

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND 2022

(Expressed in Canadian dollars)

Management's Discussion and Analysis For the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022

This Management's Discussion and Analysis ("MD&A"), prepared as of April 29, 2024, should be read in conjunction with the audited consolidated financial statements of Japan Gold Corp. ("Japan Gold" or the "Company") for the year ended December 31, 2023 and the notes thereto, which have been prepared in accordance with IFRS Accounting Standards ("IFRS") as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board. All amounts are stated in Canadian dollars unless otherwise indicated.

Statements in this MD&A that are not historical facts are "forward-looking statements" that are subject to risk factors set out in a cautionary note contained herein. Readers are cautioned not to put undue reliance on forward-looking statements.

HIGHLIGHTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND THE SUBSEQUENT PERIOD

Barrick Alliance

- During the year ended December 31, 2023, the Company received funding of \$4,871,915 (US\$3,627,069) from Barrick Gold Corporation ("Barrick") for work to jointly explore, develop and mine certain gold mineral properties in Japan (the "Barrick Alliance"). Subsequent to December 31, 2023, Barrick paid an additional \$1,021,251 (US\$756,163) for total funding of \$17,103,352 (US\$12,999,177) since the commencement of the Barrick Alliance in February 2020.
- The **Mizobe Project** was the most active of the Barrick Alliance projects during 2023, with seven drill holes completed totaling 2,416 meters of drill core. Drilling has defined an extensive and largely concealed alteration system with significant mineralization encountered in drilling which includes up to 144 meters in down-hole length. Assays for these holes were received in Q1, 2024.
- Mapping within the Togi Project under the Barrick Alliance confirmed the potential for concealed targets along a
 four-kilometre normal fault zone Northeast of the Mori vein workings. Eight line-kilometres of controlled-source audio
 frequency magnetotellurics ("CSAMT") geophysics were completed over the target in November 2023 highlighting
 resistivity and conductivity features interpreted as normal faults associated with low sulfidation systems. The 2024
 work program is planned to include ground magnetics to further define drill targets.
- Grid mapping, CSAMT geophysics and soil samples were collected over the Aibetsu Project under the Barrick
 Alliance and the Company is aiming to confirm the geological model and target potential of this Project. Subject to
 results, a drill program may follow.
- Detailed mapping was completed over the Hakuryu Project under the Barrick Alliance to advance decisions on work
 programs for 2024, which will include drone or ground magnetics to assist in the delineation of alteration and vein
 extensions.
- Barrick is continuing their Initial Evaluation Phase on two additional projects and three extensions that were added to
 the Barrick Alliance following its formation and continues to provide full funding and technical support for the Barrick
 Alliance activities.

Japan Gold Projects

- At the **Ikutahara Project**, 11-line kilometres of CSAMT were completed over a 1.4 by 1.2-kilometre open-ended gold and pathfinder element anomalous zone defined by soil sampling at the Showa and Ikutahara historical mines. The CSAMT data has identified thick resistive features below the anomalous soils, indicating several possibilities including widespread silicification that may form above significant vein systems. This area is near drill ready and will be advanced for drilling based on permits and funding.
- Following the intersection of wide vein hosting structures in drilling at Saroma in 2022, the southwest strike extension
 of these structures was identified as prospective area for further exploration. 775 soil samples were collected along a
 9-kilometre strike section of the structure identifying several gold and pathfinder anomalies and rock samples up to 54
 g/t gold. The structural corridor remains open and further work in 2024 will aim to further define and expand extensions
 towards drill targeting.
- Detailed mapping completed over the **Bajo Project** has confirmed locally high-grade gold in rock samples associated with 8 separate vein structures within a four by three-kilometre zone on the west side of the project. Mapped quartz veins show a similar character to those from the Bajo mine located three-kilometre to the east, which produced more than 420 Koz of gold at an average grade of 41.7 g/t up to its closure in 1950. Importantly, the presence of granite basement outcrops adjacent to the mineralized veins provides a compelling case for a repetition of the high-grade Bajo mineralization on the west side of the project. The next steps include modelling gravity and/or ground magnetic data to support the targeting of gold-bearing structures at intersections with the top of the concealed granite.

- At the Buho Project assay results of ridge and spur soil samples collected across and along the strike of historical workings in Q4 2023 have confirmed anomalous gold and path finder elements within altered partially covered premineral geology along a 3 kilometre long trend. Historical data collected over the Buho workings comprising CSAMT geophysics and drilling, included a 3.5-metre intercept grading 21.8 g/t Au beneath the workings. Mineralization encountered in historical drilling appears to remain open along strike and will be prioritized for further drill testing.
- In July 2023, the Company commenced drilling at its 100% owned **Ohra-Takamine Project** to target the inferred strike extension of the veins encountered in a previous drill hole completed by the Company. One drill hole was completed and based on a review of results a full re-interpretation and geological model reconstruction was completed. This work has resulted in a better understanding of structural and stratigraphic controls on mineralization and in the definition of several new targets requiring ground-truthing to target drill testing.

Capital Raising Activities

- In April 2024, the Company closed a non-brokered private placement of unsecured convertible debentures (the "Debentures") for gross proceeds of US\$2,000,000 (CDN\$2,755,000) (the "Offering") to an existing strategic investor.
- The Debentures will mature on April 29, 2027, being the date that is three years from the date of issuance (the "Maturity Date"). The principal amount of the Debentures is convertible, at the election of the Company after the initial four month hold period prior to the Maturity Date, into common shares of the Company at a price of \$0.13 per common share. The Debentures bear interest from the date of issue until the Maturity Date or date of conversion at a rate of 10% per annum non-compounded and payable on the Maturity Date in common shares. Subject to TSX Venture Exchange ("TSXV") acceptance, any interest that has accrued in arrears on the principal amount outstanding under the Debentures will be payable in common shares at a price per share which equals the greater of the 'Market Price' (as that term is defined in the policies of the TSXV) or \$0.13 on the date the accrued interest becomes payable.
- In connection with the Offering, the Company will seek disinterested shareholder approval for the creation of a control person at the Company's next annual general meeting, which is expected to be held in October 2024. If such approval is received, the outstanding principal amount under the Debentures will automatically convert ten days after the approval into common shares at a price of \$0.13 per common share, and the greater of Market Price and \$0.13 per common share, in the case of the interest.
- On May 29, 2023, the Company closed non-brokered private placements and issued a total of 30,650,000 common shares at a price of \$0.20 per common share for gross proceeds of \$6,130,000. The Company paid total cash commission of \$279,500, incurred \$26,664 in professional fees and issued a total of 1,947,500 finder's warrants to arm's length finders. The finder's warrants are exercisable at C\$0.20 per share for a period of 12 months from the date of closing.

Leadership

• On March 1, 2024, the Company announced the appointment of Fraser MacCorquodale as President and Chief Operating Officer. Mr. MacCorquodale is a mining expert in a variety of gold and copper deposits built through exploring and assessing over 300 global projects. He has over 35 years of global gold and copper exploration experience, including leading Newcrest Mining's global exploration team from 2008 to 2023, which resulted in the discoveries of Golpu Deeps, (Papua New Guinea), East Ridge (Canada), Havieron (Australia), Toguraci Deeps (Indonesia), and Seguela (West Africa). Mr. MacCorquodale is skilled in strategy development and execution, development of growth pipelines, mergers and acquisitions and targeting, built on a deep technical knowledge of epithermal gold and porphyry copper-gold deposits. He has expertise in near-mine, brownfield, and greenfield exploration across different cultural and geographical settings, including Australia, Indonesia, Papua New Guinea, Canada, USA, Ecuador, Argentina, and Chile Mr. MacCorquodale is a recipient of the Colin Spence Award for Excellence in Global Mineral Exploration from the Association for Mineral Exploration.

COMPANY OVERVIEW

Japan Gold Corp. (TSX-V: JG) (OTCQB: JGLDF) is a Canadian mineral exploration company focused solely on gold exploration across the three largest islands of Japan: Hokkaido, Honshu, and Kyushu. The Company holds a portfolio of 35 gold projects which cover areas with known gold occurrences, a history of mining, and are prospective for high-grade epithermal gold mineralization. The Company's leadership team represents decades of resource industry and business experience, and the Company has an operational team of geologists, drillers and technical advisors with experience exploring and operating in Japan. The Company has an alliance with Barrick Gold Corporation ("Barrick"), referred to as our Barrick Alliance, to jointly

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explore, develop, and mine certain gold mineral properties and mining projects with the potential to host Tier 1 or Tier 2 gold ore bodies.

On February 24, 2020, the Company announced an alliance with Barrick. Barrick sole funded a 30-month Initial Evaluation Phase on the majority of the Company project portfolio. Japan Gold acts as the Manager of each project, subject to Barrick's right at any time to become the Manager of a project. Barrick may identify a project as a Designated Project at any time during the Initial Evaluation Phase or the Second Evaluation Phase and elect to sole fund to completion of a pre-feasibility study ("PFS"). Upon completion of a PFS, Barrick will earn a 51% interest in the Designated Project. Barrick may elect to continue to sole fund a Designated Project following the completion of a PFS to a bankable feasibility study ("BFS"). Barrick's interest in the Designated Project at the completion of the BFS will increase to 75%. Where Barrick has elected to sole fund a Designated Project through to completion of a BFS, Japan Gold will be fully carried through completion of the BFS and retain a 25% interest in the Designated Project. On receipt of funds from Barrick, the Company records amounts received as restricted cash with an offsetting payable to Barrick. The payable to Barrick is decreased as qualifying expenditures are incurred.

