “First I trained my brothers and then I extended this training to other members of the community looking to develop highly-sought after skills within the mining industry.

Comprised of more than 6,000 members, the fully self-governing Nisga'a First Nation is the original occupant of the Nass River Valley of northwestern B.C. Savage Pads collaborates with the Nisga'a Employment, Skills and Training (NEST) organization which provides resources and services to support the Nisga'a people in finding and keeping meaningful employment. Through the partnership with NEST, Savage Pads employees can achieve certification for their specialized skill set.

On the Dolly Varden property, the Savage Pads team has constructed helicopter and drill pads that can be customized to almost any type of terrain. As part of this service, Savage Pads brings in all materials required to construct the pads, modifies construction to the unique landscape whether rocky or steep, dismantles the pads, and provides full land reclamation

after use. The team has also completed road and bridge construction, and mobilized camps for operation.

The ability to bring in local, highly skilled personnel allows Dolly Varden Silver to save on costs related to transportation and accommodation,” explained Phillip Clayton, Savage Pads. “By tapping into our experience, the work is completed safely and efficiently, and our in-field collaboration with geologists is helping the company advance the project.

Robert van Egmond, Dolly Varden Silver commented: “It's been great to see Savage Pads grow and thrive, based in part on the work they're doing on the Dolly Varden Silver Project. We've developed an excellent working relationship and the structures they produce are very well engineered. Their pads literally provide the foundation for our drilling activities, enabling us to make new discoveries and fulfill our goal of building additional silver resources.”

Learn more about Dolly Varden Silver Corp. at www.dollyvardensilver.com



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INTEGRATING TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE TO SUSTAINABLY ADVANCE CANADA'S FIRST SURFACE AND UNDERGROUND DIAMOND MINE

By Amanda Dawn Graff, M.A.

DOMINION DIAMOND MINES WAS FORMED IN 1994 AND WAS RECENTLY SOLD TO ARCTIC CANADIAN DIAMOND COMPANY, ALLOWING IT TO BECOME A SIGNIFICANT PRODUCER AND SUPPLIER OF PREMIUM ROUGH DIAMOND ASSORTMENTS TO THE GLOBAL MARKET.

Arctic owns a controlling interest in the Ekati Diamond Mine located in Canada's Northwest Territories. Ekati has two active surface open pit mines and one underground mine, which together provide the company with a steady and reliable supply of rough diamonds that are highly prized in the world's markets for their size, shape, colour and clarity.

A DIAMOND IN THE ROUGH

The Ekati Mine, named after the Tlicho word meaning "fat lake," is Canada's first surface and underground diamond mine. It's located 310 kilometres northeast of Yellowknife and about 200 kilometres south of the Arctic Circle, near Lac de Gras. The mine is renowned for the premium gem quality diamonds it produces, with a track record that includes a 186-carat gem quality diamond recovered from the Pigeon pit in 2016.

Ekati officially began production in October 1998, and over the decade that followed, the mine's open pits produced 40 million carats of diamonds. As the high-grade surface ore became depleted, development was undertaken to access ore using underground methods.

The mine's current annual production is estimated at approximately 5 million carats, with a mine life that's formally approved to run until 2028. However, current project evaluation activities, together with ongoing exploration work are expected to significantly extend the life of the mine.

One of the mine's distinguishing features is a deep commitment to

collaboration and inclusivity with local communities at each stage of the project. Arctic has established productive relationships with local Indigenous organizations that will ensure the protection of the surrounding environment and traditional ways of life throughout the

Ekati Diamond Mine, it's critical that experienced northern voices help to shape Arctic's vision. With his appointment as Senior Advisor on Aboriginal and Northern Affairs to the Board and Management, Wally is bringing his wealth of



Based on engagement and feedback, the TKEG was formed with participation from several Indigenous groups

life of the mine. Overseeing these relationships is Wally Schumann, the former MLA for Hay River South and territorial cabinet minister, who has been appointed as the company's Senior Advisor on Aboriginal and Northern Affairs. His role will include educating the company on Indigenous governments, the territorial government, the workforce, and community engagements. Rory Moore, Interim President, Arctic Canadian Diamond Company, commented:

"We're committed to strong corporate citizenship in the North. As a new company taking over the

experience as a leader in the North to ensure that Arctic can fulfill its commitments and make a positive difference to the people, environment and economy."

PARTNERING FOR SUSTAINABILITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

In 2018, Arctic Canadian Diamond Company, then Dominion Diamond Mines, presented a Socio-Economic Agreement which detailed their commitment to making a positive impact in the Northwest Territories

through support for education, training, community development, employment and business opportunities.

This commitment includes the Ekati Mine Engagement Plan which outlines community engagement activities; regular impact benefit agreement (IBA) meetings, workshops and site visits; and the inclusion of Elders and youth in Traditional Knowledge sharing and environmental monitoring projects.

Through IBA payments, scholarships, and donations, the company contributed over \$5 million in 2018 alone to communities across the Northwest Territories and Kugluktuk, Nunavut. To further add value to surrounding communities, several programs are in place including the Ekati Plus Community Development Program, the Ekati Plus Post-Secondary Scholarship Program, and the Ekati Plus School Partnership Program.

Furthermore, 67% of full-time employees and 42% of contractors at the Ekati Mine are Northern Indigenous, and Indigenous-owned



The TKEG provides input into the design, operations and eventual closure of the Ekati Mine

businesses have secured numerous contracts for services including explosives and blasting supply, catering and janitorial, freight management and transportation.

Arctic's commitment to sustainability is also reflected by the company's environmental protection policies.

With a deep understanding of the significance of the Arctic tundra, they're committed to mining in the safest, most environmentally responsible manner possible.

In collaboration with Indigenous groups and Northern communities, the company has developed comprehensive

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wildlife management initiatives to ensure minimal impact on caribou and other wildlife. Indigenous-driven environmental monitoring programs termed “Boots on the Ground” and “Moccasins on the Ground” monitor caribou herds, habitat, and the impact of operations on the caribou.

The programs draw on the Traditional Knowledge of Elders and harvesters which includes traditional ways of travelling and assessing conditions on the land. Input from community members, scientists, and technicians is also leveraged to devise sustainable practices for reclaiming the Ekati Mine site so that it can be returned to a viable Northern environment at the end of operations.



TKEG will share Traditional Knowledge to ensure initiatives have a limited impact on Caribou

TRANSFORMING MINING PRACTICES THROUGH TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE

In May 2016, following input from the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board, Indigenous organizations were invited to develop a Traditional Knowledge Elders Group (TKEG) to

provide input into the design, operations and eventual closure of the Ekati Mine.

Based on engagement and feedback, the TKEG was established with participation from several Indigenous organizations including the Deninu Kue First Nation, Fort

Resolution Métis Council, Kitikmeot Inuit Association, Lutsel K'e Dene First Nation, Tlcho Government, Yellowknife Dene First Nations, and the North Slave Métis Alliance.

The TKEG is a fully independent group, operating separately from Arctic, and



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is comprised of Elders, Indigenous land users, and Traditional Knowledge holders from across the North. Members are determined by each of the First Nations groups represented on the committee and can be drawn from Elder communities across the region, with a goal to maintain continuity of participation.

Participants were originally involved in the Environmental Assessment of the Jay project – a large high-grade kimberlite located in the Ekati Mines Buffer Zone that was approved for construction in 2016. Subsequent to permit approvals for the Jay Project, rough diamond prices for the category of stones that would be produced by Jay dropped significantly, which requires the project to be re-assessed for potential development.

Should the project be developed, the TKEG will share Traditional Knowledge to ensure planned initiatives have a limited impact on caribou wildlife. This will include directly assessing construction and operations of the Jay Road, esker crossing, and waste rock management egress ramps. The TKEG will also regularly

monitor and report on caribou reactions to the road, recommend mitigation strategies, and develop a contingency plan where required.

The caribou and other wildlife are critical to local First Nations culture and lifestyle, directly linked to their identity as a people and relationship with their ancestors. The caribou also provide communities with a vital source of food and clothing.

Other areas of focus for the TKEG will include the development of a camp on traditional lands around the Jay project site. Matters related to dewatering, waste rock management, fish, air, and noise disturbance will also be discussed. Traditional Knowledge will be shared regarding the closure and post-closure phases of the mine, to ensure that the site is reclaimed in such a way that allows the land to thrive.

