

# Management's Discussion and Analysis Second Quarter Ended June 30, 2023

(Expressed in United States dollars, except per share amounts and where otherwise noted)

August 9, 2023

This Management's Discussion and Analysis ("MD&A") should be read in conjunction with the condensed consolidated interim financial statements for the period ended June 30, 2023 and related notes thereto which have been prepared in accordance with IFRS 34, Interim Financial Reporting of the International Financial Reporting Standards ("IFRS") as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board, as well as the annual audited consolidated financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2022, which are in accordance with IFRS, and the related MD&A. References to "Ridgeline" and the "Company" are to Ridgeline Minerals Corp. and/or one or more of its wholly-owned subsidiaries. Further information on the Company is available on SEDAR at www.sedar.com. Information is also available on the Company's website at www.ridgelineminerals.com. Information on risks associated with investing in the Company's securities is contained in this MD&A. Technical and scientific information under National Instrument 43-101 - Standards of Disclosure for Mineral Projects ("NI 43-101") concerning the Company's material properties are located in their respective technical reports: technical and scientific information regarding the Carlin-East project (the "Carlin-East Project") is contained in the Company by John Langton (M.Sc., P.Geo.) of JPL GeoServices (the "Carlin-East Technical Report"), the technical and scientific information regarding the Selna project (the "Selena Project") is contained in the technical report titled "43-101 Technical Report: Selena Property, White Pine County, Nevada" with an effective date of June 4, 2020 (the "Selena Technical Report"), prepared for the Company by John Langton (M.Sc., P.Geo.) of JPL GeoServices and technical and scientific information regarding the Swift project (the "Selena Technical Report titled "43-101 Technical Report: Swift Project, Lander County, Nevada" with an effective date of May 30, 2020, prepared for the Company by John Langton (M.Sc., P.Geo.) of JPL GeoServices (the "Swif

# **Q2 2023 HIGHLIGHTS AND RECENT DEVELOPMENTS**

#### **Carlin-East Gold Project**

On July 17, 2023, the Company entered into a transaction with Nevada Gold Mines LLC ("NGM" or "Nevada Gold Mines"), a joint venture between Barrick Gold and Newmont Corp., pursuant to which NGM can acquire an interest in Ridgeline's Carlin-East gold project ("Carlin-East"). NGM can incur a minimum of \$4.5 million (of which \$1.5 million is guaranteed) in qualifying work expenditures over an initial five-year term to earn an initial 60% interest in Carlin-East and will have further options to increase its interest to a total 75% interest as outlined below. NGM assumed immediate operatorship of the project.

#### **Big Blue Copper Project**

On June 19, 2023, the Company announced high grade copper samples returning up to 15.5% from surface trenching at the Big Blue Project ("Big Blue"), a porphyry/skarn copper ("Cu") – gold ("Au") – silver ("Ag") exploration prospect located directly adjacent to Reyna Silver's Medicine Springs CRD discovery in Elko County, Nevada. Ridgeline geologists collected eighteen continuous trench samples at two trench locations and fourteen surface rock chip samples in May 2023. Trench sampling confirmed historically reported mine grades (see February 9, 2023 Press Release HERE) at the past producing Delker Mine while wide-spaced reconnaissance rock chip sampling effectively doubled the mineralized footprint of the known system.

## **Corporate**

On April 27, 2023, the Company closed a non-brokered private placement consisting of 22,535,000 units at a price of C\$0.20 per Unit which raised gross proceeds of C\$4,507,000. Each Unit consists of one common share of the Company and one-half of one common share purchase warrant. Each whole warrant is exercisable to acquire one share at a price of C\$0.30 per share for a period of two years from the closing date. The Company paid an aggregate finder's fee of C\$240,958.

The Company's financial highlights for the Q2 2023 period included:

• Operating loss was \$268,083 compared to an operating loss of \$248,737 in Q2 2022;

- Operating cash outflow before working capital was \$191,187 compared to an operating cash outflow before working capital of \$199,152 in Q2 2022; and
- As at June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023, cash, including restricted cash, was \$2,857,086 and the working capital balance was \$2,774,482.