On September 6, 2022, the Company announced that Barrick had selected six projects from the portfolio to continue within the Second Evaluation Phase (see detailed discussion of the Barrick Alliance below). In addition, Barrick will be continuing their Initial Evaluation Phase on two projects and three project extensions that were added to the Barrick Alliance following its formation. Barrick will continue to provide full support and management and sole fund all Barrick Alliance activities. To date, Barrick has funded a total of \$17,103,352 (US\$12,999,177). Barrick has not yet declared any project as a Designated Project.

Japan is considered one of the most stable and corruption-free jurisdictions in the world. The mining regulatory framework is well established and transparent with appropriate access to government officials and a comprehensive support program to facilitate stakeholder consultation. The Company deliberately selected project areas in sparsely populated areas with a history of gold mining.

FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT

	December 31, 2023	December 31, 2022	December 31, 2021
Total assets	\$ 28,758,287	\$ 28,477,234	\$ 32,371,554
Working capital (1)	1,954,859	1,530,739	11,689,692
Net loss	(3,271,587)	(3,942,414)	(3,326,795)
Comprehensive loss	(5,361,175)	(4,808,386)	(5,044,971)
Loss per share	(0.01)	(0.02)	(0.02)

⁽¹⁾ Working capital is defined as current assets less current liabilities.

At the date of this MD&A, the Company has working capital of approximately \$3.5 million which includes \$520,000 in restricted cash representing amounts funded by Barrick in excess of amounts paid for exploration and evaluation expenditures.

PROPERTY REVIEW AND OUTLOOK

When the Japan Mining Act was amended in 2012 for the first time allowing foreign mineral companies the ability to hold exploration and mining permits, Japan Gold began reviewing Japan's extensive geoscientific database and historical gold production data to pinpoint areas with good exploration potential. By September 2016 at the commencement of field activities, the Company had applied for 38 prospecting rights (each up to 350 hectares), in northern Hokkaido targeting high-grade epithermal gold deposits and another 42 prospecting rights throughout Hokkaido and northern Honshu targeting areas of gold-bearing advanced argillic alteration lithocaps, which could indicate the presence of a porphyry mineralized environment. These initial prospecting rights applications totaled 27,153 hectares over the eight separate projects.

Having prospecting rights applications accepted by Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, ("METI") reserves the land for Japan Gold and allows for active surface exploration programs such as mapping, surface sampling and geophysics. Granting of Prospecting Rights by the METI allows for more advanced forms of exploration, such as drilling. As of the date of this MD&A report the Company holds priority over 35 projects, for a total of 299,053 hectares, a total of 977 prospecting rights license applications accepted by METI, 191 of these have been granted as prospecting rights licenses across the three main islands of Japan.

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The following is a breakdown of the 191 current Prospecting Rights:

- 15 Prospecting Rights are granted at the Ikutahara Project (5,245 hectares), 23 rights expired in May 2023 and 18 of these applications were re-applied for and accepted by METI
- 11 Prospecting Rights at the Ohra-Takamine Project (3,705 hectares)
- 4 Prospecting Rights at the Tobaru Project (1,347 hectares)
- 12 Prospecting Rights at the Kamitsue Project (4,069 hectares)
- 9 Prospecting Rights at the Aibetsu Project (2,916 hectares)
- 14 Prospecting Rights at the Bajo Project (4,478 hectares)
- 4 Prospecting Rights at the Buho Project (1,325 hectares)
- 6 Prospecting Rights at the Usa Project (1,838 hectares)
- 47 Prospecting Rights at the Ebino Project (14,698 hectares)
- 22 Prospecting Rights at the Mizobe Project (5,163 hectares)
- 36 Prospecting Rights at the Tobaru-Fuke Project (10,599 hectares)
- 11 Prospecting Rights at the Onoyama Project (2,784 hectares)

The following is a summary of work completed to date by the Company:

Ikutahara Project

The 21,332-hectare Ikutahara Project (which includes 5,245 hectares of prospecting rights and 16,086.8 hectares of prospecting rights application) is the Company's most advanced project. Located 20 kilometers southeast of the historic Konomai mine in north Hokkaido, the Ikutahara Project hosts 17 historic gold mines and workings including the Kitano-o mine (1924-43) which produced 96,450 ounces of gold from surficial eluvial placers associated with sinter deposits and sub-sinter epithermal veins.

In 2021, three initial drill holes were completed at the Ryuo Prospect, results included an interval of **4.9 metres** @ **12.1 g/t Au** and **33 g/t Ag** (IKDD21-001) below the Jinja vein workings. An additional eight drill holes were completed later in 2021 providing further strong encouragement including IKDD21-008: 0.45 metres @ **1,395 g/tAu** and **768 g/t Ag**, and IKDD21-010: **20 m** @ **6.3 g/t Au** and **15.7 g/t Ag**, including **5 metres** @ **15.2 g/t Au** and **13.1 g/t Ag**. Drilling at Ryuo in 2021 encountered high-grade vein intersections along an 800-metre open-ended strike zone, and further drilling was conducted in 2022 to increase geological understanding of mineralization controls to identify continuous zones of high-grade mineralization.

Table of significant drill intersections from the 2021 drilling at the Ryuo Prospect:

Drill Hole Number	From (m)	To (m)	Length (m)	Au (g/t)	Ag (g/t)
IKDD21-001	60.6	65.5	4.9	12.1	33
incl.	60.6	61.5	0.9	18.4	115.8
and	63.55	65.5	1.95	20.5	21
incl.	63.9	64.45	0.55	59.4	49.5
incl.	64.2	64.45	0.25	125	97
IKDD21-002	No Sign	ificant Inter	sections		
IKDD21-003	81.2	83.32	2.12	6.32	12.6
incl.	81.55	82.87	1.32	8.94	17.6
incl.	81.95	82.25	0.3	14.75	27.8
incl.	119.7	120.2	0.5	3.05	7.2
IKDD21-004	42.55	42.75	0.20	2.8	14.4
	88.50	88.80	0.30	1.2	23.9
IKDD21-005	140.40	140.70	0.30	1.4	4.9
	176.05	176.35	0.30	1.2	2.1
IKDD21-006	72.15	72.35	0.2	5.0	36.9
IKDD21-007	137.75	137.90	0.15	1.3	20.5
	151.30	151.50	0.20	1.0	1.7
	153.20	153.50	0.30	1.7	1.6
	233.30	234.30	1.00	30.0	284.0
	258.40	258.80	0.40	1.2	2.3
	272.60	273.90	1.30	3.7	2.3
	276.65	277.10	0.45	3.0	2.7
	289.30	289.55	0.25	1.8	3.4
	319.00	320.00	1.00	1.3	3.1
	339.00	340.35	1.35	2.7	4.1
	406.45	406.85	0.40	2.7	12.7
	408.60	409.05	0.45	2.6	5.4
	426.45	426.80	0.35	2.3	0.8
	432.70	435.65	2.95	1.6	1.7
incl.	434.40	435.00	0.60	3.1	2.6
IKDD21-008	231.80	233.40	1.60	2.8	17.2
	254.15	254.60	0.45	1,395.0	768.0
	257.85	258.05	0.20	1.9	2.2
	288.40	288.90	0.50	2.1	0.8
IKDD21-009	360.40	364.00	3.60	3.0	22.3
incl.	360.40	361.50	1.10	4.9	18.1
and	363.00	363.50	0.50	5.2	25.3
IKDD21-010	74.05	94.05	20.00	6.3	15.7
incl.	74.05	74.45	0.40	8.2	12.7
and	75.50	76.35	0.85	5.2	8.1
and	79.75	84.85	5.10	15.2	13.1
incl.	81.20	84.85	3.65	20.1	16.3
incl.	82.85	84.85	2.00	34.3	25.8
incl.	82.85	83.50	0.65	92.0	64.3
incl.	83.15	83.50	0.35	140.0	97.5
and	87.10	88.45	1.35	8.9	77.1
incl.	87.80	88.05	0.25	37.2	360.0
and and	90.65 93.45	91.80 93.65	1.15 0.20	9.4 30.5	19.3 40.9
IKDD21-011	98.10	98.25	0.15	1.6	4.3
	127.50	128.20	0.70	1.7	1.4
	130.10	130.25	0.15	1.3	11.1
	289.75	289.95	0.20	2.9	51.2

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To add to interpretations of the largely concealed mineralization at Ryuo, a soil grid over the greater Ryuo prospect was completed in August 2021 which confirmed the nature of the mineralization and alteration footprint along the area of historical workings and identified additional areas of anomalism prompting a requirement to expand the soil grid.