Since the group's inception, the TKEG has met four times including twice at the Ekati Mine, once in Yellowknife and once in Dettah – a First Nations community in the North Slave Region of the Northwest Territories.

During the second meeting, the TKEG visited the proposed Jay project by bus and helicopter to observe the area along with Sable and Misery Road. The TKEG then had an opportunity to provide feedback on the dimensions of proposed egresses for caribou crossings, the addition of culverts, water run-off from waste rock piles, and the location of ponds on the mine site. This represents the first of many tours that the Elders will participate in at the Ekati Mine site.

By engaging with the TKEG and surrounding Indigenous groups, Arctic is gaining vast amounts of Traditional Knowledge about the local landscape. This has transformed the company's approach to mining operations and will allow the Ekati Mine to advance sustainably, with minimal impacts on wildlife, the environment, and traditional ways of life.

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STAKING A MAJOR CLAIM IN CANADA'S TWO MOST EXCITING GOLD DISTRICTS

SASSY RESOURCES MAXIMIZES VALUE IN THE GOLDEN TRIANGLE'S ESKAY CAMP WHILE DRAMATICALLY EXPANDING LAND HOLDINGS IN NEWFOUNDLAND'S GOLD BELT

By Amanda Dawn Graff, M.A.

Sassy Resources Corporation (SASY.CN) is the only publicly traded, junior exploration company in Canada with a significant foothold in the country's two most exciting gold districts – the prolific Eskay Camp in B.C.'s Golden Triangle and the rapidly emerging Central Newfoundland Gold Belt where Sassy controls a massive 2,257 square kilometre land package.

The company is currently focused on its 100% owned Foremore project, a largely underexplored contiguous land package stretching 146 square kilometres in the Eskay Camp, featuring a grassroots gold-silver discovery known as Westmore, along with VMS-style mineralization corridors More Creek and Hanging Valley.

“The pounds of copper and ounces of gold and silver that have been discovered within the Eskay Camp over the past couple of decades is

staggering,” said Mark Scott, CEO & President, Sassy Resources. “When you extrapolate these discoveries to look at future potential, the results are phenomenal. There aren't many areas across the globe that are this prolific.”

Once drilling confirmed significant mineralization at the grassroots Westmore discovery, Sassy opted to revamp its strategic direction to maximize shareholder value and allow the company to remain sharply focused on the Foremore project.

This new direction involved monetizing the company's Nicobat property located in northwestern Ontario and entering into a definitive option agreement with privately held MAX Power Mining Corporation, a deal that will make Sassy the largest shareholder in this new battery metals-focused player.

On the other side of the country, Sassy is the largest landholder among public companies in the Central Newfoundland Gold Belt. As the island's gold rush continues to intensify, the company has teamed up with famous Canadian prospector Shawn Ryan and the GroundTruth Exploration team to find the next new high-grade gold discovery.

GRASSROOTS DISCOVERY OF A GOLD-SILVER RICH SYSTEM

In August 2020, Sassy completed an 11-hole phase 1 diamond drill program at the Foremore project, targeting VMS style mineralization occurring within the More Creek Corridor.

Exploration activities at the south end of the corridor led to the discovery of the high-grade, gold-silver Westmore target. The discovery was so compelling that crews mobilized immediately to commence drilling at the target.

In March of this year, Sassy announced results from its first ever drilling at Westmore, which was comprised of 1,662 metres in six holes. Drilling confirmed the discovery of a structurally controlled gold-silver rich system with a large surface footprint, open laterally and to depth.

Geochronology performed on samples from the Westmore intrusive by Dr. Kevin Chamberlain, University of Wyoming, revealed that the intrusive is Early Jurassic in age, placing it on the same geological timeline as other significant gold deposits in the Golden Triangle.

Promising highlights from the initial Westmore drilling program included:

- Drill hole WM20-005 intersected multiple quartz stockwork zones including the widest mineralized interval of the initial program, 13.95 metres grading 0.68 g/t Au



Foremore is a largely underexplored contiguous land package stretching 146 square kms

and 5.53 g/t Ag starting just 16.15 metres downhole (with 3.60 g/t Au and 22.7 g/t Ag over 1 metre near the bottom of this zone).

- Drill holes WM20-003 and WM20-005 confirmed a >100-metre extension along strike of quartz vein hosted gold-silver mineralization sampled on surface and intersected in previously released drill holes WM20-001 and WM20-002. Drill hole WM20-002 intersected 14.20 g/t Au and 22.6 g/t Ag over 0.90 metres within a broader zone of 2.06 g/t Au and 3.73 g/t Ag over 6.3 metres.
- Drill hole WM20-005 was terminated in a zone of quartz stockwork that hosts an interval of highly anomalous gold-silver mineralization from 291.9 metres to 301.5 metres, demonstrating the potential for high-grade gold-silver mineralization at depth within the Westmore system.

**All reported drill intervals reflect drill hole thicknesses, not true thickness.*

Ongoing interpretation of the results has revealed a strong alteration signature associated with the gold-silver mineralization, and a repeat of this alteration occurs at significant depths across several drill holes. Furthermore, analysis of historic airborne magnetic data has suggested that the intrusive is much larger than previously anticipated, comprising an eastern and western lobe with a surface footprint of roughly 750 metres by 750 metres.

To gain further insights into Westmore's potential, Sassy was excited to announce an airborne VTEM, (Versatile Time-Domain Electromagnetic System) survey across the Foremore property. The deep penetrating, high resolution survey was conducted on 100-metre spaced flight lines, for a total of 1,684-line kilometres flown.

The VTEM survey accurately detects discrete conductive anomalies, and can discriminate between moderate to strong conductors, while mapping

lateral and vertical variations in resistivity. High resolution EM data can be captured to depths in excess of 300 metres below surface, and the survey also includes a high-sensitivity cesium magnetometer that provides insights into lithology and structure across the Foremore property.

"The VTEM survey will provide us with detailed subsurface insights including 3D images of the location, shape and orientation of potential mineralization," said Mark Scott, Sassy Resources. "This will enable us to truly target field activities to those areas that demonstrate conductivity."

Results of the survey will serve as a basis to prioritize targets for follow-up drilling at Westmore which will focus on identifying and analyzing controlling features within Westmore's vein swarms and surrounding country rocks.

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SIGNIFICANT EXPANSION OF VEIN-HOSTED GOLD-SILVER MINERALIZATION

In addition to the grassroots Westmore target, the Foremore property is also home to high-grade, VMS style mineralization corridors More Creek and Hanging Valley.

In 2020, drilling and geophysical surveys significantly expanded the strike of the Au-Ag enriched VMS style, historic BRT showing within the More Creek Corridor. Collectively, the results at BRT and other VMS style occurrences within the corridor span approximately 7 kilometres.

Semi-massive to massive sulphide mineralization was intersected in seven drill holes at the BRT showing. Highlights include drill hole FM20-001, 4.35 g/t AuEq over 8.05 metres commencing at a downhole depth of 24.05 metres. Individual element analyses within this interval assayed as high as 0.90 g/t Au, 82.35 g/t Ag, 11.82% Zn, 1.57% Pb and 0.69% Cu.

The highest individual gold and silver assay values from drilling at BRT in 2020 are: 7.97 g/t Au and 453 g/t Ag demonstrating the high-grade Au and Ag potential. BRT mineralization occurs in two sub parallel zones, and 2020 drilling confirmed these zones span a strike of 125 metres, while mineralization remains open in all directions.

The recently initiated VTEM survey will identify conductive targets at depth within the More Creek Corridor and results will provide valuable insights into the overall structural dynamics and sources of VMS-style mineralization intersected in 2020.

Mark Scott, Sassy Resources, commented:

“More Creek is where the bulk of exploration work has historically been completed and there’s serious potential here – we’re looking forward to seeing the results of the VTEM survey and planning out our next steps.”

UNCOVERING THE POTENTIAL OF A HIGHLY PROSPECTIVE, UNDER-EXPLORED TARGET

On the east side of the Foremore property, the Hanging Valley Corridor is defined by high-grade, gold-silver-base metal mineralization that is spread over a broad area. Current exploration efforts are aided by a recent glacial retreat in this underexplored part of the property where just a handful of historical drill holes have been completed.

Hanging Valley is adjacent to the 7 kilometre More Creek Corridor and features multiple precious and base metal showings that occur within an area spanning roughly 5 square kilometres. Prospecting highlights from the 2020 surface sampling program, carried out along the Sunday-Boulder lineament at Hanging Valley returned grab samples up to 142 g/t Au, 59.4 g/t Ag, 9.8% Pb, and 0.91% Cu.

