Québec Precious Metals Corporation –
A new gold explorer in the
Eeyou Istchee James Bay territory

At the end of June 2018, Canada Strategic Metals Inc. and Matamec Explorations Inc. closed a business combination transaction to create a new James Bay-focused gold exploration company headquartered in Montreal, named Québec Precious Metals Corporation (QPM). In addition, QPM acquired three gold projects from Sphinx Resources Ltd., including the 50 per cent interest of Sphinx in the Cheechoo-Éléonore Trend project, and also the other 50 per cent interest in such project held by Sirios Resources Inc. (collectively, the transaction).

In connection with this transaction, Goldcorp Inc. invested $3.7 million to acquire a 14 per cent interest in QPM. Within the scope of the transaction, they invested $1.4 million. As part of the Goldcorp investment, QPM has formed a technical committee with Goldcorp, which will allow QPM to benefit from Goldcorp’s technical expertise and knowledge of the region. In addition, for as long as Goldcorp holds 7.5 per cent or greater of the outstanding common shares of QPM, Goldcorp will have certain rights, including:

- the right to participate in any future equity financings undertaken by QPM in order to allow Goldcorp to maintain its then percentage ownership interest in QPM;
- the right to acquire such additional number of QPM shares in future financings undertaken by QPM such that Goldcorp’s ownership percentage on closing of such financing would equal up to 19.9 per cent (on a non-diluted basis); and
- the right of first refusal to match any third-party offers regarding non-equity financings, including, a tolling arrangement, streaming arrangement, royalty sale, or other non-equity financing for the purpose of funding the future exploration and development of any of QPM’s projects now owned or after acquired.

This transaction is an exciting development for gold exploration in the Eeyou Istchee James Bay territory.

QPM is well-capitalized with a large land position (942 square kilometres) and significant holdings in this highly prospective region, near Goldcorp’s Éléonore gold mine. The land package contains very prospective early-stage exploration gold targets.

QPM has a proven management team and board of directors, extensive mine finding and development experience, and demonstrated capabilities in the financing, acquisition, and development of mines. The company’s team includes John WW. Hick as chairman of the board of directors, François Biron as vice-chairman of the board, Jean-François Meilleur as president, Normand Champignon as chief executive officer, and in addition to the aforesaid individuals, Jean-Sébastien Lavallée, Jean-Raymond Lavallée, and Michel Gauthier as directors. With a strong team, quality gold exploration assets, and a key shareholder, QPM is in a good position to attract additional growth opportunities.

QPM owns the Sakami gold project with recent drill intercepts showing significant gold mineralization up to 35 metres in true thickness, and grades ranging from one to five g/t gold, which has been derived from exploration on a small portion of 700-metres-by-300-metres and up to a down-plunge length of 450 metres. Through further drilling, QPM hopes to rapidly advance the Sakami project to a mineral resource estimate by the end of 2019 and pursue additional identified exploration targets.

The transaction gives QPM the funds needed to accelerate drilling and validate the potential of several million ounces at Sakami, as well as to continue exploring other projects in Eeyou Istchee James Bay territory. To go from the strategic vision to the execution of the transaction took almost a year and a lot of work was required. Now the real work starts: to find the next gold mine in the Eeyou Istchee James Bay territory.