In March 2022, drilling resumed at the Ryuo prospect to follow up on the 2021 drilling. Seven drill holes were completed by June 2022, positioned to step out at approximate 50-metre intervals from high-grade mineralization encountered in the 2021 drill program and test continuity of mineralization along strike and to depth. Results from the 2022 drilling at Ryuo were announced on October 11, 2022, with the following significant intercepts:

Table of significant drill intersections from the 2022 drilling at the Ryuo Prospect:

Drill Hole Number	From (m)	To (m)	Length (m)	Au (g/t)	Ag (g/t)
IKDD22-001	161.35	161.50	0.15	2.6	22.3
	193.70	194.15	0.45	4.0	14.6
incl.	193.70	193.95	0.25	6.6	18.0
	360.80	361.15	0.35	1.2	1.3
	390.00	390.25	0.25	4.2	10.0
IKDD22-002	164.50	164.60	0.10	4.3	2.4
	233.65	233.80	0.15	13.1	8.4
	280.95	281.35	0.40	19.0	15.7
incl.	280.95	281.15	0.20	34.6	25.0
IKDD22-003	198.45	199.35	0.90	1.1	1.2
IKDD22-004	No Sign	ificant Inter	sections		
IKDD22-005	276.00	276.75	0.75	22.50	41.30
IKDD22-006	253.55	253.90	0.35	2.10	6.10
	309.20	309.40	0.20	1.50	1.40
IKDD22-007	245.45	245.65	0.20	4.60	7.40
	266.80	267.90	1.10	2.90	11.70
incl.	266.95	267.60	0.65	4.50	14.70
incl.	267.25	267.60	0.35	7.00	22.10
	285.60	286.40	0.80	2.50	19.40
incl.	286.00	286.25	0.25	4.40	24.10
	288.40	288.80	0.40	12.80	35.30
incl.	288.60	288.80	0.20	23.70	64.70

Drilling has indicated and untested open plunge extension to the northeast at the high-grade Jinja shoot area and highlighted the continuity of mineralization between the Shouei workings and the Taisei and Ryuei workings where IKDD22-007 ended in mineralization due to difficult drilling conditions and temporary expiration of the forestry permit. Two additional drill holes were completed at Ryuo in late 2022 to follow up on high-grade intercepts discussed herein. IKDD22-017, targeted continuity of mineralization below IKDD22-007 and to see if the high-grade interval in IKDD21-008 (0.45 metre grading 1,395 grams per tonne gold) coalesced into a mineralized structure at depth. Three significant fault zones including broken banded quartz vein fragments were intersected, the most significant mineralization occurred at a depth of 335.35 metres (0.2 metre @ 1.0 g/t Au) which appears to correspond with the down-dip extension of the mineralized fault zone in the bottom hole IKDDD22-007. Continuity of vein structures in this locality appears to have been affected by the interplay of at least three significant faults which post-date mineralization and appear to be reactivating or cutting the mineralized structures and dislocating vein mineralization.

Drill hole IKDD22-018 targeted the extension of the mineralized interval in IKDD22-005, (0.75 m @ 22.5 g/t Au), 100 metres southwest along strike and approximately 100 metres higher in elevation. The target zone lay coincident with a strong resistivity anomaly detected from the CSAMT data inferred to potentially represent silicification related to a wider quartz vein zone. Drilling intersected flow-banded and porphyritic rhyolite to 150 metre down-hole with a 15-metre-wide fault zone juxtaposing fine-grained and strongly silicified sediments against the rhyolite to a depth of approximately 135 metre down-hole, the latter confirming the CSAMT resistivity anomaly. A mineralized vein within the silicified sediments reported the peak value within

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the drill hole of 0.5 metres at 1.8 grams per tonne gold with an included interval of 0.15 metres at 4.5 grams per tonne/ gold. As in IKDD22-017, post-mineral faulting appears to have affected the continuity of mineralization along the Shouei structure.

Important insights gained from the 20 drill holes completed at Ryuo to date include the identification of high-grade gold events across the prospect, wide high-grade mineralized vein structures, and the intimate relationship of certain rhyolite phases with mineralization. The down-plunge extension of the Jinja shoot along the rhyolite dome margin requires further drill testing and post-mineral faulting across the prospect will need be carefully examined and re-modelled to understand the potential off-set of vein-zone extensions for further targeting. CSAMT data detected the locally intense silicification seen in the sediments in IKDD22-018 and other areas, this is a positive outcome with respect to the use of CSAMT in mapping silicification associated with veining in other potential targets.

A second campaign of soil sampling was completed at Ryuo in 2022 expanding on the 2021 soil grid to cover a 4.5 by 3.5-kilometre grid area, it gave the following important insights:

The 1.2-kilometre-long mineralized corridor at Ryuo lies within a window of pre-mineral felsic volcanic rocks which host the Ryuo rhyolite and the known mineralization. These units are overlain by the slightly younger Yasukuni rhyolite and other post-mineral rhyolite and andesite lava and volcanic units. The Yasukuni rhyolite lava is inferred to have been deposited in the late-mineral or waning stages of the hydrothermal activity at Ryuo. From the latest soil grid, three new areas exhibiting anomalous pathfinder element plumes have been identified within the Yasukuni rhyolite along structural leakage zones, one occurring immediately northeast along strike of the Shouei vein, and a second and third anomalies occurring 1 and 2.5 kilometres respectively to the south. The pathfinder element signatures include gold, arsenic, antimony and mercury which are typical of low-sulphidation epithermal systems. The three new open-ended anomalous zones defined by the soil program at Ryuo are supported by geological mapping, gravity-inferred structure and lineament interpretation and may represent shallowly concealed mineralization below the late-mineral cover. The district scale structural trends along which the anomalies are hosted are parallel to known vein orientations within the region, including the 2.35-million-ounce Konomai vein field, located 20 kilometres to the north.

Ground checking of the Ryuo soil grid anomalies was completed in June 2022 and results from additional rock assays received in August 2022. Of the three soil anomalies ground checked two appear to be associated with contamination from mine waste in forest road construction, with a third associated with a 200 m long N-S trending silicified ridge. From follow up rock sampling the silicified ridge exhibits localized chalcedonic quartz veins and elevated significant pathfinder anomalism. This silicified feature is associated with a flexure in a district scale structure and interpreted to represent leakage through the late-mineral rhyolite lava indicative of a shallowly concealed target. The silicified ridge target lies open off the grid and additional soil sampling is planned to expend the footprint of alteration and pathfinder leakage to further advance the prospect in 2024.

Upon completion of drill hole IKDD22-007 at Ryuo, drilling operations shifted to the east side of the Kitano-o prospect where three 700-metre-deep drill holes were completed. The initial three scout drill holes at east Kitano-o are targeted combined geochemical and geophysical anomalies below historic workings and adjacent to major graben and rhyolite dome structures proximal to the Cretaceous basement interface.

Drill hole IDDD22-008 located on the eastern edge of the Kitano-o mine workings, targeted a large CSAMT resistivity anomaly at depth within the Cretaceous metasedimentary basement. From a depth of approximately 420 metre down hole, the drill hole intersected silica and clay-altered rhyolite corresponding with the CSAMT anomaly, some narrow crystalline quartz veins were encountered adjacent to the rhyolite, but these did not carry any significant gold anomalism.

Drill hole IKDD22-015 drilled depth extensions of veins mapped in the historical workings with highly anomalous gold and pathfinder element geochemistry in rock float, mine dumps, and soils coincident with a vertical CSAMT defined resistivity anomaly. A gold and pathfinder element anomalous interval were recorded over a length of 7.2 metres with 0.33 g/t Au in the upper portion of the drill hole adjacent to an altered rhyolite intrusion which corresponded with the CSAMT resistivity anomaly. The lack of significant mineralization in the drill hole further supports the conclusion that a deeper boiling zone gold source is de-coupled from the gold-enriched paleosurface. There is also a possibility that the vein system dips south, and it would be conceivable for IKDD22-15 to have missed the larger structure it was targeting. A north-oriented drill hole in this area is still warranted based on the new interpretations.

Drill hole IKDD22-016 targeted a major northeast structure which controlled the emplacement of the Maruyama rhyolite dome located to the north of the Kitano-o mine workings. CSAMT mapped the structure along the SE edge of the dome, where soils

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exhibit anomalous gold, arsenic, and antimony. The drill hole cut the dome margin as mapped by the CSAMT, but the contact zone hosted no significant vein mineralization.

Three campaigns of soil sampling were completed over the Kitano-o Gold District between 2020 and 2022 covering a prospective 1,710-hectare area. A total of 1,597 composite soil samples were collected along a 7-kilometre-long section of a major deep-seated graben fault which bounds the east side of the district and localizes the majority of epithermal mineralization in the project. The abundance of gold at surface particularly at Kitano-o is believed to represent surficial out-flow or leakage from a deeper boiling zone source. The presence of both sinter material at Kitano-o and of numerous areas of steam-heated clay alteration represent the preserved paleosurface and support an interpretation for at least three fully preserved epithermal systems developed at depth within the district.

Drilling to date at the Kitano-o prospect has targeted depth extensions of surficial gold-rich eluvial-placer and sub-sinter veins which have not yielded a source for the significant amount of gold precipitated at the paleo-surface. With a more complete geochemical coverage, it is now interpreted that these gold-bearing paleo-surface expressions are de-coupled from structures hosting the boiling-zone vein systems developed at depth.

A careful screening of the soil geochemical data combined with other data sets was required to define deeper boiling-zone targets. Three new target areas have been defined based on their supporting multi-element pathfinder signatures which are up to 1.5 kilometres in strike length and remain open off the soil grid to the west. The two highest priority anomalous zones are located to the southwest of east Kitano-o mine workings and the northwest of the Ikutahara-Showa mines and lie along linear strike extensions of known veins sets mapped at surface. A third more subtle anomalous zone, in the northern part of the district, lies along the southern edge of a large rhyolite dome, and is further supported by fine-grained chalcedonic vein and sinter float trains.