# **OVERVIEW OF BUSINESS**

Ridgeline Minerals Corp. ("Ridgeline" or the "Company") is a Canadian resource company engaged in the exploration of precious and base metal deposits in the western United States. The Company controls a 163 square kilometre ("km²") exploration portfolio of five early-stage exploration projects in Nevada and Idaho.

The Company's 100% owned projects are:

- Selena (the "Selena Project") is a Carbonate Replacement Type (CRD) silver-gold-lead-zinc exploration project located within the southern extension of the Carlin-Trend in White Pine County, Nevada. (Figure 3). Ridgeline drilling in 2022 highlighted the high-grade potential at the Chinchilla zone with follow-up drilling in 2023 to focus on expanding the high-grade Ag-Au-Pb-Zn footprint. The claim block is comprised of 467 BLM administered contiguous federal lode claims covering an area of approximately 9,626 acres (39 km²). Historic and currently producing mines in the area include Kinross Gold Corp.'s Bald Mountain, Alligator Ridge, Yankee and Illipah deposits, with exploration over the past 30 years restricted to surface geochemistry and shallow drilling.
- Swift (the "Swift Project") is a Carlin-type gold exploration project within the prolific Cortez district of the Battle Mountain Eureka Trend in Lander County, Nevada. The project covers an area of approximately 18,348 contiguous acres (75 km²) and is a mix of 785 unpatented BLM administered lode claims (14,651 acres) and private "fee" lands (3,697 acres). The project has seen limited historic exploration and is located approximately 7 km to the northwest and directly on-strike of NGM's Gold Acres, Pipeline, Cortez Hills and Goldrush deposits (Figure 8). The Swift Project is subject to the NGM Swift Earn-In-Agreement, which has seen US\$5M in NGM directed exploration expenditures to-date.
- Carlin-East (the "Carlin-East Project") is a Carlin-type gold exploration project located within the prolific Carlin Trend, a 200 km (125 mile) long, north-northwest alignment of predominantly carbonate hosted gold deposits located in northeastern Nevada (Figure 11). The 35 km² property straddles the Eureka and Elko County lines and is comprised of 427 contiguous Bureau of Land Management ("BLM") lode claims totaling 8,628 acres of surface and mineral rights on-trend of the currently producing Leeville-Turf deposit, which is owned by NGM, a joint venture between Barrick Gold Corp and Newmont Corp. The Carlin-East Project is subject to the NGM Carlin-East Earn-In-Agreement (see July 17, 2023 Press Release HERE).
- Bell Creek (the "Bell Creek Project") is a Carlin-Type exploration project located directly west of the original Carlin-East claims and adjacent to NGM's Goldstrike, Meikle-Rodeo and Ren deposits on the prolific north Carlin Trend (Figure 13). The property has seen limited historic exploration and is comprised of 1,300 acres of semi-contiguous private mineral rights totaling 5 km². NGM recently announced a 1.2Moz maiden resource grading 7.3 g/t gold at the Ren deposit which sits only 500m west of the Bell Creek property boundary.
- Robber Gulch (the "Robber Gulch Project") is host to a shallow-oxide, Carlin-Type gold discovery, is historically underexplored and exhibits similar age host rocks and mineralization style to Liberty Gold's Black Pine Deposit located 88 km's to the southeast. Robber Gulch is located approximately 30 km southeast of the city of Burley, Cassia County Idaho (Figure 15). The project area is comprised of 117 contiguous lode claims (9.3km²) that straddle both federally administered Bureau of Land Management and US Forest Service lode claims and is easily accessible through a network of county-maintained gravel roads via Idaho State Highway 30.
- Big Blue (the "Big Blue Project") is a high-grade porphyry copper gold silver exploration prospect in Elko County, Nevada. The Big Blue Project includes the past producing Delker Mine, which produced 94,434 pounds of copper at an average grade of 6.2% Cu between 1916-1917 and shares its southern boundary with Reyna Silver's Medicine Springs Ag-Pb-Zn CRD project. The Company acquired Big Blue via low-cost staking of 361 lode claims totaling 7,255 acres (29 square kilometers). The Big Blue Project is 100% owned by the Company and retains no underlying lease payments, work commitments or royalty obligations.