Gold values from additional in-situ surface samples over a 1 kilometre strike length at Boulder included 48.8

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Drilling confirmed significant mineralization at the grassroots Westmore discovery on the Foremore property

The gold-silver rich mineralization uncovered in the Sunday-Boulder area is associated with mafic volcanics and a limestone contact, which differs from the VMS-style mineralization occurring elsewhere in the Hanging Valley. This suggests multiple sources and mineralizing events throughout the Foremore property.

Mark Scott, Sassy Resources, remarked:

“Over the past couple of years, we’ve identified multiple styles of mineralization at Hanging Valley including high-grade gold and base metals – one of our samples returned 21.5% copper. This year, we’ll be identifying priority drill targets for further exploration.”

VTEM survey results will be instrumental in further defining host lithology of precious and base metal occurrences distributed within the Hanging Valley while also providing a structural setting.

g/t Au, 36.3 g/t Au, 24.6 g/t Au, 20.9 g/t Au, and 13.9 g/t Au.

Ag, 11.2% Zn, 8.5% Pb, and 0.14% Cu. Two kilometres in the other direction, a surface sample featuring massive chalcopyrite within a limestone host returned 21.4% Cu and 12.7 g/t Ag.

Furthermore, two kilometres north of Sunday-Boulder, surface sampling highlights included 9.97 g/t Au, 156 g/t



What Would Be the Best Indicator Mineral to Find a Gold Deposit?

5.4 Kilos of Placer Gold



HARD ROCK EXPLORATION

- Looking for the source of the rich placer gold at Wingdam
- Jagged-edged placer from paleochannel can indicate nearby source
- Parallel and mirror image geology to Osisko’s Cariboo Gold Project

PLACER RECOVERY

- 173.4 oz recovered from a single 24m long, 2.4m wide test crosscut
- 2021, initial 300m of paleochannel (100+ crosscuts)
- OMM has up to 15 km of potential paleochannel

See maps, photos and videos of placer recovery & exploration targets at ominecaminingandmetals.com
 Contact Tom MacNeill, President at tmacneill@fnr.ca
 or Dean Nawata, VP at dean.nawata@mac.com

TSXV: OMM

ADDING VALUE TO SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES

The Foremore property is located in Tahltan Territory which comprises roughly 95,933 km² or the equivalent of 11% of British Columbia. Last year, as the first field season was launched at Foremore, Sassy entered into a Communications and Engagement Agreement with the Tahltan Central Government (TCG) to outline a two-year collaborative commitment on the project.

The Tahltan Central Government (TCG) is the central administrative governing body for the Iskut Band and Tahltan Band located in Telegraph Creek. It represents approximately 5000 members of the Tahltan Nation living on- and off-reserve.

The Agreement provides a framework for collaboration between the parties, based on open dialogue, transparent communication and mutual cooperation. It also includes an annual payment to the TCG, and funds received through the project are dedicated to empowering initiatives involving infrastructure and education.

Mark Scott, Sassy Resources, commented: “The Agreement is another step towards fostering the positive and constructive relationship we share with the Tahltan Nation. We’ve enjoyed a high level of engagement at the early stages of exploration and we look forward to continued collaboration as we advance the Foremore project.”

A partnership between Sassy and the TCG was further solidified by an Opportunities Sharing Agreement that outlines processes for procurement, training and employment, and optimized opportunities for Tahltan-owned businesses.

Throughout 2020 field activities, 44% of personnel employed at the Foremore property were from the Tahltan Nation, performing a range of roles including the provision of first aid and COVID-19 protocols, core cutting and sampling, camp construction and maintenance, drill pad construction, prospecting, and assisting geophysical and drilling contractors. Additionally, a number of companies employed on the project were Tahltan-owned or engaged in relevant joint ventures.

As part of the partnership, the TCG Lands Department also had an opportunity to review Sassy’s exploration permit prior to issuance by the Province of B.C.

EXPANDING ACQUISITIONS IN THE PROLIFIC NEWFOUNDLAND GOLD BELT

As the largest landholder among public companies in the Central Newfoundland Gold Belt, Sassy recently announced that through its subsidiary, Gander Gold Corp., the company has dramatically expanded its property holdings from 1,381 to 2,257 square kilometres.

Gander Gold is backed by several non-brokered private placements including a \$2.2 million financing that involved a strategic investment by Eric Sprott which boosted his ownership in the company to 17.35%. This followed the closing of a \$2.27 million private placement that was announced in May of this year. To date, Gander Gold has raised more than \$5 million through the issuance of convertible special warrants and common shares with no finder’s fees.



ADVANCING ONE OF THE LARGEST AND HIGHEST GRADE UNDEVELOPED SILVER PROJECTS IN THE WORLD; THE 100% OWNED, CERRO LAS MINILLAS, DURANGO MEXICO

May 2019 Mineral Resource Estimate (175g/t AgEq cut-off)

INDICATED: 134Mozs AgEq; 37.5Mozs Ag, 40Mlbs Cu, 303Mlbs Pb, 897Mlbs Zn;

INFERRED: 138Mozs AgEq; 45.7Mozs Ag, 76Mlbs Cu, 253Mlbs Pb, 796Mlbs Zn

- Acquisition of Electrum’s 60% interest in the CLM Project for US\$15M in cash & share payments
- 150% increase in attributable resources and a 156% increase in net asset value
- Highly accretive transaction to SSV shareholders (based on both resources and NAV)

Near-Term Resource Growth Opportunity

- Near-term resource growth target of 30-35Mt at 80-120 g/t Ag and 4-8% Pb/Zn (+350Mozs AgEq)
- The CLM Project remains one of the largest undeveloped silver-lead-zinc projects in the World
- A total of 150 drill holes for 67,375metres have been completed on the CLM Project
- Exploration discovery costs of approximately C\$0.09 per AgEq ounce
- Current program completed 54 core holes totaling 20,207 metres since drilling September 2020

Oro Cu-Mo-Au Project, New Mexico, USA:

- Cu-Mo-Au Porphyry Target – multiple drill-ready targets within a six sq.km alteration footprint
- Z-TEM survey over entire property completed and evaluated, additional claim stake



SSV:TSX.V | SSVCL:SANTIAGO | SSVFF:OTCQB

WEBSITE: www.southernsilverexploration.com

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Multiple claim block acquisitions, optioned from renowned Canadian prospector Shawn Ryan and Wildwood Exploration Inc., have established Sassy and Gander Gold as significant forces in the Newfoundland gold rush which was triggered by New Found Gold's high-grade Keats Zone discovery.

In early May, Sassy announced that five major claim blocks had been optioned including one that expanded their Gander North project to a contiguous 480 square kilometres. The highly prospective Gander North is located only 15 kilometres northeast of New Found Gold's Keats Zone, and Sassy has already received drill permits for this target.

Other acquired claim blocks include Cape Ray II (320 sq. km), BLT (288 sq. km), Carmanville (84 sq. km), and Mt. Peyton South (72 sq. km), giving Sassy broad district exposure including a large unexplored section of the Northern Arm Fault which is straddled by Marathon Gold's Valentine Lake project.

A review of historic data revealed new high-grade gold potential west of the Cape Ray Fault in southwestern Newfoundland

where Sassy's Cape Ray II land package borders Australian-listed Matador Mining's deposits. Furthermore, Sassy's massive claim includes Gander South, the closest claim group to New Found Gold's Queensway South Eastern Pond.

Sassy has continued to expand its stake in the Newfoundland gold rush by acquiring 3,503 additional claims over 876 square kilometres that cover a large portion of the Mount Peyton Intrusive and Gabbroic Complex.

The Mount Peyton project represents a unique opportunity in that there exists a large gabbroic intrusive suite that has seen limited historic exploration work, though numerous gold showings have been documented. Furthermore, a new magnetic structural interpretation of the Mount Peyton Intrusive clearly indicates numerous structures that are anomalous with gold-in-tills.

Sassy will be working closely with the GroundTruth exploration team, a company that provides innovative exploration and survey methods, on all of their Newfoundland properties.