The high-priority Kitano-o and Ikutahara-Showa multi-element anomalies defined by the soil grid are interpreted to represent de-coupled boiling zones that lie down-plunge from gold enriched paleo-surface leakage zones. The two anomalous zones show elevated gold supported by a pathfinder element suit typically associated with leakage along structures in the upper portions of low-sulphidation epithermal systems and include arsenic, antimony, selenium, thallium, and mercury. This pathfinder assemblage is also validated from the sampling of mineralized and altered surface rock and drill core from the Kitano-o prospect by the Company. Unusual is an addition of pathfinder elements more typically associated with alkaline gold systems, which include vanadium, bismuth, and weakly elevated tellurium.

Multi-element geochemical and alteration coverage from the soil survey, geological mapping, and prospect scale CSAMT and gravity surveys support the delineation of the new anomalous zones. These anomalous zones are aligned along northeast and east-southeast trending structures akin to the orientation of those which host the 2.35-million-ounce Konomai vein deposits located 25 kilometres to the northwest.

A 11 line kilometer CSAMT survey was completed over the Showa – Ikutahara prospects in Q4 2023 to cover the areas of strong gold and pathfinder element in soil anomalies supported by high-grade gold in rock chip results. The CSAMT data has identified thick resistive features below the anomalous soils, indicating several possibilities including widespread silicification that may form above significant vein systems. This area is near drill ready and will be advanced for drilling accordingly based on permitting and funding.

On December 14, 2022, the Company announced the completion of the drilling activities at the Saroma prospect, where six initial scout drill holes tested a 1-kilometre section of the Saroma vein. The 1.2-kilometre-long vein at Saroma is located at the northeast end of an open-ended 3.5-kilometre-long mineralized structure which includes the Saroma, Chitose and Taiho mine workings. The following intercepts were reported from drilling:

Drill Hole Number	From (m)	To (m)	Length (m)	Au g/t	Ag g/t	Au Eq g/t	Structure
IKDD22-09	31.7	32.05	0.35	0.5	14.6	0.7	Hanging wall splay
	55.65	59.75	4.1	0.7	124.8	2.2	Saroma Main Vein
Incl.	55.65	57.00	1.35	1.7	302.4	5.4	Saroma Main Vein
	56.25	57.00	0.75	2.7	425	7.9	Saroma Main Vein
IKDD22-10	41.65	42.0	0.35	0.2	7.37	0.3	Hanging wall splay

	98.75	100.35	1.6	1.2	56.5	1.9	Saroma Main Vein
Incl.	99.4	100.15	0.75	2.1	88.8	3.2	Saroma Main Vein
	104.75	107.85	3.1	0.4	475.7	6.2	Saroma Main Vein
Incl.	104.75	106.5	1.75	0.6	833.8	10.7	Saroma Main Vein
	105.5	106.5	1.0	0.6	1,128.8	14.3	Saroma Main Vein
IKDD22-11	121.55	122.05	0.5	0.2	150.4	2.0	Saroma Main Vein
Incl.	121.8	122.05	0.25	0.3	234.0	3.1	Saroma Main Vein
	147.6	148.8	1.2	0.5	25.9	0.8	Saroma footwall
IKDD22-12	88.9	89.3	0.4	2.4	37.9	2.9	Saroma Main Vein
						400	
	90.55	91.6	1.05	1.3	1,449.5	19.0	Saroma Main Vein
Incl.	90.55	91.6 91.2	1.05 0.4	1.3 3.2	1,449.5 3,570.0	19.0 46.7	Saroma Main Vein Saroma Main Vein
Incl. IKDD22-13							
	90.8	91.2	0.4	3.2	3,570.0	46.7	Saroma Main Vein
	90.8 46.15	91.2 46.6	0.4 0.45	3.2 0.4	3,570.0 1.2	46.7 0.4	Saroma Main Vein Hanging wall splay
IKDD22-13	90.8 46.15 120.85	91.2 46.6 123.4	0.4 0.45 2.55	3.2 0.4 0.5	3,570.0 1.2 6.0	46.7 0.4 0.6	Saroma Main Vein Hanging wall splay Saroma Main Vein

Gold equivalent (AuEq) = (Ag g/t / 82.4) + Au g/t. This calculation was based on average of gold and silver prices for the month of November 2022.

The Saroma prospect comprises multiple veins within a large continuous structure, which were successfully intercepted in all six drill holes along a 1-kilometre strike length, and to a depth 130 metres below surface. Importantly, vein widths up to 8 meters (true width) have been intersected with high-grade silver, and gold mineralization. Quartz veining exhibits impressive chalcedony-rich low-sulphidation epithermal vein textures, indicating good preservation of the vein system and potential to depth and along strike.

Quartz veins at Saroma show a diverse range of low-sulfidation epithermal textures, brecciation and mineralogy suggesting a dynamic system with multiple fluid phases amenable to gold deposition. High-level chalcedony-rich vein textures are observed in the deepest holes IKDD22-10 and IKDD22-13 indicating that the current drill intercepts are within the mineralization window and further drill testing down dip is warranted. Vein textures and the geometry of higher-grade mineralization identified along the Saroma vein trend may be indicative of a southwest plunge to mineralization towards the Chitose and Taiho prospects 500 and 1,500 metres to the southwest. Reconnaissance mapping along the Saroma structure in 2016 by the Company found surface rock samples up to 10.85 grams per tonne gold and 136 grams per tonne silver. Recent detailed mapping has confirmed veining with broad silicification envelopes at Chitose and Taiho and banded chalcedony veins outcrops up to 5 metres wide at the latter.

The historical Jomon workings are located another 5 kilometres southwest of the Taiho workings on the inferred continuation of the Saroma structure. Information on mining here is limited but sampling of numerous quartz boulders in a small open pit report grades averaging 25 grams per tonne gold and 50 grams per tonne silver. In 1933, an underground crosscut was excavated to locate the source of the boulders, but the results are unknown.

To understand the vein hosting potential of the 9 km long Saroma-Jomon structural corridor reconnaissance mapping was completed along the structure to identify alteration footprints related to concealed vein systems below the inferred shallow volcanic basin fill. Mapping successfully identified areas of alteration and float material of high-level vein material and soil sampling of these areas was commenced. A total of 775 soil samples were collected along a 9km strike section of the structure identifying several gold and pathfinder anomalies and rock samples up to 54 g/t gold. The structural corridor remains open and further work in 2024 will continue to define and expand extensions towards drill targeting.

Ohra-Takamine Project

The Ohra-Takamine Project comprises 11 contiguous Prospecting Rights blocks (3,705 hectares) near the coastal town of Kagoshima in southern Kyushu, in the center of the highly gold-endowed Hokusatsu mining district. The project area contains an intact mineralized epithermal vein system part of which was historically mined up to 1943 (41.6K ounces gold). This is part of the highly gold-endowed Hokusatsu-Kushikino mining district. Regional metallogenic surveys and later prospect evaluation

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work (including scout diamond) by the Metal Mining Agency of Japan ('MMAJ') in the 1980s have further enhanced the level of geological understanding of this property.

During January-February 2020 work programs included extensive grid-based soil sampling with geological & alteration mapping, 35 kilometres of CSAMT geophysics Bouguer gravity data over an approximate area of 8 x 4 kilometres centered on the Urushi-Takamine-Ohra mine corridor. Geophysical data was processed and modelled with the combined data sets and an initial two drill hole program was completed in 2020 which provided encouragement for further drill testing. Results included the following intervals:

• Drill hole OTDD20-001, targeting the down dip extension of the Urushi Mine workings, intersected seven narrow, gold-anomalous quartz veins including highlight intercepts of:

0.35 m @ 21.7 g/t Au & 13 g/t Ag from 233.95 m
4.15 m @ 1.6 g/t Au & 2.4 g/t Ag from 222.6 m
(inc. 0.55 m @ 3.5 g/t Au & 4.5 g/t Ag from 225.7 m)
(and. 0.25 m @ 6.5 g/t Au & 7.5 g/t Ag from 226.0 m)
1.2 m @ 1.5g/t Au & 31 g/t Ag from 114. 4m
(inc. 0.4 m @ 3.2 g/t Au & 84 g/t Ag from 115.2 m)

- Drill hole OTDD19-001, drilled from the north side of the Ohra Mine, intersected a 4.5 metre wide (down-hole width) quartz vein from 227 metre down hole. A 0.35-metre wide portion of the vein returned 1.7 grams per tonne gold and 5.0 grams per tonne silver.
- Drill hole OTDD20-002, targeting beneath the Ohra Mine workings intersected numerous broad intervals of intense alteration and quartz veining from a downhole depth of 206 metres to the end of hole (584 metres). These zones range from 4 to 40 metres in downhole length.

An evaluation of all geological, geochemical and geophysical results was completed in early 2022 which generated a series of new drill targets between the Ohra and Takamine mine workings. Following the completion of ranking of targets at Ohra-Takamine an initial single drill hole was completed to a depth of 400.8 metres 150 metres along strike of the Ohra-mine workings targeting an extension to the Ohra mineralization. Based on a review of results a full re-interpretation and geological model reconstruction was completed. This work has resulted in a better understanding of structural and stratigraphic controls on mineralization and in the definition of several new targets requiring ground-truthing to motivate drill testing.