The Company was incorporated in British Columbia on March 18, 2019 under the name Carlin-Type Holdings Ltd. and subsequently changed its name to Ridgeline Minerals Corp. on December 11, 2019. On August 12, 2020, the Company completed an initial public offering (the "IPO") and commenced trading on the TSX Venture Exchange (the "TSX-V") under the symbol "RDG" on August 17, 2020. The Company's common shares also trade in the United States on the Over-the-Counter OTCQB Venture Market under the trading symbol "RDGMF".

The Company's corporate headquarters is located in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. Field operations are conducted out of a local office in Winnemucca, Nevada, United States. The Company consolidates it's wholly-owned subsidiaries, Ridgeline Minerals Corporation ("Ridgeline NV"), Ridgeline Silver Corporation and Ridgeline Exploration Corporation.

# PROJECT LOCATIONS

The Company's six projects are located in Nevada and Idaho, United States (Figure 1).

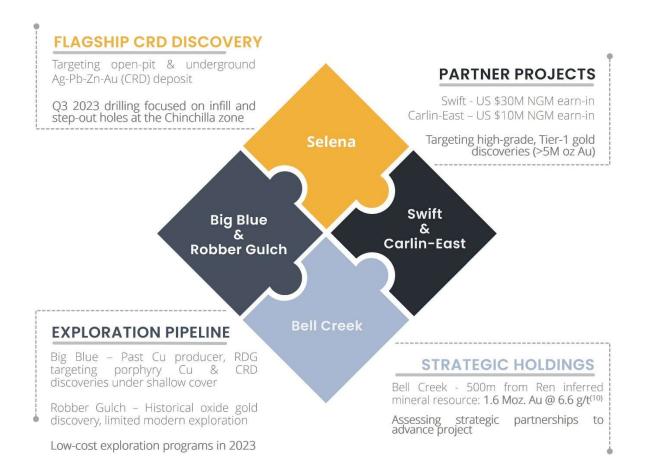
Figure 1: Map showing location Ridgeline properties in Nevada and Idaho



# EXPLORATION STRATEGY AND OUTLOOK

The Company's exploration strategy is focused on identifying underexplored precious and base metal exploration projects in the western US with potential to yield a significant discovery. The Company's portfolio is a mix of 100% owned exploration projects, exploration partnerships and strategic land holdings with the Company's flagship Selena project exhibiting significant growth potential throughout the first six phases of drilling (Figure 2). Exploration projects are acquired with district-scale consolidation of mineral rights being an early focus, evidenced by Ridgeline's 192 km<sup>2</sup> portfolio. Each project receives systematic, science-driven exploration which begins with evaluation of historical data followed by comprehensive surface geochemistry, field mapping and geophysical surveys. This baseline data collection is crucial to the exploration process and creates a geologic framework that allows the team to identify high-priority drill targets which are then ranked at both the project and portfolio level. The technical team's proven track record of multiple discoveries in Canada and the US supports their belief that economic discoveries are typically a result of sustained exploration efforts across multiple phases of drilling. As a result, drill programs are completed in phases with each drill program having clearly defined technical goals and budget expectations to be met before additional phases of drilling are authorized. The company's 2023 exploration budget will focus on its flagship Selena project with any excess funds being allocated to maiden programs at Robber Gulch or Big Blue or towards follow-up programs at Selena. Ridgeline's exploration joint venture with Nevada Gold Mines has returned positive initial results and the Company will continue to assess potential partnership opportunities with mid-tier and major mining companies for its other exploration assets. This strategy will allow Ridgeline to continue to focus its own exploration budget towards advancing its flagship Selena project, which exhibits potential to discover a world-class CRD system.