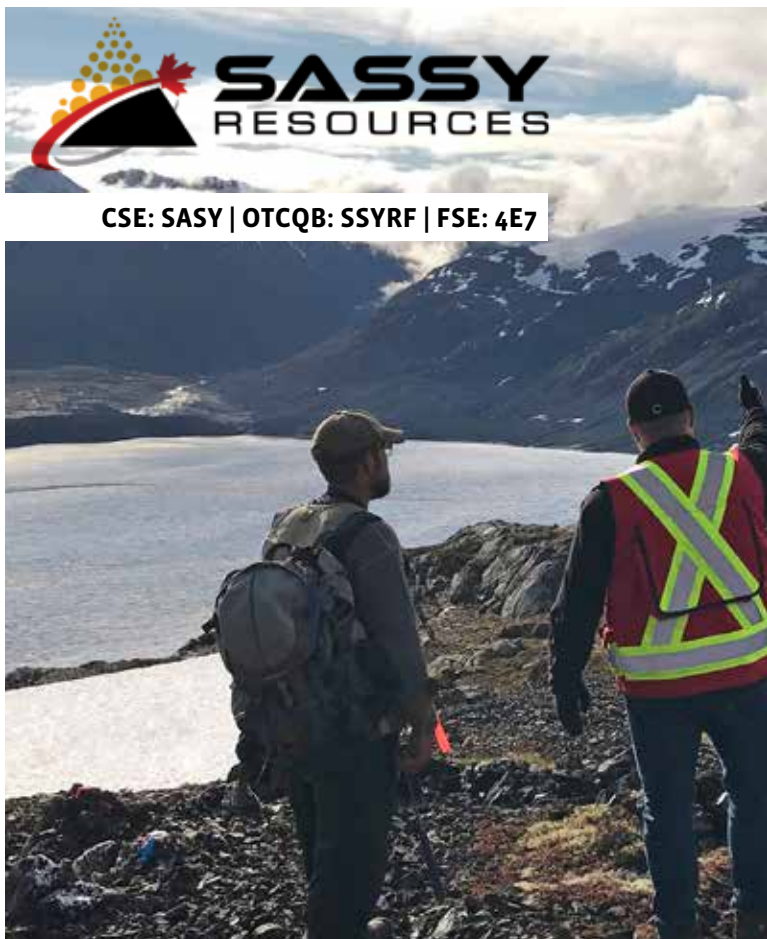
The team has already mobilized to the island with their innovative Drones to Drills exploration techniques.

Mark Scott, Sassy Resources, commented:

"We're the only publicly traded company in Canada with a significant presence in the country's two most exciting gold camps. We're positioned to achieve year-round exploration capability in mining-friendly districts and our land holdings have grown more than 15 times over the past year alone. We expect our market capitalization to follow suit as we continue to make discoveries. Simply put, Sassy presents one of the strongest value propositions in the industry."

Learn more about Sassy Resources at: new.sassyresources.com

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**"WE HAVE THE PEOPLE,
 THE PROPERTIES AND
 THE PIZZAZZ
 TO BECOME A
 POWERFUL WEALTH
 CREATOR THROUGH
 A 'SASSY' APPROACH
 THAT WILL DRIVE
 NEW DISCOVERIES
 IN 2021 AND BEYOND."**

-Sassy CEO, Mark Scott

SassyResources.com

BUILDING THE NEXT GLOBALLY RELEVANT GOLD PRODUCER

By Christian Elferink

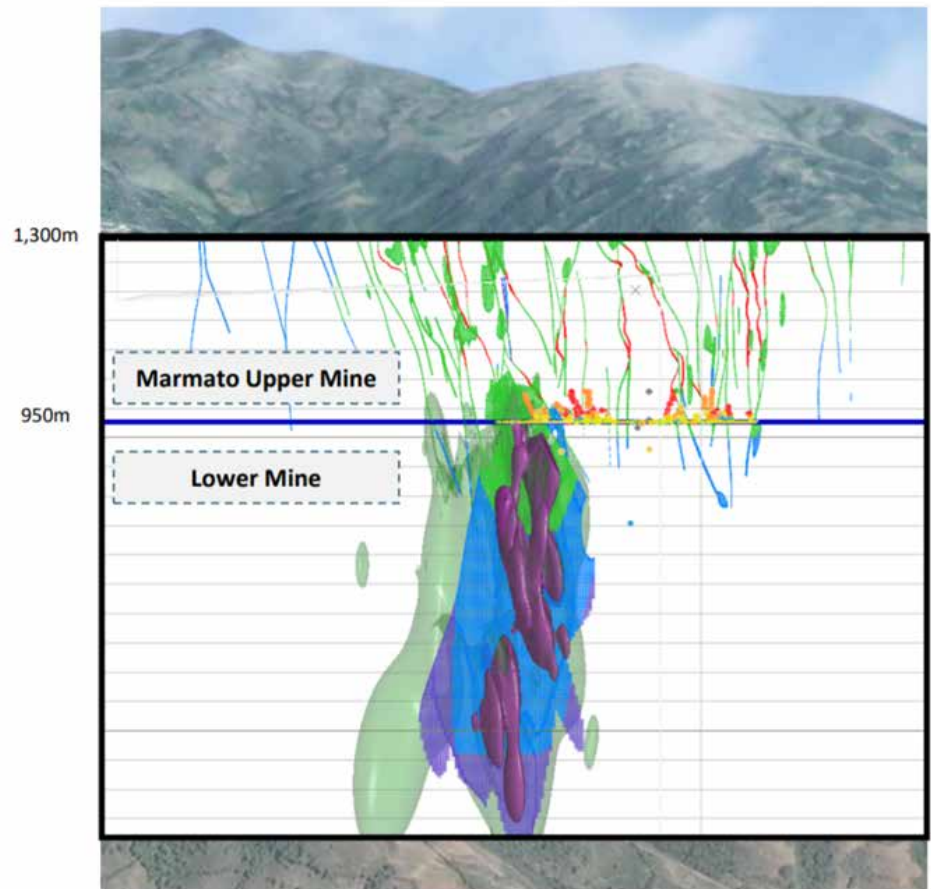
This Canadian company is a newcomer in the mining sector but the management team has a long history of building successful mining companies. After a management change and a name change at the beginning of February this year, this Colombian gold producer has laid out big plans for the coming years. **Aris Gold (TSX: ARIS) (OTCQX: ALLXF)** aims to grow the current single asset company to a diversified mid-tier gold producer. The new growth strategy is put together by CEO Neil Woodyer, founder of both Leagold Mining and Endeavour Mining, who is planning to repeat the shareholder value strategies that had previously proven very successful. Leagold Mining grew from a single asset producer to a valuation of C\$1 billion before the Equinox Merger and Endeavour Mining grew from a single acquisition to a C\$2 billion company before the management change in 2016.

MARMATO MINE IN COLOMBIA

80 kilometres south of Medellin lies Aris Gold's main project the Marmato Mine. The Marmato Mine lies in the Marmato gold district where gold has been mined since pre-Colonial times. The Marmato mine is supported by excellent infrastructure, located by the Pan American Highway, and has access to the national electricity grid, which runs near the property.

The Marmato Mine is made up of two distinct mining areas delineated based on the style of mineralization. The Marmato Upper Mine has been in continuous production since 1991 and is located between the 950 and 1300 metres elevation level. The Upper Mine consists of narrow vein mineralization where conventional cut and full methods are used to mine. The Upper Mine is currently producing between 25,000 and 30,000 ounces of gold per year.

The Lower Mine project is located below the 950 metres elevation level and



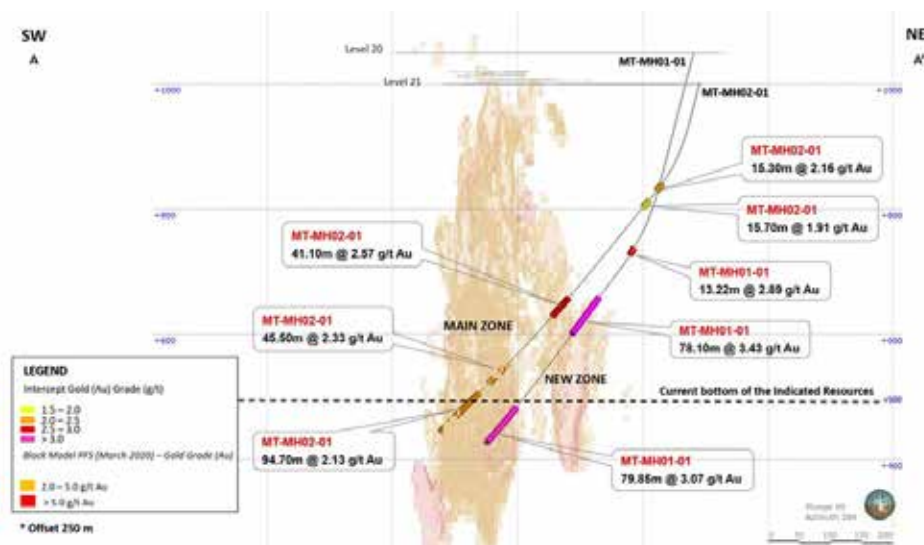
consists of a wide mineralized porphyry system. This is where the initial future growth for the company must come from. The company recently released a feasibility study of the Lower Mine project that shows promising numbers.