Bajo Project

Detailed mapping completed over the Bajo project by the Company has confirmed locally high-grade gold in rock samples associated with 8 separate vein structures within a four by three km area on the west side of the project. Mapped quartz veins show a similar character to those from the Bajo mine located within the project, three kilometres to the east. Importantly, the presence of granite basement outcrops adjacent to the mineralized veins provides a compelling case for a high-grade Bajo analogue on the west side of the project. The next steps include modelling gravity and/or ground magnetic data to support the targeting of gold-bearing structures at intersections with the top of the concealed granite on the west side of the project.

The historical Bajo mine, located on the east side of the project produced more than 420 Koz of gold at an average grade of 41.7 g/t up to its closure in 1950. A significant portion of the Bajo production came from an ultra-high-grade shoot with a reported production of 371 Koz of gold at an extraordinary grade of 126 g/t¹. The high-grade mineralization at Bajo was localized along the contact between the granite basement and overlying andesite.

Other Projects

The Company completed a review of the remaining 23 projects not selected by Barrick for further work, but which exhibit strong exploration potential. Data sets for each project include historical data compilations, work completed by both the Company and by the Barrick Alliance, along with forward work program proposals for 2024. The Company continues to seek

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additional relationships to bring new concepts, exploration practices and foreign investment to Japan and advance the large Japan Gold project portfolio.

Barrick Alliance

On February 24, 2020, the Company announced an alliance with Barrick. Barrick sole funded a 30-month Initial Evaluation Phase on the majority of the Company project portfolio. Japan Gold acts as the Manager of each project, subject to Barrick's right at any time to become the Manager of a project. Barrick may identify a project as a Designated Project at any time during the Initial Evaluation Phase or the Second Evaluation Phase and elect to sole fund to completion of a pre-feasibility study ("PFS"). Upon completion of a PFS, Barrick will earn a 51% interest in the Designated Project. Barrick may elect to continue to sole fund a Designated Project following the completion of a PFS to a bankable feasibility study ("BFS"). Barrick's interest in the Designated Project at the completion of the BFS will increase to 75%. Where Barrick has elected to sole fund a Designated Project through to completion of a BFS, Japan Gold will be fully carried through completion of the BFS and retain a 25% interest in the Designated Project. On receipt of funds from Barrick, the Company records amounts received as restricted cash with an offsetting payable to Barrick. The payable to Barrick is decreased as qualifying expenditures are incurred.

On September 6, 2022, the Company announced that Barrick had selected six projects from the portfolio to continue within the Second Evaluation Phase (see detailed discussion of the Barrick Alliance below). In addition, Barrick will be continuing their Initial Evaluation Phase on two projects and three project extensions that were added to the Barrick Alliance following its formation. Barrick will continue to provide full support and management and sole fund all Barrick Alliance activities. To date, Barrick has funded a total of \$17,103,352 (US\$12,999,177). Barrick has not yet declared any project as a Designated Project.

Barrick's selection criteria require the potential to host either a Tier 1 or Tier 2 ore body to advance under the Barrick Alliance. Tier 1 ore bodies are defined by Barrick as having 5 million ounces or greater potential with annual production of at least 500,000 ounces of gold for 10 years and Tier 2 ore bodies are defined as having 3 million ounces or greater potential with annual production of 300,000 ounces of gold for ten years.

The following projects were chosen by Barrick following a comprehensive program of field and data review, completed by senior Barrick and the Company's personnel:

- Mizobe, Ebino, Aibetsu, Hakuryu, Togi and Tenyru, included in the Barrick Alliance at the time of its original formation, advanced to the program's Second Evaluation Phase.
- Buho Extension Nakanosawa, Aibetsu East Extension, and Togi Extension were added to the Barrick Alliance
 following its formation and, as such, will continue under the Initial Evaluation Phase in accordance with the terms of
 the Alliance Agreement.

Following the announcement of Barrick's selection of six Japan Gold projects in September 2022, work programs immediately commenced on priority targets listed above.

Mizobe Project

The Mizobe Project is located in the Hokusatsu Region of Southern Kyushu in a similar geological setting to Sumitomo Metal Mining's Hishikari gold mine, located 23 kilometres to the north.

An Induced Polarization "IP" geophysical survey comprising 14.6-line kilometres was completed over the eastern part of the Mizobe Project in September 2022. IP surveying was carried out over a 2.5 by 2.5-kilometre area containing mineralized riverfloat and localized outcrops exhibiting strong alteration and gold and pathfinder element anomalism, significant portions of this target area are concealed by a veneer of younger volcanic ash and welded tuff. The IP survey was aimed at mapping subsurface chargeability and resistivity features potentially representing buried mineralization and surrounding alteration haloes.

From the interpretation of combined data sets an initial three framework drill holes were commenced in February 2023 targeting interpreted structural extensions below post-mineral volcanic ash on large step-outs between 600 to 1,000 metres from known surface mineralization and historical drilling data.

Mizobe significant drill hole intersections

Drill Hole	From	To (m)	Length	Au (g/t)	Ag (g/t)
Number	(m)		(m)		
MZDD23-001	345.00	347.00	2.00	0.9	5.5
incl.	345.00	346.00	1.00	1.1	2.9
MZDD23-002	126.70	132.80	6.10	1.4	7.5
incl.	126.70	129.30	2.60	2.2	10.6
MZDD23-003	58.00	76.75	18.75	0.6	4.1
incl.	61.00	64.00	3.00	1.0	7.4
	81.75	94.75	13.00	0.7	3.2
incl.	81.75	86.75	5.00	1.0	4.5
	122.75	138.75	16.00	2.8	4.5
incl.	122.75	132.75	10.00	4.3	6.6
incl.	124.75	128.75	4.00	6.2	10.2
	176.95	191.00	14.05	1.0	4.8
incl.	179.00	186.75	7.75	1.2	3.3

The second phase of drilling at Mizobe completed in Q4, 2023 comprised four diamond holes for a total of 1,271.3 metres. Based on the initial framework drill program completed earlier in 2023, drilling continued to target mineralization on large, up to 500-meter step-outs around the long-mineralized intercept in MZDD23-003, and beneath mineralized breccias located 1.5 kilometers to the west, at the historical Semari antimony workings.

Drill holes MZDD23-004, 005, 006 and 007 all encountered hydrothermal alteration with variable intervals of gold mineralization including the following notable results, all intervals are down-hole lengths:

MZDD23-004

33.55 m @ 0.6 g/t Au & 3.1 g/t Ag from 28.3 m incl: 16.7 m @ 0.8 g/t Au & 3.9 g/t Ag from 28.3 m; 12.0 m @ 1.0 g/t Au & 4.5 g/t Ag from 33.0 m; 4.0 m @ 1.6g/t Au & 8.9 g/t Ag from 36.5 m

MZDD23-006

1.3 m @ 1.7 g/t Au & 2.2 g/t Ag from 50.7 m incl: 0.8m @ 2.4 g/t Au & 3.4 g/t Ag from 50.7 m)

Drilling at Mizobe has continued to encounter mineralized intervals on an open hydrothermal alteration system. Mineralization encountered in drilling is locally extensive with broad breccia-hosted intervals up to 144 metres in down-hole length. Multiple alteration and mineralizing events are observed in the drill core including banded chalcedony-sulphide vein clasts, banded carbonate-quartz-sulphide veins, and hydrothermal brecciation which has provided a permeability pathway and host for a younger gold-sulphide mineralization event. Banded chalcedony is a quartz vein texture that may represent the upper parts of epithermal vein systems, fragments of this banded chalcedony now incorporated into a younger mineralized hydrothermal breccia provide a vector towards potential deeper structure-controlled vein-style mineralization not yet identified.

Ebino Project

Induced Polarization surveying was completed in November 2022 at the Otsuka prospect within Ebino Project, located 12 kilometres north of the Hishikari mine. A total of 9.4-line kilometres were completed along a 4-kilometre-long alteration zone which overlies well-defined gravity anomalies. Gravity anomalies are a key feature associated with epithermal vein deposits in the Hokusatsu Region. Geological mapping was completed over the Otsuka prospect in December 2022, and the combined data sets for the Otsuka prospect have been interpreted with target models generated. A decision to drill this prospect is currently pending budget allocation in 2024.

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Aibetsu Project

The Aibetsu Project encompasses five historical gold-silver and mercury mines and/or mineral occurrences on the western side of the project, and large areas of alteration within the central and eastern parts of the project. The Tokusei mine produced 38,580 ounces of gold and 472,620 ounces of silver, mined from quartz-adularia veins between 1930-1942. The project area has had only limited exploration since the 1940's which included mapping, soil sampling, and resistivity surveys by MMAJ over the Tokusei mine area between 1998-2002. This work culminated in five diamond drill holes up to 700 metres deep for a total of 3,400 metres targeted mainly on Tokusei mine extensions. The most significant result was from drill hole 13MAHB-2 which reported an intersection of 1.4 metres at 69 grams per tonne gold and 263 grams per tonne silver from a quartz vein intersected approximately 340 metres below surface.

In the second and third quarters of 2017, semi-detailed geologic mapping and geochemical sampling of historical mine workings, ridges, streams and roads was undertaken over the Tokusei and historical workings located on the west side of the project. Infill and extensions of the MMAJ soil sampling program over a 5 x 4 kilometre grid area was also completed. Results confirmed the presence of high-grade gold mineralization within and around the historic Tokusei mine workings and emphasized the significant potential for extensions to the epithermal vein system at the Tokusei mine. Subsequent spectral alteration studies of sample duplicates confirmed these findings.