Figure 2: Ridgeline's 2023 exploration strategy



# **SELENA PROJECT**

#### **Project Description**

The Selena Project is a Carbonate Replacement Type (CRD) silver-gold-lead-zinc exploration project located within the southern extension of the Carlin-Trend in White Pine County, Nevada (Figure 3). The claim block is comprised of 467 BLM administered contiguous federal lode claims covering an area of approximately 9,626 acres (39 km²). Historic and currently producing mines in the area include the Yankee, Illipah, Bald Mountain and Alligator Ridge deposits (Kinross Gold), as well as the undeveloped Butte Valley Cu-Au porphyry, a US\$33M exploration and earn-in agreement operated by Freeport-McMoRan, which shares a property boundary with Selena. The Company's Q4, 2022 program was designed to test multiple target areas across the know mineralized footprint with the highest priority holes located at the Chinchilla target, which were designed to follow up on high-grade CRD mineralization previously drilled by Ridgeline using reverse circulation ("RC") drilling methods (Figure 4). This program utilized diamond drill core methods to collect higher quality samples for assay and not only confirmed historic RC intercepts but materially upgraded Ag-Au-Pb-Zn grades in the main Chinchilla mineralized horizon. Highlight results include:

#### Chinchilla Target

- SE22-045: 32.5 m grading 153.42 g/t Ag, 2.51% Pb, 1.60% Zn, 0.09 g/t Au including **6.1 m grading 480.52** g/t Ag, 12.0% Pb, and 6.39% Zn, 0.14 g/t Au (Figure 5)
  - o and 2.7m grading 452.96 g/t Ag, 1.42% Pb, 0.54% Zn and 0.15 g/t Au
- SE22-039: 15.9 m grading 83.5 g/t Ag, 0.10% Pb, 0.14% Zn, 0.02 g/t Au, (No significant values of W) including 0.5 m grading 1,793 g/t Ag, 2.2% W, and 0.5% Cu
- SE22-039A: 1.5 m grading 580.1 g/t Ag, 1.95% W, and 0.5% Cu (failed wedge drilled off SE22-039)

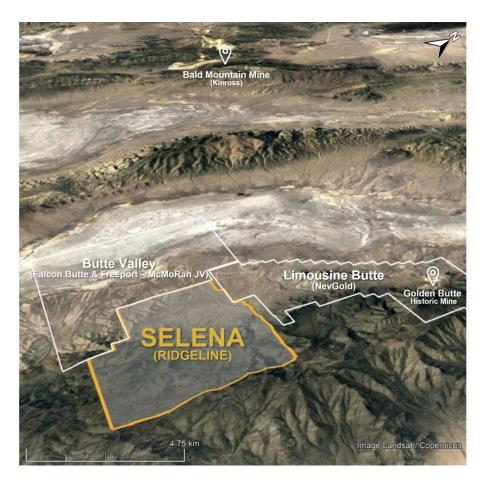
# Juniper Target

- Results A single core hole (SE22-040) returned 6.5 m grading 0.27 g/t Au starting at 43.6 m downhole and 0.7 m grading 34.44 g/t Ag, 0.25% lead ("Pb"), 0.10% zinc ("Zn") and 0.47 g/t Au starting at 178.4 m downhole (Figure 5)
  - CRD mineralization in SE22-040 is hosted within a fault-controlled breccia zone on the footwall side
    of the Aurym fault (interpreted as a primary feeder fault to the Juniper target). Future drilling would
    focus on the hangingwall side of the Aurym fault

#### Broken Egg

- Results Core hole SE22-044 returned **4.4 m grading 0.68 g/t of oxide Au** starting at 0.6 m below surface (Figure 5)
  - Drill holes SE22-041 to SE22-043 tested multiple outcropping Au targets across three kilometers of strike and intersected extensive alteration structure and anomalous gold grades up to 0.40 g/t Au, including:
  - o SE22-042: 1.9 m grading 0.19 g/t oxide Au starting at 83.7 m downhole

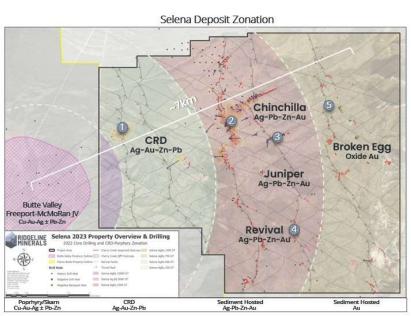
Figure 3: Plan view map showing Selena property location within the historic Limousine Butte district with past and currently producing mines in the area including Bald Mountain (Kinross Gold) and Golden Butte (NevGold). Freeport-McMoRan holds a US\$33M earn-in exploration agreement on the Butte Valley project, which shares a boundary with Selena



**Figure 4**: Plan view map showing the Chinchilla, Juniper, Revivial, CRD and Broken Egg targets at Selena. Ridgeline's Q4 2022 drill program successfully tested multiple targets with highlight results from core hole SE22-045 at the Chinchilla zone.