The feasibility study outlines 2.0 Moz @ 3.2 g/t Au in Proven and Probable Mineral Reserves, 4.1 Moz @ 3.2 g/t Au in Measured and Indicates Reserves, and 2.2 Moz @ 2.6 g/t Au in the Inferred category. Based on a 13-year mine life the average production per year is 165,000 ounces. The all-in sustaining cost for the life of mine comes in at around US\$880 per ounce. This provides very healthy cash flow margins at today's gold prices.

The development CAPEX for the Lower Mine project is calculated to be approximately US\$269 million.

The company is currently almost fully financed with US\$143 million in unrestricted cash as of March 31, 2021, US\$9 million cash in escrow, US\$34 million in funds from a precious metals streaming deal with Wheaton Precious Metals and that same streaming deal allows them for two remaining payments upon 50% and 75% completing of the Lower Mine construction totalling US\$76 million. Construction is expected to begin in Q4 2021 with the first gold production targeted by the end of 2023.

A 35,000m drilling program commenced in May 2021 with the principal objective of converting Inferred Mineral Resources to Indicated Resources but also to test several new areas. Some notable intercepts to date include 78.1 metres at 3.43 g/t Au, and 79.85 metres at 3.07 g/t Au demonstrating great



project. The Juby Project, located in the prolific Abitibi Greenstone belt in Ontario, hosts a mineral resources estimate of 773,000 oz in the Indicated Minerals Resource category and 1,488,000 ounces @ 0.98 g/t Au in the Inferred Minerals Resources category. The project consists of 14,000 acres covering 10 kilometres of strike length and is located on the same mineralized trend as IAMGold’s Core Gold Project. The program will target an extension between the Golden Lake and Big Dome Deposit and test the known high-grade mineralized zones.

With their currently producing asset that is undergoing an expansion that should help grow the company to a 160,000 ounces per year producer, Aris Gold has taken the first steps to be the next globally relevant gold producer. The proven track record of management provides an excellent base to reach their goals. Look out for more drill results from the Lower Mine Project, initial drill results from the Juby project, and news on a possible acquisition in the coming months.

potential to extend the 13-year mine life of the Lower Mine Project.

GROWING THE COMPANY

The team is currently busy looking for new attractive deals. Since the board and management team expertise is highly focused on Latin America the company is primarily looking to acquire

assets in that region. The expertise of former Goldcorp chairman Ian Telfer, former Goldcorp CEO David Garofalo, and Yamana Gold’s executive chairman Peter Marrone should open a lot of doors in Latin America for Aris Gold.

In the meantime, the company is also looking to start a 10,000m drilling program in Q3 on their second

ARIS GOLD

BUILDING THE NEXT GLOBALLY RELEVANT GOLD PRODUCER

Aris Gold is led by a team with a demonstrated track record of creating value through building globally relevant gold mining companies. Aris Gold operates the Marmato mine in Colombia, where a modernization and major expansion program is under way, and the Juby project, an advanced exploration stage gold project in the Abitibi Greenstone belt of Ontario, Canada.

We continue to pursue a strategy of acquiring operating gold mines and projects nearing construction, mine and corporate-level optimizations and investing in expansions and near-mine exploration.

Contact: www.arisgold.com | TSX: ARIS | info@arisgold.com | (778) 899 0518

LODE'S DIGITAL GOLD AND SILVER ASSETS LIST ON THEIR FIRST MAJOR EXCHANGE

By David Morgan

LODE, the project shaping the future of precious metals in the blockchain era, has hit an exciting milestone this week. LODE's gold and silver-backed digital assets, AGX and AUX, are now listed on their first major exchange. As an ambassador for the project since its founding, I have been vocal about my support for its vision, and today, I'm sharing what this news means for the future of precious metals trading.

AGX and AUX are now live and listed on Hotbit, a leading exchange with approximately \$219,000,000 in daily trading volume. This landmark listing is set to reshape liquidity options for precious metals investors.

Developed and minted on the Syscoin blockchain platform, AGX and AUX Coins are now among the first metals-backed assets in the world to be listed on a reputable, high-volume exchange, enabling users to easily trade digital silver and digital gold globally.

"Gaining access to LODE's AGX and AUX Coins via Hotbit enables precious metals investors to access

tried-and-true silver and gold in an entirely new way", explains Nicholas Prouten, an ambassador for the LODE Project.

"This increased liquidity comes at a very important moment, as investors scramble to secure holdings in one of the world's oldest investment vehicles."

Both silver and gold have long been viewed as monetary metals, playing crucial roles in investor portfolios as hedges against rising inflation, currency devaluation, and geopolitical uncertainty. Recognizing their historic status as safe-haven investments, LODEpay has utilized the innovative application of blockchain technology to give these metals a role in the new digital economy.

"People can already send and spend precious metals again with AGX and AUX Coins, but what's most exciting about this global exchange listing is the liquidity that it brings to precious metals investors. Gold and silver are truly being restored as stable

mediums of exchange and with LODE's plans to list them on more exchanges, this is only the beginning," Prouten added.

The listing of AGX and AUX Coins on Hotbit is effective immediately.

ABOUT LODE GLOBAL

LODE Global acts as the bullion management entity for the LODE Project, securing vaulting with partners around the world. LODE Global is also responsible for the issuance of the project's silver-backed AGX Coin and its gold-backed AUX Coin. Each AGX Coin and AUX Coin represent a one gram weight of vaulted, audited, insured, and verifiable silver bullion. Each AUX Coin represents a one milligram weight of vaulted, audited, insured, and verifiable gold bullion. Learn more at: <https://ag.lode.one/>

We suggest that you scroll down to Explore the Possibilities and watch the three videos in order of

- Imagine
- Experienced
- Freedom

Then sign up for the Lode Newsletter. You also can follow the company on Twitter to stay in touch with this new monetary network. Also, it is highly suggested that you hit the community tab and join the community for sound money advocates worldwide. All this can be accomplished without ANY commitment on your part. In other words, become familiar with the community and then make a decision if having some of your precious metals on the blockchain for instant access is important to you.

Sincerely
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A NEW LEASE ON LIFE FOR TEMAGAMI MINING CAMP

By Dr. Jane Lockwood

Unlike its famous neighbour, Sudbury, the Temagami mining camp is heavily under-explored relative to its potential for world-class deposits. The entire Temagami area was under a land caution from 1973 to 1995 as legal battles between indigenous claimants and the Canadian government were fought out, and as a result, an era of major development in exploration technology passed it by.

Another reason for the lack of exploration in the area is the thick cover, Huronian sediment and Nipissing diabase, which overlie the older Abitibi greenstone basement. Striking through the region is the Temagami Greenstone Belt, which has played host to many of the significant mines in the area's history. This includes the Teck's

Copperfields mine, which famously graded 28% copper over its lifetime, and was also unusual because it hosted PGEs in what otherwise appeared to be a VMS-type deposit.

But it is not only base metals and peculiar PGEs that can be found at Temagami. Sherman Mine was a producer of 25% Fe iron ore from 1968 to 1990, the Kanichee mine produced palladium, nickel, copper, gold, cobalt, platinum and silver in the early 20th century, and there have also been several significant gold mines in the area. Clearly, the geology in the Temagami camp is both diverse and mineral-rich, but it has not yet caught up to other regions in terms of exploration.

Perhaps the most remarkable aspect of the Temagami camp lies under the

surface. The area is underlain by the Temagami positive magnetic anomaly, which stretches to some 58 km long and 19 km wide. In many respects, it looks identical to the adjacent Sudbury Basin Structure, and indeed there may be a genetic link between the two. In 2014, drilling in the heart of the Temagami anomaly revealed what looked suspiciously like a Sudbury offset dyke at just shy of 2,000 m. This aside, the cause of the Temagami anomaly is unknown.

