



News Release

February 9, 2010

Yukon Gold Mining Alliance to Showcase Yukon Investment Opportunities

Seven mineral exploration and development companies have joined together to form a new industry marketing consortium to promote the Yukon to the national and international investment community. The Yukon Gold Mining Alliance (YGMA) will hold a launch event in Vancouver later this week.

“The purpose of the YGMA is to encourage investment in the Yukon and in companies with long-term commitments and investments in the territory,” said YGMA Chair Scott Kent. “The Yukon already has a strong reputation as an excellent place to do business. However, our member companies have noted a lack of knowledge within the investment community about the Yukon and its potential for mineral exploration and mining.”

The focus of the Yukon Gold Mining Alliance is on metals including gold, silver and copper. Strict qualifications for membership include identified investment and known resources in the Yukon, and adherence to social and environmental obligations.

“The Alliance is being formed to complement the promotion and marketing that is already being carried out by individual companies and the Yukon government,” added Mr. Kent. “We believe we can achieve more by sharing resources and working together.”

The YGMA is holding an investment community launch at the Metropolitan Hotel in Vancouver on the afternoon of February 11th. It will also host other events to present information to the investment community in locations including Vancouver, Toronto, New York City and Europe. In addition, the YGMA will bring analysts, media and the investment community to the Yukon to view properties and see the territory first-hand.

For more information, contact:

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Backgrounder

February 9, 2010

The Yukon Advantage

The member companies of the Yukon Gold Mining Alliance have the expertise and resources to carry out mineral exploration and development all around the globe. And in fact, they do just that. Several of our member companies have mineral properties both in the Yukon and elsewhere. However, Alliance members have recognized that the Yukon star is on the rise. It's being called one of the best and most exciting jurisdictions in the world in which to conduct mineral exploration and mining. Here's why....

- ✓ The Yukon has world-class deposits, with 2,700 known mineral occurrences and more than 80 mineral deposits with established reserves, some of which are the largest known in the world.
- ✓ The Yukon Geological Survey carries out unparalleled research and maintains extensive data on Yukon geological and mineral deposits.
- ✓ The Yukon controls and manages its natural resources. Decisions about lands, water and mineral resources are made by Yukoners. .
- ✓ The Yukon government understands business, promotes investment and supports responsible development.
- ✓ The Yukon has mining laws that provide secure mineral tenure and has a single coordinated approach to environmental assessment and regulatory permitting.
- ✓ The Yukon's royalties are amongst the most competitive in Canada.
- ✓ Most Yukon First Nations have finalized land claim and self government agreements, providing even greater regulatory certainty.
- ✓ The Yukon has well-developed infrastructure, including more than 4,800 kilometres of all-weather roads, numerous airports, clean energy, Internet and cell phone service throughout the territory.
- ✓ The Yukon has direct access to Asia via two ice-free ports in neighbouring Alaska.
- ✓ The Yukon has a long history of mining, with the mineral industry forming the foundation of the territory's private sector economy for over a century.
- ✓ And, perhaps most encouraging, recent increases in mineral exploration activity have quickly reaped rewards, with significant discoveries in gold, silver and copper.

We invite you to contact us and find out more.

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The Yukon Gold Mining Alliance

The Yukon Gold Mining Alliance (YGMA) is a non-profit industry association with a current membership of seven companies working in Yukon mineral exploration and development. The YGMA's goals include:

- To liaise between the mining industry and financing sources;
- To work together to promote awareness of and strengthen investment in member companies and the Yukon;
- To collectively identify a group of established companies which are committed to mineral exploration and development in the Yukon.

All member companies must have known resources and significant identified project expenditures in the Yukon. A company must have established 43-101 resources or must have spent \$2.5 million in drilling programs in the Yukon in five of the last seven years. Companies must also adopt and adhere to a corporate sustainability policy including community relations, environmental responsibility and labour relations.

The seven current members of the Yukon Gold Mining Alliance are Alexco Resource Corporation (TSX: AXR; NYSE-AMEX: AXU), Capstone Mining Corporation (TSX: CS), Copper Ridge Explorations (TSX: KRX), Golden Predator Royalty and Development Corporation (TSX: GPD), Northern Freegold Resources (TSX-V: NFR), Victoria Gold Corporation (TSX-V: VIT) and Western Copper Corporation (TSX: WRN).

Scott Kent serves as the Chair of the YGMA. Mr. Kent has experience as a Yukon Cabinet Minister, Executive Committee Member of the Yukon Environmental and Socio-economic Assessment Board and past Executive Director of the Yukon Chamber of Mines.

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