# Highlight Drill Intercepts By Target

- 3.0m @ 40.2 g/t Ag, 7.0% Pb-Zn, 3.0 g/t Au SE22-037
- 6.1m @ 480.0 g/t Ag, 18.4% Pb-Zn, 0.1 g/t Au (SE22-045) 4.6m @ 421.0 g/t Ag, 8.1% Pb-Zn, 0.6 g/t Au (SE21-024) 7.6m @ 237.8 Ag, 3.9% Pb-Zn, 0.2 g/t Au (SE21-025)
- 3 1.0m @ 2,467.2 g/t Ag, 2.5% Pb-Zn, 5.1 g/t Au within 7.7m @ 725.2 g/t Ag, 2.2% Pb-Zn, 1.5 g/t Au (LB-072) 1.0m @ 1,195.2 g/t Ag, 0.3% Pb-Zn, 3.0 g/t Au (LB-070)
- 4 2.7m @ 34.57 g/t/ Ag, 1.4% Pb-Zn, 1.0 g/t Au (SEBP-005)
- 4.4m @ 0.68 g/t Au starting at 0.6m (SE22-044)



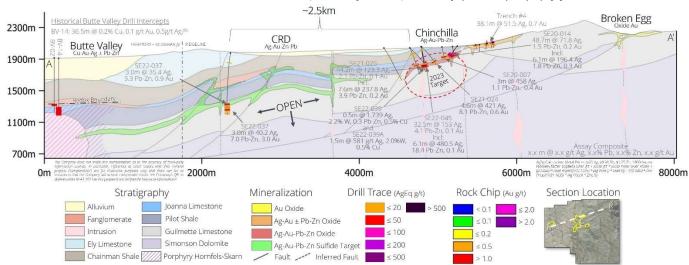
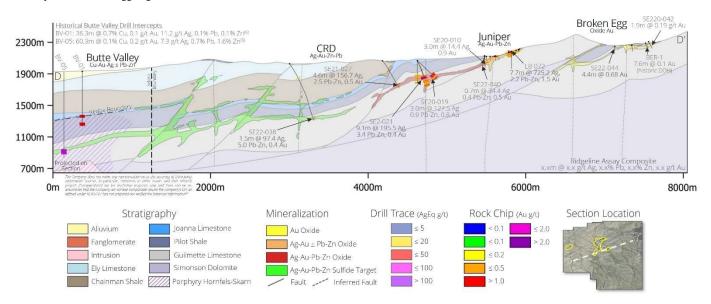


Figure 5: Long Section A-A' showing drill intercepts in hole SE22-039, SE22-039A and SE22-045 at the Chinchilla target. High-grade mineralization is located at the intersection of NW and NE fault zones (ie: chimney horizons) intruded by quartz-feldpsar porphyry dikes.

Figure 6: Long Section B-B' showing drill intercepts from Q4, 2022 program in hole SE22-040 at the Juniper target as well as a shallow oxide Au intercept at the Broken Egg target.



On September 5, 2020, the Company's Selena Technical Report was issued with an effective date of September 4, 2020. Please refer to the Selena Technical Report filed on the Company's profile on SEDAR (www.sedar.com) for more details concerning the Selena Project.

# **2023 Exploration Strategy**

#### Chinchilla

- Upon completion of the Company's minimum \$2.0M private placement announced April 5, 2023 (See Press Release <u>HERE</u>) the company intends to drill a minimum of 2,500m to test the down-dip extension of multiple high-grade feeder fault zones (ie:chimney's) (Figure 7).
- The company anticipates the approval of a BLM administered Plan of Operations (PoO) exploration permit in late Q2, 2023 which will allow for up to 200 acres of disturbance at Selena. The expanded

program will allow Ridgeline to more effectively drill the Chinchilla, Juniper and CRD targets and advance the project to a maiden resource in the future.