Looking to be one of the first companies in the modern era to uncover the potential riches of Temagami is Conquest Resources (TSXV:CQR). Mining and investment professionals in North and South America, and especially in Europe, will likely be familiar with the major accomplishments of its



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GREEN BATTERY MINERALS TO POWER THE ENERGY REVOLUTION

Phase 1 battery anode material production by mid-2021

NouveauMonde.group



President and CEO, Tom Obradovich, who is hoping that his career will be capped with a world-class discovery at Conquest's Belfast Teck-Mag project in the Temagami camp. The potential is certainly there; after an amalgamation in 2020 that left Conquest with more land packages and brought Tom on board, the company has been extremely active in exploring its flagship project. A 190-site ground gravity survey has recently been completed, and the drill rigs started turning in Belfast township on the 7th of June.

The results so far have been exciting, especially since the company has identified a potential IOCG deposit. The recent gravity survey showed three large anomalies slightly offset from positive magnetic anomalies uncovered by airborne VTEM: features typical of the dense, metal-rich rocks of an Olympic Dam-style IOCG location. This possibility is bolstered by the presence of copper-gold-hematite

quartz veins that spatially overlap with the geophysical anomalies, as well as light rare earth and heavy metal anomalies in surface samples that are once again co-incident with the other features. The sheer size of the geophysical anomalies in this case points to the potential for a world-class deposit.

There are other exploration possibilities at Belfast-Teck Mag, too. Historical drilling in the Eaglerock Lake area of the project turned up exhalative lenses prospective for copper and zinc, so the company would be in a strong position to explore for VMS deposits if it chooses. Such deposits could also host PGEs, if the analogy of the old Copperfields mine is anything to go by. In addition, directly along strike from Copperfields was the 2014 drill site that intersected Sudbury-style mineralisation at depth, opening up the possibility of a Sudbury-style nickel/copper/PGE deposit on the site. The package of land where that core was taken was acquired by Conquest during its amalgamation

with Tom Obradovich's privately held Canadian Continental Exploration Corporation in October last year.

There is also a past producing gold mine in the western region of the project, Golden Rose, which extracted BIF-hosted gold, but despite some drilling in that area last year, Conquest firmly believes that the real prize is most likely to be found in the northern and eastern parts of the property. With such varied geology and a group of claims totaling 300 square kilometers, the company certainly won't be short of targets over the next few years. They have already identified 30 of them for their initial 10,000 m drilling campaign this summer, with core coming in apace at around 60 m per day.

With so little known about the geology of the Temagami region, there is every reason to think that something big could be hidden under the surface. The regional structures and diverse geology point to a truly special location, and finally companies like Conquest are starting to find out what is really there.

TICKER : TSX-V : AMY | OTCQB : AMYZF | FSE : 2AM

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THE FED—AND “THE FLATION DEBATE” —AT MIDEAR

By Chris Temple

“When I use a word,” Humpty Dumpty said in rather a scornful tone, “it means just what I choose it to mean — neither more nor less.”

“The question is,” said Alice, “whether you can make words mean so many different things.”

“The question is,” said Humpty Dumpty, “which is to be master — that’s all.”

Lewis Carroll, from *Through the Looking Glass*

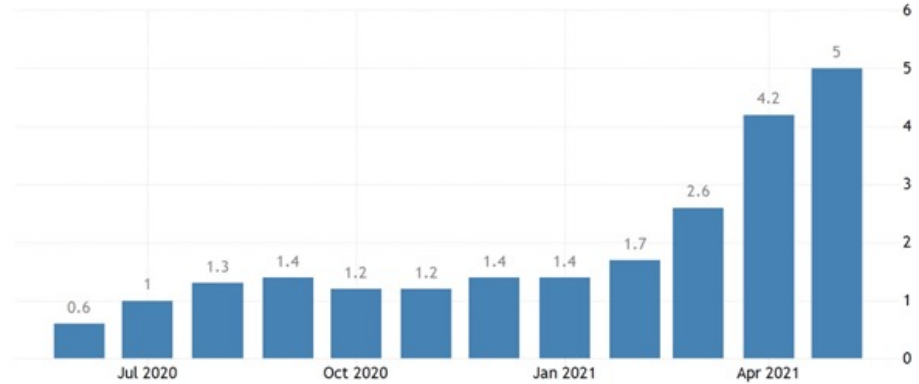
At the midway point of 2021, the applicability of the famous egg’s comments to the central bank of the United States of America today has never been more apparent. The Federal Reserve truly has set itself up as **ultimate** master: of America’s banking system, economy and markets. And—as Carroll’s Humpty Dumpty mused—the Fed has become master, in part, by bamboozling us all with word games of all sorts; the current favorite word, of course, being “transitory” to get investors convinced that the highest producer and consumer price increases in MANY years are nothing to worry about.

To be sure—right or wrong—the Fed pretty much has markets eating out of its hand as we make the turn to the back half of the year. Incredibly, market

interest rates have trended **downward** over the last few months even as the year-over-year C.P.I. Readings have surged rather dramatically, as you see in the chart below.

Fed does pretty much **nothing** to even slow down—let alone end—the craziness.

After its most recent F.O.M.C. meeting, the Fed saw necessary to at least



SOURCE: TRADINGECONOMICS.COM | U.S. BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

Consumer price inflation; 12 months through May’s published results

This “Wonderland” creation of the Fed—of falling interest rates even as inflation surges notably higher—has led to the most extreme levels of negative real interest rates in some 40 years. **Yet of the several major differences between that era and today, perhaps the most notable is that of the markets’ attitudes and perception of things.** Back then, markets were almost universally disdainful of the rising inflation and cheapened U.S. dollar of that time and were clamoring for then-Fed Chairman Paul Volcker to do something about it. Today, of course, it is quite the opposite: Markets will be happiest if the

throw somewhat of a bone to those who actually do think it needs to be somewhat cognizant of the recent inflationary pressures. In once again ameliorating markets which weren’t sure whether all the fun was over or not, Jerome Powell and Company **again** bought themselves time via word games and such. Following that meeting, I weighed in on things with my friend and colleague Trevor Hall of *Mining Stock Daily*; you can listen to that discussion at https://www.podbean.com/media/share/dir-yq95e-ee84ddf?utm_campaign=w_share_ep&utm_medium=dlink&utm_source=w_share.

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FASCINATING.

"The current gap between 10yr US yields (c.1.5%) and US CPI (5.0%) is -3.5%, the highest since 1980. In fact, it has only been more negative for 10 months in the last 70 years, all of which were in 1974, 1975 or 1980."



In one sense, market behavior since that last F.O.M.C. confab has us all even farther through the Looking Glass. That yields would continue to soften even as inflation gets hotter was not on many people's lists of possible developments for the back half

of June especially. But it's what we got.

So even more as we get into July, investors are going to be animated by this "flation Debate." As Michael Mackenzie wrote in a column in the June

11 *Financial Times*, "No topic dominates investor concerns and conversations more than that of inflation at the moment. It frames both the near term view over the second half of the year and beyond and for good reason. By any measure, prices of both bonds and equities are sitting at rich levels **and their high valuations have created a financial system that would not enjoy even a modest inflation shock sustained beyond this year.**" (Emphasis added.)

As I have done in the recent past (via the discussions linked above and below and otherwise) and as I will do in *The National Investor* as we kick off the second half, I will continue to address all this, as will as give you my best guidance on how to manage your portfolio. **For present purposes, I want to encapsulate a few themes:**

*** IT'S STILL CHIEFLY ABOUT ASSET PRICES**

I spoke to this debate in some detail fairly recently, in my April-ending issue of *The National Investor* (which I afterward reproduced for wider, public

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f t in y i

US bond market views inflation surge as transitory

10-year benchmark eases to a three month low

— 10-year Treasury (%)



Source: Bloomberg © FT

consumption; you can read it linked at <https://www.nationalinvestor.com/2905/the-growing-flation-debate-has-the-fed-finally-managed-to-sow-the-seeds-of-hyperinflation-or-did-everyone-miss-something/>.) Also unlike the case in the 1970's, "inflation" starts with monetary policy **BUT then is first**

manifested in rising asset prices.