In the third and fourth quarter of 2022, the Alliance completed detailed mapping and outcrop sampling to define the source of highly elevated gold and pathfinder element anomalies identified from Initial Phase BLEG sampling over a contiguous 5 by 5-kilometre zone within the eastern side of the project. Mapping has defined two extensive clay alteration zones with associated quartz vein mineralization.

In June 2023, road repairs and line clearing preparations commenced for a 29-line kilometre CSAMT grid covering a 6 by 3.5 kilometres area across the eastern side of the project, a major undertaking given the remote and rugged mountainous terrain. By mid-September 4 lines for a total of 16.3 line kilometre of CSAMT had been completed, mapping and soil sampling had also been completed along 6 of the planned 7 line grid. The terrain at Aibetsu comprised the most rugged, remote and difficult to access of any of the Company's projects with elevations up to 1,200 metres.

The combined data set has defined a 3 by 8 kilometre NE oriented structural corridor with anomalous pathfinder elements, alteration and local quartz veining. The most promising target is located in the NE ridge area and a drill target has been proposed for further consideration.

Hakuryu Project

Detailed mapping was completed over the project in 2023. The Hakuryu Project is located at the southern end of the 18-kilometre-long Konomai gold field. The northern and central parts of the Konomai vein field were developed and mined by Sumitomo Metal Mining Co., Ltd. ("SMM") between 1915-1973 producing 2.35 Moz of gold at an average grade of 6.4 g/t¹. Most of the veins exploited by SMM were exposed at or near boiling zone levels, the most notable vein from the Konomai vein field is the Konomai No. 5 vein which produced 1.17 Moz of gold from a 2-kilometre-long vein that was up to 50 metres wide and 560 metres deep¹. Work programs planned for 2024 include ground magnetics to assist in the delineation of the vein structure extensions.

Togi Project

In Q2 2023, mapping was completed at the Togi Project confirming the potential for concealed targets along a four-kilometre normal fault zone NE of the Mori vein workings. Eight line-kilometers of CSAMT geophysics completed over the target in November have highlighted resistivity and conductivity features interpreted as normal faults associated with the low sulfidation systems emplacement. The 2024 work program includes ground magnetics to further refine drill-ready targets.

On January 1, 2024, Japan experienced an earthquake, measuring 7.6 magnitude, on the Noto Peninsula in the Ishikawa Prefecture, the location of the Togi Project. As the epicenter was very shallow, large tremors were observed in many places with property damage, loss of life and a tsunami warning. A potential drill program in 2024 is subject to the access into the Togi Project as a result of the earthquake along with pending results and permitting.

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References

¹The Mining and Materials Processing Institute of Japan (1989) Gold Mines in Japan Vol.1

SUMMARY OF QUARTERLY RESULTS

	December 31, 2023	September 30, 2023	June 30, 2023	March 31, 2023
Total assets	\$28,758,287	\$28,784,272	\$29,880,574	\$27,213,745
Working capital Net loss	1,954,859 (768,401)	3,101,908 (679,350)	4,539,420 (818,399)	101,349 (1,005,437)
Basic and diluted loss per share	(0.00)	(0.00)	(0.00)	(0.01)
	December 31, 2022	September 30, 2022	June 30, 2022	March 31, 2022
Total assets Working capital	\$28,477,234 1,530,739	\$27,188,892 4,254,416	\$28,827,823 7,212,067 (1,148,890)	\$31,556,303 9,648,922 (1,071,656)
Net loss	(932,061)	(789,807)	(1,140,070)	(1,071,030)

Total assets increased from \$28,477,234 at December 31, 2022, to \$28,758,287 in December 31, 2023. This is attributed to an increase in cash from the equity financing that closed in the second quarter of 2023 partially offset by operating expenditures during the year and foreign currency translation adjustments when converting the assets of the Company's Japanese subsidiaries to Canadian dollars. The Company continues to explore and capitalize exploration and evaluation expenditures related to the Company's exploration and drilling programs. As at December 31, 2023, the Company has capitalized a total of \$25,735,463 in exploration and evaluation assets.

RESULTS OF OPERATIONS FOR THE THREE MONTHS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023

During the three-month period ended December 31, 2023, the Company incurred a net loss of \$768,401 compared to a net loss of \$932,061 for the three-month period ended December 31, 2022. Significant changes occurred in the following categories:

- The Company recorded lower share-based compensation of \$5,376 related to stock options granted in this period (December 31, 2022 \$99,721).
- The Company recorded lower professional fees of \$46,426 due to less corporate activities in the period (December 31, 2022 \$76,441).
- The Company recorded lower consulting fees of \$296,582 due the departure of a former director and consultant in the previous year (December 31, 2022 \$334,164).
- The Company recognized a foreign exchange loss of \$19,934 (December 31, 2022 gain of \$27,921) due to the fluctuations of foreign exchange rates in the Japanese Yen to Canadian Dollar..
- The Company incurred occupancy and office costs of \$104,699 during the three-month period ended December 31, 2023 (December 31, 2022 \$75,098). Out of this amount \$36,762 was paid for rent in Japan and head office and the remaining \$67,937 relates to office costs incurred in Japan and head office during the quarter.
- During the three-month period ended December 31, 2023, the Company incurred \$129,051 in investor relations expenses (December 31, 2022: \$86,466). The increase is a result of the Company's activities during the three months ended December 31, 2023 to increase the Company's profile.

RESULTS OF OPERATIONS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023

During the year ended December 31, 2023, the Company had a net loss of \$3,271,587 compared to a loss of \$3,942,414 for the year ended December 31, 2022. Significant changes occurred in the following categories:

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- The Company recorded share-based compensation of \$22,636 related to stock options granted in this period and for the remaining stock options granted during the fourth quarter of 2021 (December 31, 2022 \$811,837). Options granted in the prior years have fully vested.
- The Company recorded higher filing and regulatory fees of \$69,963 due to the equity financing that closed during the year ended December 31, 2023 (December 31, 2022 \$39,366).
- The Company recorded lower consulting fees of \$559,519 due the departure of a former director and consultant in the previous year (December 31, 2022 \$653,559).
- The Company recognized a lower foreign exchange loss of \$25,839 (December 31, 2022 \$115,901) due to the fluctuations of foreign exchange rates in the Japanese Yen to Canadian Dollar.
- The Company incurred occupancy and office costs of \$349,197 during the year ended December 31, 2023 (December 31, 2022 \$312,632). Out of this amount, \$204,815 was paid for rent and office costs relating to head office and the remaining \$144,382 related to rent and office costs in Japan during the nine-month period.
- During the year ended December 31, 2023, the Company incurred \$531,138 in investor relations expenses (December 31, 2022: \$421,732). The increase is a result of the Company's activities during year to increase the Company's profile.

LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES

The Company's cash and cash equivalents as at December 31, 2023, were \$1,968,831 which was a decrease from \$2,139,425 as at December 31, 2022. As at December 31, 2023, the Company has a working capital of \$1,954,859 compared to a working capital of \$1,530,739 as at December 31, 2022.

Net cash used in operating activities for the year ended December 31, 2023, was \$3,238,838 compared to net cash used of \$3,083,575 during the year ended December 31, 2022. The cash used in operating activities reflected the Company's efforts in continuing to build its project portfolio through rising costs during the period as well as general and administrative expenses.

Net cash used in investing activities during the year ended December 31, 2023, was \$2,829,185 (December 31, 2022: \$6,644,544). This was mainly due to the 2023 exploration and drilling programs incurred to advance the Company's key projects in Ikutahara and Ohra-Takamine while evaluating other projects within the portfolio. The lower net cash used in investing activities is due to more activities focused on Alliance projects in 2023 which are funded by Barrick.

Net cash from financing activities during the year ended December 31, 2023, was \$6,013,836 due to the close of private placements and the exercise of options (December 31, 2022: \$22,493 cash used in financing activities for lease payments).

These consolidated financial statements have been prepared on the basis of accounting principles applicable to a "going concern", which assumes that the Company will continue its operations for the foreseeable future and will be able to realize its assets and discharge its liabilities in the normal course of operations as they become due. The Company has not generated any revenues or cash flows from operations to date. For the year ended December 31, 2023, the Company incurred negative cash flows from operations of \$3,238,838 and recorded a net loss of \$3,271,587. The Company's ability to continue as a going concern is dependent on its ability to successfully raise additional financing, entering into a joint venture, sale of all or a portion of the Company's assets, the outright sale of the Company, the successful development of the Company's mineral property interests, or a combination thereof. The Company believes that it will be able to continue as a going concern for the foresee able future based on the Company's historical and anticipated ability to raise additional financing (Note 12) to further advance its projects. However, the Company will continue to incur negative cash flows from operations and the Company will require additional funding in the future. Although the Company has been successful in the past in obtaining financing, there is no assurance that it will be able to obtain adequate financing in the future or that such financing will be on terms acceptable to the Company. These factors indicate the existence of a material uncertainty that may cast significant doubt upon the Company's ability to continue as a going concern. These consolidated financial statements do not give effect to any adjustments that would be necessary to the carrying values and classification of assets and liabilities should the Company be unable to continue as a going concern. Such adjustments could be material.

RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Key management and personnel compensation

Key management personnel include the officers and directors of the Company. Key management compensation and amounts paid to companies controlled by key management consists of the following:

		Year ended	Year ended
	Dec	ember 31, 2023	December 31, 2022
Management fees*	\$	428,000	\$ 528,000
Project evaluation-consulting	\$	212,737	\$ 174,641
Consulting fees*	\$	303,481	\$ 446,600
Director fees	\$	158,193	\$ 154,532
Share-based compensation	\$	-	\$ 497,913

^{*} Prior year comparatives for management fees and consulting fees have been re-presented for the reclassification of non-management fees of \$204,000 to consulting fees.

During the year ended December 31, 2023, the Company incurred \$428,000 (December 31, 2022: \$528,000) in management fees and \$204,000 (December 31, 2022: \$204,000) in consulting fees for administrative, finance and accounting services to a private company controlled by John Proust, the Chief Executive Officer of the Company. The Company also reimbursed such private company \$76,900 in occupancy costs during the year ended December 31, 2023 (December 31, 2022: \$72,165). As at December 31, 2023, \$Nil (December 31, 2022: \$40,000) of these fees were outstanding and payable to the officer.

The Company incurred \$212,737 in consulting fees for project evaluation to Andrew Rowe, an officer of the Company during the year ended December 31, 2023 (December 31, 2022: \$174,641). As at December 31, 2023, \$8,454 (December 31, 2022: \$15,087) of these fees were outstanding and payable to the officer.

The Company paid \$99,481 in consulting fees (December 31, 2022: \$74,600 to Takashi Kuriyama, General Manager of Exploration of the Company. As at December 31, 2023, \$10,255 (December 31, 2022: \$7,823) of these fees were outstanding and payable. During the year ended December 31, 2023, the Company also incurred \$Nil (December 31, 2022: \$168,000) in consulting fees for analysis and strategic advice related to the development of exploration projects to a private company controlled by Mitsuhiko Yamada, a former director of the Company who served until December 31, 2022.

Other related party transactions

During the year ended December 31, 2023, Southern Arc, a company with common directors and management, charged the Company \$10,843 in office expenses (December 31, 2022: \$25,156). As at December 31, 2023, \$Nil (December 31, 2022: \$6,469) of these fees were included in accounts payable and accrued liabilities.

The above transactions occurred in the normal course of operations and are recorded at the consideration established and agreed to by the related parties.

CURRENT SHARE DATA

As at the date of this MD&A, the Company had 256,515,479 common shares issued and outstanding.

The following table summarizes information about the share options outstanding as at the date of this MD&A:

Outstanding	Weighted average exercise price	Expiry date	Weighted average remaining life (years)
120,000 \$	0.27		0.11
120,000 \$	0.27	June 3, 2024	
3,024,950	0.40	September 15, 2026	2.39
275,000	0.40	October 28, 2026	2.51
1,250,050	0.16	December 13, 2028	4.64
4,110,000	0.20	January 24, 2029	4.75
3,815,000	0.30	May 13, 2030	6.05
5,915,000	0.35	December 23, 2026	2.66
200,000	0.20	July 4, 2028	3.19
200,000	0.20	April 9, 2029	4.96
1,200,000	0.20	April 10, 2029	4.96
20,110,000 \$	0.29	·	4.27

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As at the date of this MD&A, 18,660,000 of the options outstanding are exercisable.

As at the date of this MD&A, 1,561,682 restricted share units are outstanding with an exercisable price of \$0.20 per share with an expiry date of April 11, 2025. As at the date of this MD&A, none of the restricted share units are exercisable.

As at the date of this MD&A, the US\$2,000,000 (CDN\$2,755,000) Debentures is convertible, at the election of the Company after the initial four month hold period prior to April 29, 2027, into common shares of the Company at a price of \$0.13 per common share.

The following table summarizes information about the warrants outstanding and exercisable as at the date of this MD&A:

	Weighted average		Weighted average
Outstanding	exercise price	Expiry date	remaining life (years)
1,925,000	\$ 0.20	May 9, 2024	0.04
22,500	0.20	May 26, 2024	0.08
1,947,500	\$ 0.20		0.04

RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES

The Company's business could be significantly adversely affected by certain external risks that could adversely affect the economies and financial markets of many countries, resulting in an economic downtown that could affect the Company's products and likely impact operating results. These factors may impact the Company's ability to obtain financing or third parties' ability to meet their obligations with the Company.

The nature of the Company's operations exposes the Company to liquidity risk, credit risk and market risk, which may have a material effect on cash flows, operations and comprehensive income.

The Company's risk management policies are established to identify and analyse the risks faced by the Company, to set appropriate risk limits and to monitor market conditions and the Company's activities. The Board of Directors has overall responsibility for the establishment and oversight of the Company's risk management framework and policies.

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Company is not able to meet its financial obligations as they fall due. The Company ensures that there is sufficient capital in order to meet short term business requirements after taking into account the Company's cash and cash equivalents. All of the Company's financial liabilities, are classified as current. The Company's approach to managing liquidity risk is to ensure as far as possible that it will have sufficient liquidity to meet liabilities when due.

Credit risk - Financial instruments that potentially subject the Company to credit risk consist of cash and cash equivalents, restricted cash, deposits and accounts receivable. The Company limits its credit exposure on cash and cash equivalents and restricted cash by holding its deposits mainly with high credit quality financial institutions as determined by credit agencies. The carrying value of these financial assets represents the maximum exposure to credit risk. The Company has no history of credit loss and no allowance for credit loss recorded at December 31, 2023 and 2022.

Market risk is the risk of loss that may arise from changes in market factors such as interest rates, foreign exchange rates, and commodity and equity prices. The Company is currently exposed to interest rate risk to the extent that the cash and short-term investment maintained at the financial institutions are subject to a floating rate of interest. The interest rate risk on the Company's cash and short-term investment is not significant.

The Company operates in Japan and is subject to foreign currency fluctuations primarily on its cash and accounts payable and accrued liabilities denominated in a currency other than Japanese yen ("Yen or \(\frac{\pmathbf{\pmathb

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Fair value

IFRS requires disclosure about fair value measurements for financial instruments and liquidity risk using a three-level hierarchy that reflects the significance of the inputs used in making the fair value measurements. The three-level hierarchy is as follows:

- Level 1 Unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities;
- Level 2 Inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the asset or liability either directly or indirectly; and
- Level 3 Inputs that are not based on observable market data.

The carrying values of the Company's cash and cash equivalents, restricted cash, accounts receivables, deposits and accounts payable and accrued liabilities approximate their fair values due to their short terms to maturity.

Other risk factors

Industry

The Company is engaged in the acquisition and exploration of resource properties, an inherently risky business, and there is no assurance that an economic mineral deposit will ever be discovered and subsequently advanced to production. Most exploration projects do not result in the discovery of economically mineable deposits. The focus of the Company is on areas in which the geological setting is well understood by management.

Gold and other metal prices

The price of gold is affected by numerous factors beyond the control of the Company including central bank sales, producer hedging activities, the relative exchange rate of the US\$ with other major currencies, demand, political and economic conditions and production levels. In addition, the price of gold has been volatile over short periods of time due to speculative activities. The prices of other metals and mineral products for which the Company may explore all have the same or similar price risk factors.

Permitting risk

The Company operates under the Mining Act (established in 1950) as amended in 2011 (implemented in 2012). Under the Mining Act, the Company has applied for prospecting rights which once granted, are valid for a maximum of 6 years. When prospecting rights applications are made and accepted for filing by the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) but prior to granting (the reservation period), the applicant has the exclusive opportunity to do early-stage exploration work including mapping, geology, geochemistry and geophysics but not trenching or drilling. There is no fixed timetable for the reservation period. Once granted, the prospecting rights may be converted to digging rights (mining rights). If not converted or in the process of being converted, prospecting rights will expire at the end of a 6-year period. There is no guarantee that the Company will be able to satisfy the requirements to covert its prospecting rights to digging rights within the defined 6-year time frame. The Company may reapply for expired prospecting rights on the same basis as new applicants but would not have any priority when doing so. Prospecting rights applications are processed on a "first to file" basis unless applications are submitted by multiple parties at the same time in which case applications will be subject to a lottery. The Company retains priority over new third-party prospecting rights applicants by submitting applications to convert its existing prospecting rights to digging rights prior to the expiry of the granted prospecting rights. This priority right remains in place until the digging rights are granted, or the application is rejected. The Company's project portfolio currently has 977 prospecting right applications accepted by METI. Of the 977 prospecting rights applications, 191 prospecting rights have been granted, in several batches, on 12 projects, enabling advanced exploration including drilling. The currently granted prospecting rights expire from 2024 through 2028. The Company work programs and budgets are designed to advance exploration on prospecting rights to prepare for potential conversion to digging rights.

Overall, the Company's mineral exploration activities are subject to receiving and maintaining licenses, permits and approvals from appropriate governmental authorities in Japan. The Company may be unable to obtain on a timely basis or maintain in the future all necessary permits to explore and develop its properties. Delays may occur in connection with obtaining necessary renewals or permits for the Company's existing operations and activities, additional permits for existing or future operations or activities, or additional permits associated with new legislation.