664010E 664487E 663851F 664169F 664328F Stratigraphy 4408242N Alluvium Fanglomerate Chainman Shale Joanna Limestone 4408121N Pilot Shale Guilmette Limestone OFP Intrusive Drill Trace (AgEq g/t) 4408000N Plan View Map < 20 < 50 X-Section - Looking NW ≤ 100 < 200 **SE20-014** 48.7m @ 71.8 Ag, 1.5 Pb-Zn, 0.2 Au Incl: < 500 2000m > 500 SE22-045 @ 196.4 Ag 1.8 Pb-Zn, 0.3 Au Grade Contours (AgEq g/t) 5 - 20 g/t 20 - 100 g/t SE21-024 > 100 g/t 4.6m @ 421.0 Ag 8.1 Pb-Zn, 0.6 A (RC) Assay Composite 1800m x.x m @ x.x g/t Åg, x.x% Pb-Zn, x.x g/t Au (W%, Cu%) AgEq Calculation SE22-039 ,739.0 Ag, 2.2 W, 0.5 \*\*SEQ Calculation\*\*
Metal Prices (\$20 Ag, \$0.90 Pb, \$1.25 Zn, 1800 Au
no recovery factor applied) Silver g/t + (Gold g/t
(Gold Prices' Silver Prices) / ((22.0462\* Lead %)
((22.0462\* Zinc Price)/((1/31.1035) \* (Ag Price ))

((22.0462\* Zinc Price)/((1/31.1035) \* (Ag Price )) SE22-039A 581.0 Ag, 2.2 W, 0.5 C (Core) 1600m 学代ion Location (Looking NW) 1400m RIDGELINE 200m 400m 600m 800m 1000m

Figure 7: X-Section C-C' at the Chinchilla Zone showing proposed 2023 drill holes which have been designed to confirm the upper mineralized horizon and test the down-dip potential of the feeder fault zone for additional stacked zones of mineralization in the Guilmette Limestone.

During the six months ended June 30, 2023, the Company spent \$239,020 related to the exploration geological work at the Selena Project.

# **SWIFT PROJECT**

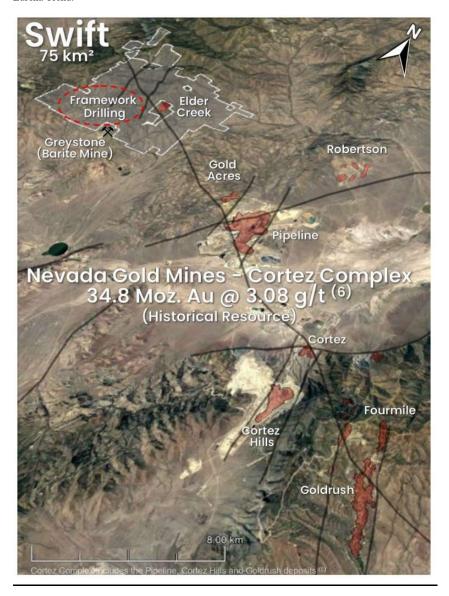
#### **Project description**

The Swift Project is a 75km², district-scale land package located within the prolific Cortez district of the Battle Mountain – Eureka Trend, which is currently under option with Nevada Gold Mines (NGM). The property is approximately 7 km northwest of and on strike to NGM's Gold Acres, Pipeline and Cortez Hills deposits (Figure 8). In 1999, Phelps Dodge drilled a single historic drill intercept at the Mill Creek target which intersected 18.3m grading 0.65 g/t Au and 0.30 g/t Ag in MCK-99-5A. The mineralized intercept was originally logged as Roberts Mountain Formation host rocks but has since been re-interpreted as the overlying Wenban formation after the Ridgeline team identified distinctive fossils and sedimentary "marker" beds that only exist in the Wenban. This was a significant development for the Company as the Wenban formation had never been identified at the Swift project by historic operators and is the primary host rock for high-grade gold deposits in the Cortez District. The Company completed two deep drill holes in Q4, 2020 (the third was lost above target) which further confirmed the Company's Wenban formation

interpretation with SW20-002 returning multiple narrow intercepts of low-grade gold and high-grade silver highlighted by 0.2m of 0.22 g/t Au and 860 g/t Ag starting at 872.5m in SW20-002. The Company has since executed an Exploration Earn-In Agreement (the "Swift Earn-In Agreement") with Nevada Gold Mines in September 2021 with highlights of the agreement listed below.