The trouble with all that—as Fed Chairman Powell once admitted himself, in properly blaming the Fed for the deflation/asset price busts following the tech bubbles (2000 peak) and mortgage/housing ones (2008)—is

that at some point credit/asset price inflation run out of gas. *And as we may learn ahead, the present far larger—and more desperate—bubbles being blown by the Fed may lead to even greater busts than the previous ones.*

* DEFLATION STILL A GREATER DANGER THAN UNDERSTOOD

The reason why the Fed will continue to occasionally *talk* about the possibility of tapering its bond buying and/or eventually raising rates—but *actually DO nothing for some time still*—is that **it knows full well that we are in "Inflate or Die" mode.** As I have occasionally reminded folks, even before the self-imposed recession and yet more "extraordinary" monetary policy intervention that began late winter, 2020, the Fed was having to deal with stress in the repo markets, among other places. The more it has constructed the present skyscraper of cards, the more it has been challenged to keep all the associated bubbles from imploding.

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Freight & Transport Costs Continue to Accelerate

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Ongoing acceleration in transport and shipping costs will make its way to consumer prices and will not “renormalize” nearer-term.



Data Source: Bloomberg

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Liquidity issues that saw the Fed needing to pump hundreds of billions into repo markets back in September, 2019 continue. Among others, Rishabh Bhandari spoke to this dichotomy in the *Financial Times* in his own comments from the June 22 issue; see <https://www.ft.com/content/82845ef0-28a5-4f92-b40a-c4c59e17bc27?segmentId=114a04fe353d-37db-f705-204c9a0a157b>.

Allianz chief economic adviser Mohamed El-Erian is but one of numerous experts who have articulated the Fed’s current plight of arguably being behind inflation *already*; see <https://www.cnbc.com/2021/06/28/el-erian-says-the-fed-is-behind-on-inflation-and-risks-another-recession-if-it-is-forced-to-catch-up.html>. Yet even he seems a bit stuck in the 1970’s, thinking that the Fed will act if that thesis is proven out: that inflation does not prove as “transitory” as it continues

to insist. *That’s debatable*. Seemingly stuck in being all-in now in that “Inflate or Die” mode, the central bank may well keep its foot on the accelerator for longer than many think likely; and hope—as I wrote at <https://www.nationalinvestor.com/2590/the-feds-calculated-risk-but-just-how-high-will-they-let-rates-go--that-when-the-bond-vigilantes-do-start-to-rebel-again-that-they-will-act-as-a-governor-on-inflationary-pressures-without-things-getting-too-out-of-hand>.

* PRICE INCREASES MAY PROVE “TRANSITORY” SOMEWHAT; BUT NOT FOR GOOD REASONS

Here again, I have discussed this at some considerable length in the above-linked discussions; so will not repeat everything in those for time’s sake *here*.

But that said, this whole “transitory” theme from the Fed remains a work in progress. **If the central bank is vindicated in the end, it will most likely be due to the economy bogging down once more.** So generally speaking, I can throw in to a point with the Fed’s gamble: once the sugar high from all the monetary and



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fiscal stimulus of the last year and a half dissipates, we will be back largely where we started: with an economy plodding along at best...*but with, now, gazillions MORE in debt to service.*

Where things will be interesting for investors in all of this is in identifying those sectors/themes where price rises will continue *even if* the overall economy bogs down anew. Those are the areas where a LOT of money will be made.

And likewise—if price pressures persist longer than markets seem to currently expect—what companies/sectors should be *avoided*? A lot of the price increases in shipping costs, energy and perhaps even labor may well prove to be “sticky.” And you won’t want to be invested in areas where price increases can not be passed on to customers, but end up being “eaten” by companies, with earnings and dividends suffering as a result.

*** THE LIKELY OUTCOME**

I have believed for a while that we are heading for a kind of “Stagflation Lite”

in the end: a pattern similar to the 1970’s, but (most likely) without the extremes of those days. None of us will

unable to pay such high prices for an “extended period” (to use another of the Fed’s occasional favorite phrases.)




Sven Henrich
@NorthmanTrader

What if inflation is transitory and stagflation is permanent?

8:55 AM · Jun 30, 2021 · Twitter Web App

see double-digit Treasury yields again in our lifetime (at least as long as the U.S. dollar remains the world’s reserve currency; that’s a discussion for another time.) Nor will inflation get persistently as high as it was in the 1970’s; the economy—as I discussed in that conversation above with Trevor Hall recently—is simply, mathematically

In short, I throw in wholeheartedly with the below Tweet posted by Sven Henrich as 2021’s second half ended... which, if we are correct, means that a LOT of presently-held investment theses will have to be revisited. And that is one of the tasks I’ll be undertaking as we get deeper into Summer.



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CANADA'S LEADING ZINC-LEAD PROJECT

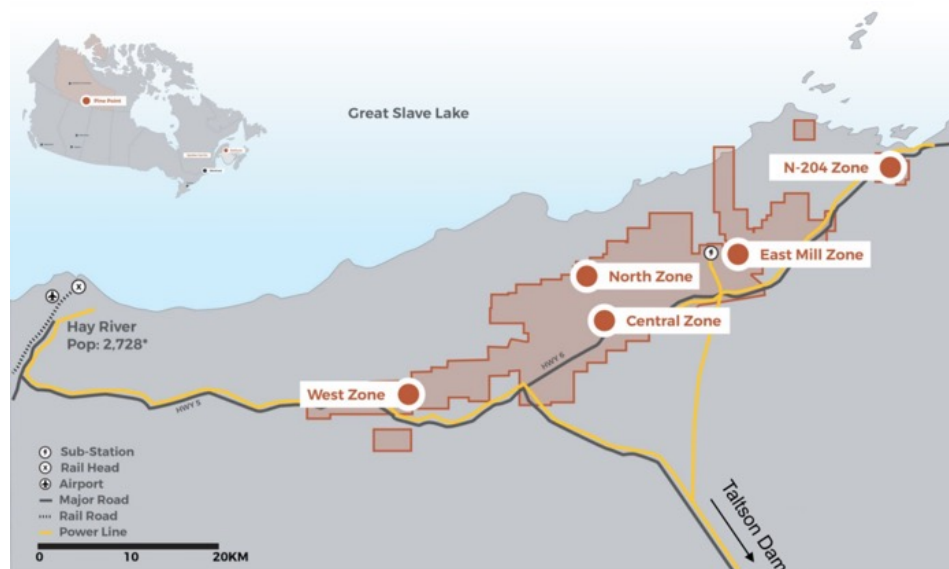
By Christian Elferink

The worldwide shift towards green energy, sustainable economy in combination with the post-Covid-19 infrastructure stimulus packages will positively increase the demand for base metals significantly. A major base metals producer predicts, in order to reach the net-zero emission goal in 2050, zinc needs a 523ktp per annum growth to keep up with demand. This is a double fold from what was expected in 2019! And this is where **Osisko Metals Inc. (TSXV: OM; US-OTC: OMZNF)** comes into play.

Osisko Metals is a Canadian base metals developer focusing on zinc. The company controls two premier zinc mining camps. The Bathurst Mining Camp, located in northern New Brunswick, has Indicated Mineral Resources of 1.96 Mt grading 5.77% zinc, 2.38% lead, 0.22% copper, and 68.9g/t silver (9.00% zinc equivalent) and Inferred Mineral Resources of 3.85 Mt grading 5.34% zinc, 1.49% lead, 0.32% copper, and 47.7 g/t silver (7.96% zinc equivalent) in the Key Anacon and Gilmour South deposits. The pats producing zinc-lead Pine Point project is their main project and is located in the Northwest Territories about 60 kilometres east of Hay River. The benefits from established infrastructure, including an onsite electrical substation that provides low-cost hydroelectric power, a network of paved roads to the former mine site, and haul roads that connect all the major deposits.

PINE POINT

The flagship project Pine Point hosts a Mineral Resource of 12.9Mt of Indicated Mineral Resources grading 6.29% zinc equivalent and 37.6Mt of Inferred Mineral Resources grading 6.80% zinc equivalent. The project reached a major milestone on June 15th last year when the company released its first economic study. The Preliminary Economic Assessment shows an after-tax net present value of \$500 million using an 8% discount rate



resulting in an after-tax internal rate of return of 29.6% and a 2.8 year. The PEA is based on a long-term conservative price deck of US\$ 1.15 per lb. zinc and US\$0.95. A more optimistic long-term price scenario shows an after-tax net present value of \$636.5 million and an internal rate of return of 34.5% using US\$1.25 per lb. of zinc and US\$ 0.95 per

lb. of lead. The project would produce an average of 327 million lb. of zinc and 143 million lb. of lead annually over its 10-year mine life. Pre-production capital comes in at \$555 million with \$458 million in sustaining capital.