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Ability to raise funding

The Company has no revenues from operations and expects to incur operating losses in future periods due to expenses associated with advancing its mineral projects, seeking new business opportunities and working capital costs. The Company has finite financial resources and its ability to advance its mineral projects will depend significantly upon its ability to secure near and long-term financing. There are no assurances that any financing alternative will be successful or that financing will be available at all or acceptable terms. These financing requirements will result in dilution of existing shareholders and the inability to obtain such financing may result in delay or postponement of the Company's activities.

Geopolitical risk

The Company recognizes the inherent uncertainties associated with geopolitical risks. Events such as trade disputes, changes in government policies, and regional conflicts may adversely impact various sectors of the economy, including but not limited to, financials, energy, metals and mining. These risks may result in disruptions to supply chains, fluctuations in currency exchange rates, and changes in demand for the Company's products and operations. As a result, the Company's business, financial condition, and results of operations may be negatively affected by economic and other consequences from geopolitical developments.

Climate change risk

The Company acknowledges the importance of addressing climate change risks. Environmental concerns, regulatory changes, and shifting consumer preferences toward sustainability could impact the Company's operations and business. Physical climate change risks such as extreme weather events and transition risks related to regulatory shifts and market preferences are considerations. The Company is committed to evaluating and managing our environmental footprint, pursuing sustainable practices, exploring innovative technologies to minimize environmental impact and staying informed about evolving climate-related regulations.

Global economic conditions

The unprecedented events in global financial markets in the past several years have impacted the global economy where many industries, including the mining industry, are impacted by these market conditions. Market events and conditions, including disruptions in the international credit markets and other financial systems could impede the Company's access to capital or increase the cost of capital which may adversely affect the Company's operations.

MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Reference should be made to the Company's material accounting policy information contained in Note 2 of the Company's consolidated financial statements as at December 31, 2023. These accounting policies can have a significant impact on the financial performance and financial position of the Company.

Significant accounting judgments and estimates

The preparation of the consolidated financial statements requires management to make certain estimates, judgments and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and reported amounts of expenses during the reporting period. Actual outcomes could differ from these estimates. The financial statements include estimates that, by their nature, are uncertain. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognized in the period in which the estimate is revised and future periods if the revision affects both current and future periods. These estimates are based on historical experience, current and future conditions and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the current circumstances.

Estimation of uncertainty

Significant assumptions about the future and other sources of estimation uncertainty that management has made at the end of the reporting period, which could result in a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities in the event that actual results differ from assumptions made, relate to, but are not limited to, the following:

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i) The application of the Company's accounting policy for exploration and evaluation expenditure and impairment indicator evaluation requires estimates in determining whether it is likely that future economic benefits will flow to the Company, which may be based on assumptions about future events or circumstances. Estimates and assumptions made may change if new information becomes available. If, after an expenditure is capitalized, information becomes available suggesting that the recovery of the expenditure is unlikely, the amount capitalized is written off in profit or loss in the year the new information becomes available. Ownership of exploration and evaluation assets involves certain inherent risks, including geological, commodity prices, operating costs and permitting risks. Many of these risks are outside of the Company's control

For the years ended December 31, 2023 and December 31, 2022, there were no indicators of impairment identified with respect to the Company's exploration and evaluation assets.

ii) The determination of fair value of share-based compensation associated with stock options and finders' fee warrants require assumptions with respect to volatility, expected life and discount rates. Changes in these assumptions impact the share-based compensation recognized in profit or loss over the vesting period of the stock options.

Judgments

Critical accounting judgments are accounting policies that have been identified as being complex or involving subjective judgments or assessments.

- i) The Company's assessment of its ability to continue as a going concern requires significant judgments about whether there are material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt about the Company's ability to continue as a going concern. The Company must determine whether sufficient financing will be obtained in the near term. See note 1 to the consolidated financial statements.
- ii) Recoverability of exploration and evaluation assets

The application of the Company's accounting policy for exploration and evaluation assets and expenditures requires judgment to determine whether future economic benefits are likely, from either future exploitation or sale, or whether activities have not reached a stage that permits a reasonable assessment of the existence of reserves.

At the end of each reporting period, the Company assesses its exploration and evaluation assets to determine whether any indication of impairment exists. Judgment is required in determining whether indicators of impairment exist, including factors such as the period for which the Company has the right to explore, expected renewals of exploration rights, whether substantive expenditure on further exploration and evaluation projects are budgeted and results of exploration and evaluation activities on the exploration and evaluation assets.

iii) The determination of the functional currency of the Company and of its subsidiary requires significant judgment of the primary economic environment in which the Company and its subsidiary operates may not be clear. This can have a significant impact on the consolidated results of the Company based on the foreign currency translation method.

LIMITATIONS OF CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES

The Company's management, including the Chief Executive Officer and the Chief Financial Officer, believe that any disclosure controls and procedures or internal controls over financial reporting, no matter how well conceived and operated, can provide only reasonable, not absolute, assurance that the objectives of the control system are met. Further, the design of a control system must reflect the fact that there are resource constraints, and the benefits of controls must be considered relative to their costs. Due to the inherent limitations in all control systems, the Company's management cannot provide absolute assurance that all control issues and instances of fraud, if any, within the Company have been prevented or detected. These inherent limitations include the fact that judgements in decision-making can be faulty and that breakdowns can occur because of a simple error or mistake. Additionally, controls can be circumvented by the individual acts of some persons, through collusion of two or more

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people, or by unauthorized override of the control. The design of any control system is also based in part upon certain assumptions about the likelihood of future events, and there can be no assurance that any design will succeed in achieving its stated goals under all potential future conditions. Accordingly, because of the inherent limitations in a cost-effective control system, misstatements due to error or fraud may occur and not be detected. The Company's officers are not required to certify the design and evaluation of the Company's disclosure controls and procedures and internal controls over financial reporting and have not completed such an evaluation. Inherent limitations on the ability of the certifying officers to design and implement on a cost-effective basis disclosure controls and procedures and internal controls over financial reporting for the Company may result in additional risks to the quality, reliability, transparency and timeliness of interim and annual filings and other reports provided under securities legislation.

QUALIFIED PERSON AND QUALITY CONTROL AND ASSURANCE

The technical information in this document has been reviewed by Andrew Rowe, Vice President of Exploration, BAppSc, FAusIMM, FSEG, who has sufficient experience relevant to the style of mineralization under consideration and qualifies as a Qualified Person as defined by National Instrument 43-101 Standards of Disclosure for Mineral Projects.

CAUTIONARY NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

Certain of the statements made and information contained herein is "forward-looking information" within the meaning of the British Columbia Securities Act. These statements relate to future events or the Company's future performance. All statements, other than statements of historical fact, may be forward-looking statements. Generally, these forward-looking statements can be identified by the use of forward-looking terminology such as "anticipates", "plans", "budget", "scheduled", "continue", "estimates", "forecasts", "expect", "is expected", "project", "propose", "potential", "targeting", "intends", "believes" or variations of such words and phrases or statements that certain actions, events or results "may", "could", "would", "might", or "will be taken", "occur" or "be achieved" or the negative connotation thereof. These statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that may cause actual results or events to differ materially from those anticipated in such forward-looking statements. The Company believes that the expectations reflected in those forward-looking statements are reasonable, but no assurance can be given that these expectations will prove to be correct and such forward-looking statements included in this MD&A should not be unduly relied upon by readers, as actual results may vary. These statements speak only as of the date of this MD&A and are expressly qualified, in their entirety, by this cautionary statement. In particular, this MD&A contains forward-looking statements, pertaining to the following: capital expenditure programs, development of resources, treatment under governmental and taxation regimes, expectations regarding the Company's ability to raise capital, expenditures to be made by the Company and its joint venture partners on its properties and work plans to be conducted.

With respect to forward-looking statements listed above and contained in the MD&A, the Company has made assumptions regarding, among other things:

- uncertainties relating to receiving mining, exploration and other permits in Japan;
- unknown impact related to potential business disruptions stemming from the COVID-19 outbreak, or another infectious illness;
- unpredictable changes to the market prices for gold, copper and other commodities;
- exploration and developments costs for properties in Japan;
- availability of additional financing and farm-in or joint-venture partners;
- *anticipated results of exploration and development activities;*
- the Company's ability to obtain additional financing on satisfactory terms or at all.

The Company's actual results could differ materially from those anticipated in these forward-looking statements as a result of the risk factors set forth below and elsewhere in this MD&A: volatility in the market price for minerals; uncertainties associated with estimating resources; geological, technical, drilling and processing problems; liabilities and risks, including environmental liabilities and risks, inherent in mineral and oil and gas operations; fluctuations in currencies and interest rates; incorrect assessments of the value of acquisitions; unanticipated results of exploration activities; competition for, amongst other things, capital, undeveloped lands and skilled personnel; lack of availability of additional financing and farm-in or joint venture partners and unpredictable weather conditions. Although the Company has attempted to identify important factors that could cause results to differ materially from those contained in forward-looking statements, there may be other factors that cause results not to be as anticipated, estimated or intended. There can be no assurance that such statements will prove to be accurate, as actual results and future events could differ materially from those anticipated in such statements. Accordingly,

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readers should not place undue reliance on forward-looking statements. Readers are cautioned that the foregoing lists of factors are not exhaustive. Forward looking statements are made as of the date hereof and accordingly are subject to change after such date. The forward-looking statements contained in this MD&A are expressly qualified by this cautionary statement. The Company does not undertake to update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise, except in accordance with applicable securities laws.