On May 30, 2020, the Company's Swift Technical Report was issued with an effective date of May 4, 2020. Please see the Swift Technical Report filed on the Company's profile on SEDAR (www.sedar.com) for more details concerning the Swift Project.

Figure 8: Modified Google Earth image showing location of Swift Project in relation to Cortez District gold mines along the Battle Mountain-Eureka Trend.



# NGM Swift Earn-In Agreement

On September 22, 2021, the Company announced that it had entered into a transaction, the NGM Swift Earn-In Agreement, with Nevada Gold Mines pursuant to which NGM can acquire an interest in the Swift Project. NGM can incur a minimum of \$20 million (of which \$4 million is guaranteed) in qualifying work expenditures over an initial five-year term to earn an initial 60% interest in Swift and will have further options to increase its interest to a total 75% interest (Figure 9). NGM assumed operatorship of the project in September 2021.

**CASH REIMBURSEMENT INITIAL EARN-IN SECOND EARN-IN** US\$372,763 NGM reimbursed US\$372,763 to Ridgeline on closing **DEVELOPMENT OPTION** US\$20M FOR 60% NGM assumes operatorship and can earn-in to a 60% interest by spending US\$20M over 5 years - US\$4M before Dec. 31, 2023 **US\$10M FOR 10%** - US\$16M before Dec. 31, 2026 NGM retains a one-time option to earn an additional CARRIED INTEREST 10% interest in the project by spending US\$10M before NGM retains a one-time option to Dec. 31, 2029 arrange for financing of Ridgeline's portion of development debt for an additional 5% interest in the project

Figure 9: Swift Earn-In Agreement Highlights

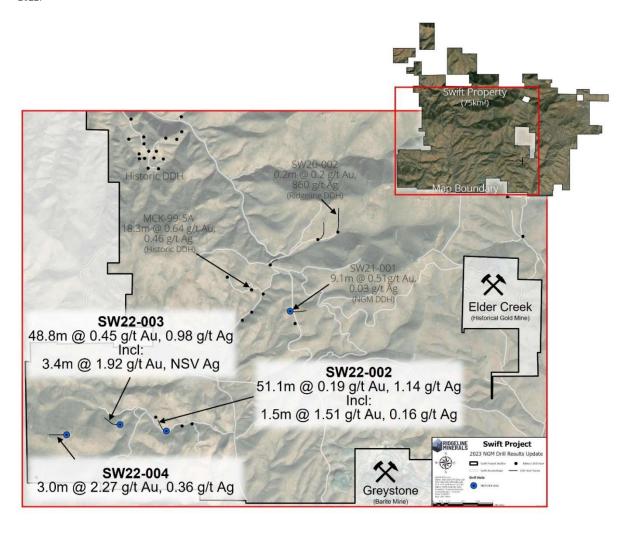
# **2022 Exploration Results**

Nevada Gold Mines commenced the next phase of its framework drill campaign in August 2022. Three wide-spaced (approximately 1 kilometer) "framework" core holes were completed by NGM between September 2022 and January 2023 for a total of 3,278m. Drill hole SW22-002 and SW22-003 intersected Lower-Plate carbonate host rocks between 570-830 m depth with widespread intervals of Carlin-Type alteration and anomalous gold mineralization intersected in both holes with individual samples grading up to 2.72 g/t Au. Highlight intercepts include 37.2m grading 0.29 g/t Au, 2.6 g/t Ag in SW22-002 and 48.8m grading 0.45 g/t Au, 0.98 g/t Ag in SW22-003. Core hole SW22-004 intersected Lower Plate host rocks at 1,065m and was drilled to a depth of 1,104m before being halted in January 2023 due to severe winter weather conditions. The hole was left cased and ready for potential re-entry at a later date in 2023. Drilling to-date has confirmed the presence of widespread gold mineralization in Lower Plate host rocks at Swift with additional drilling anticipated in 2023 (Figure 10).

