



HIGH DESERT GOLD CORPORATION

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High Desert Gold Corporation Prepares to Initiate a Phase II Drill Program Designed to Extend Gold Mineralization at the Canasta Dorada Property in Sonora, Mexico

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High Desert Gold Corporation (“HDG” or the “Company”) is preparing to initiate a Phase II reverse circulation (“RC”) drill program at the Canasta Dorada gold property, Sonora, Mexico. The Phase I program, completed in 2008, was successful in outlining gold mineralization in the Big Pit area where the gold is hosted in a low angle structural zone. Gold values were intersected by the Phase I drill program in an open ended area extending 400x200 metres. Phase II drilling will look to complete infill drilling within this area with the intention of classifying the mineralization in a resource category. In addition, the Phase II drill program will be designed to extend the gold mineralization to the east where old trenches have exposed gold bearing rocks in outcrops and further to the east where favorable rocks are covered by gravels. The RC drill program will also seek to extend mineralization to the west where the mineralized horizon is expected to occur at a shallow depth below upper plate rocks. Ralph Fitch, President of the Company, stated “If the gold mineralization continues to the west and east as believed, a significant resource could be present in the extended Big Pit area.”

Drilling will also take place in the Placer Area where 2 holes were completed in the Phase I program. This area was the focus of historic dry placer workings where local campesinos dug small pits along the flanks of the hill and processed the material for gold. The two holes drilled in this area intersected 24 metres @ 0.22 g/t gold and 14 metres @ 0.20 g/t gold. HDG believes these are significant intercepts and will follow-up with several offset holes.

HDG has also been exploring the possibility of joint venturing the Canasta Dorada project and has received interest from a number of groups. The Company will continue to

explore all possibilities to move the project forward, including completing the drill program with a partner.

The Company issued a press release on December 5, 2008 (see HDG PR08-26), announcing the results of bottle roll tests designed to investigate the presence of coarse gold within the drill holes. Samples were subjected to a combination of single pass gravity separation with hand panning followed by a 3,000 gram bottle roll cyanidation extraction. Results showed that the majority of tested samples responded very well to the gravity + cyanidation process. Gold recoveries in the gravity circuit varied from 8% to 74% and the recovery was >40% on samples with a head grade of >1.0 g/t. Cyanidation on gravity tails further extracted 4% to 65% of the gold. Thus, overall gold recoveries of 18%-99% were obtained from the process. Over 90% recoveries were achieved on samples with head grades of >1.0 g/t gold.

The mineralized intercepts from two twinned holes, DDH 13 and 13A, were reanalyzed by the gravity + cyanidation process. The bottle roll analyses on these samples increased the average grade in DDH 13 from 0.32 g/t gold to 0.73 g/t gold over 21 metres, a 90.3% increase in grade. In the second drill hole, DDH 13A, the grade increased 9.4% from 1.14 g/t gold to 1.25 g/t gold over 23.5 metres.

These results show that the presence of coarse gold in the system may dramatically increase grades and positively impact the economics should the Phase II program succeed in defining a resource on the Canasta property.

The Qualified Person on the Canasta Dorada project is Randall Moore, VP of Exploration, and a certified professional geologist. He has reviewed the content of this press release. Please see High Desert Gold Corporation's website, www.highdesertgoldcorp.com, for maps and drill hole locations.

The Company is a mineral exploration company that acquires and explores mineral properties, primarily gold, copper and silver, in North America. The two major properties held by HDG are the Canasta Dorada gold property in Sonora, Mexico, and the Gold Lake porphyry copper-gold-molybdenum property in New Mexico.

Certain statements contained herein constitute "forward-looking statements". Forward-looking statements look into the future and provide an opinion as to the effect of certain events and trends on the business. Forward-looking statements may include words such as "plans," "intends," "anticipates," "should," "estimates," "expects," "believes," "indicates," "targeting," "suggests," "potential," "interpretation" and similar expressions. Information concerning the interpretation of drill results also may be considered forward-looking statements, as such information constitutes a prediction of what mineralization might be found to be present if and when a project is actually developed. These forward-looking statements are based on current

expectations and entail various risks and uncertainties. Actual results may materially differ from expectations, if known and unknown risks or uncertainties affect our business, or if our estimates or assumptions prove inaccurate. Except as required by law, HDG assumes no obligation to update or revise any forward-looking statement, whether as a result of new information, future events or any other reason. Additional information regarding risks and uncertainties that could affect the Company's business is contained in the company's MD&A and in its Annual Information Form, which are available on SEDAR at www.sedar.com.

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