The company prides itself on being potentially being able to produce



one of the cleanest zinc and lead concentrates globally. The life of mine recoveries, including sorting, of zinc and lead, are approximately 87% and 93% respectively. Metallurgical tests show high concentrates for both zinc and lead. Both were analysed for impurities showing very low levels of deleterious trace elements. Based on these results, the company does not expect any smelter or refinery penalties based at this time. The company expects that its high-quality material will be sought after by most smelters since it is projected that future zinc supply will be dominated by concentrates with high impurities.

All these ingredients combined make an excellent recipe for Osisko Metals to potentially be a 'Top 10' global zinc producer.

2021 AND BEYOND

In January the company laid out its plans for 2021 and beyond. A 3,000 meter winter drilling campaign was designed for infill and extension drilling of the Western Zone with the objective of converting high priority targets to the Indicated Resource category. The final results from the winter drilling campaign were announced in the middle of March. Some of the highlight drill holes include:

- 27.5 meters @ 31.15% zinc and 11.57% lead
- 79 meters @ 6.26% zinc and 3.61% lead
- 32 meters @ 20.28% zinc and 12.02% lead

The company is will start a 15,000m infill and expansions drilling program somewhere around the end of June which will continue to year-end.

Submitting the Environmental Assessment Initiation package is also on the agenda. This was submitted in February 2021. On receipt of a positive decision on the EA, expected in Q3 2023, the project permitting phase will then commence and is expected to be completed by Q3 2024.

The company also planned several Hydrogeological studies and tests planned across the property to further refine the dewatering model used in the 2020 PEA. Osisko Metals

believes that improvements to the hydrogeological model could lead to substantial water management cost reductions over the life of mine, including initial CAPEX, in future economic studies. The initial results from the hydrogeological, released on June 2nd, indicate a significant and positive change to the company's understanding of groundwater flow.

Osisko Metals has a loyal shareholders base. 46.8% is in the hands of the

Osisko Group, Renvest & CDPQ, and management & insiders. CEO Robert Wares continues to buy stock in the open market and currently owns almost 34 million shares. You seldomly see a CEO show this high of a conviction in the junior mining sector. With a strong shareholder base, a positive PEA, and a bright outlook for zinc and lead, Osisko Metals is well positioned to deliver value to its shareholders.



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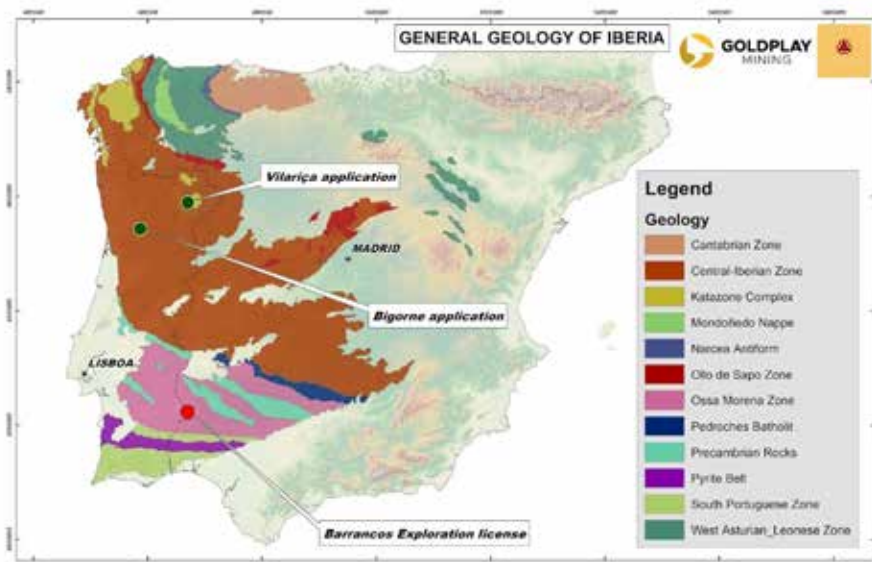
By Dr. Jane Lockwood

Europe might not be the first region that springs to mind when you think of gold or copper mining, but Portugal is one jurisdiction that is pushing for recognition in that arena. The Iberian Pyrite Belt is the most famous and well-explored of Portugal's mining regions, but there are excellent prospects in the less-celebrated Ossa Morena Zone (OMZ) and Central Iberian Zone (CIZ) as well. As a major upside, these regions are relatively under-explored by modern methods, and the opportunity is therefore available for proactive companies to find significant deposits that have been overlooked to date. One such company is Goldplay Mining (TSXV:AUC), who have made a major phased acquisition, announced on the 23rd of June, of several gold and copper-gold projects in the OMZ and CIZ.

The first group of projects, those prospective for copper-gold, is located at Barrancos in the OMZ. The OMZ is the oldest mineralised belt in Iberia, and it contains a wide variety of mineralisation types, being prospective for many base metals as well as gold and silver. Copper and, to a lesser extent, gold are common products of this region, and this is particularly true in the South Central Belt (SCB), where Goldplay's Aparis copper and Lírio gold projects are located. Both these projects are the sites of past-producing mines and are drill-ready, including permitting. Goldplay plans to begin drilling by the end of September this year, pending contractors getting on site. The company will then be on track to rapidly develop resource estimates for both advanced projects.



The old copper mine on the Aparis project.



Map showing the location of the Ossa Morena Zone and Central Iberian Zone in relation to Goldplay's new projects.

The mineralisation at Barrancos is associated with shallow intrusives, mainly rhyolites,² and occurs in quartz vein swarms and hydrothermal breccias. The alteration is low-temperature (probably <250°C) associated with higher gold grades, and the exploration plan is to follow brecciated intrusions along strike in order to better define the resource. Aparis and Lírio exist mostly in metasedimentary rocks, hosting the valuable mineralisation, with quartz-carbonate veins containing chalcopyrite and other copper ores in the former and veins and breccias bearing arsenopyrite and chalcopyrite and high-grade gold intercepts.

In addition to the Barrancos projects in the recent acquisition, Goldplay already holds an exploration application at the Borba 2 project in the same geological province, which it is anticipating could be granted in the near future. Borba 2 contains three past-producing mines over four properties, and like the Barrancos projects they are prospective for a combination of copper and gold associated with shear zones and at least

one of the prospects showing striking similarities with "Carlin type" deposits.

The two other major properties in Goldplay's recent acquisition are Bigorne and Vilarica in the CIZ, both under exploration applications with the Portuguese government. These projects are prospective for orogenic gold related to the Variscan orogeny of 380-280 million years ago and/or to intrusion-related mesothermal environment, an entirely different metallogenic setting from the Barrancos deposits in the OMZ. Felsic intrusions occurred mostly later in the mountain-building event, and the CIZ is now dotted with batholiths and plutonic rocks that characterised the dying days of the orogeny. These intrusions released hot fluids into the overlying deformed metasedimentary and metavolcanic rocks, and on a regional scale exploration models presume that these fluids caused the mobilisation of the metals that form many of today's deposits. Of Goldplay's two projects in the region, one hosts gold in vein swarms, and the other along shear zones through which fluids



Limited 2008 drilling by Rio Narcea/Kernow at the Lirio project intersected the main mineralised zone below the shallow historical workings.

miners apparently adept at identifying and digging out some of the highest grade near-surface zones.

Goldplay has found working in Portugal to be an agreeable experience compared to some other mining jurisdictions. The local population is generally amenable to mining projects, seeing the upsides in terms of employment and development, the government is stable with a transparent permitting process, and the jurisdiction is mining-friendly in terms of legislation.

Goldplay President and CEO, Catalin Kilofliski, stated at the announcement of the phased acquisition of the company's new properties: "I am very pleased that in just two months from our initial listing on TSXV, our ambitious growth objectives are starting to materialize. Today's acquisition in Portugal, marks an important and concrete step forward in Company's growth plans." If Goldplay can find something significant in these under-explored areas of a stable and favourable mining jurisdiction, it may lead to something of a stampede towards investment in Portuguese mining.

may have traversed. Bigorne shows a wide sheeted vein system hosted in the Variscan granites themselves, while mineralisation at Vilarica is found both in veins and disseminated environments, and is also closely associated with a large regional fault.

One interesting aspect of exploration in Portugal is that much of the country has been extensively mined since Roman or even pre-Roman times. Practical experience shows that these old mine workings are good guides for modern exploration, with the ancient



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