NGM has spent a total of \$5.0 million on the project to-date and has now satisfied the guaranteed work commitments of \$4 million ahead of the scheduled deadline of December 31, 2023.

<u>Ridgeline Minerals Announces Widespread Carlin-Type Alteration and Gold Mineralization from Drill Results at the Swift Project, Nevada – Ridgeline Minerals</u>

Figure 10: Map showing the Mill Creek target where NGM drilled its first hole (SW21-001) in December 2021 with the hole complete in January 2022.



# **CARLIN-EAST PROJECT**

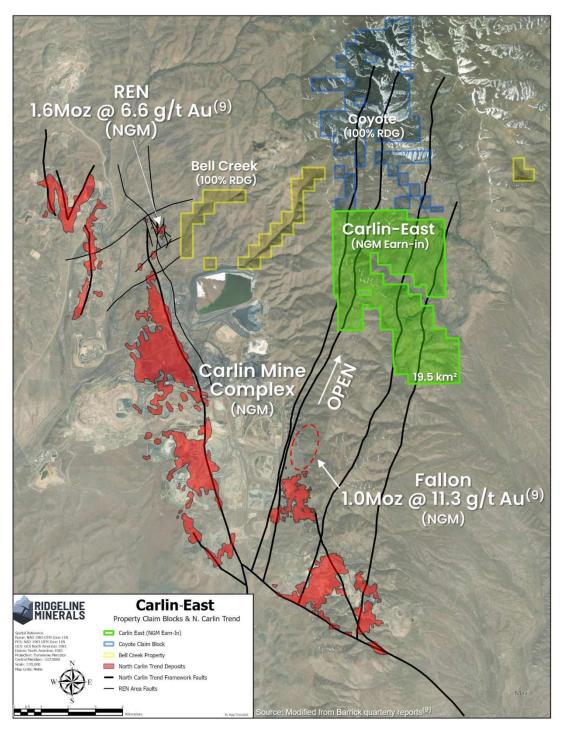
#### **Project description**

The Carlin-East Project is a semi-contiguous land package located on the prolific Carlin Trend, a 200 km (125 mile) long, north-northwest alignment of predominantly carbonate hosted gold deposits in northeastern Nevada (Figure 11).

The Carlin-East claim block is directly on-trend of the NGM owned Leeville-Turf mine and North Leeville high-grade resource and is comprised of 427 contiguous BLM lode claims totaling 8,628 acres of mineral and surface rights. Ridgeline acquired the Carlin-East claims with the belief that the same carbonate host rocks (Lower Plate) that host multiple mines on the trend including the high-grade Leeville-Turf and North Leeville deposits to the south were significantly shallower than previous operators projected. The North Leeville discovery returned significant drill intercepts throughout 2021 including a highlight drill intercept in drillhole NLX-00010 of 56.7m grading 28.39 g/t Au (Figure 11). NGM announced a maiden resource at North Leeville of 1.0 Moz Au grading 11.3 g/t Au in Q1, 2022 with mineralization currently open in multiple directions (Figure 11). The Company completed a single 1,254m deep drillhole in Q4, 2021 at the Crash Zone target with details listed below.

On January 30, 2020, the Company's Carlin-East Technical Report was issued with an effective date of December 30, 2019. Please see the Carlin-East Technical Report filed on the Company's profile on SEDAR (www.sedar.com) for more details concerning the Carlin-East Project.

Figure 11: Plan view map of the North Carlin Trend showing location of Carlin-East Project located directly on-trend of NGM's Fallon (previously North Leeville) maiden resource of 1.0 Moz grading 11.3 g/t gold.



The Company's 2021 drill program was initiated in June 2021 with the goal of testing the highly prospective Crash Zone target area, located approximately 4km north of the Fallon discovery (Figure 12). Drill hole CE21-003 targeted mineralized Lower Plate host rocks along the NE trending Four Corners fault zone with a proposed depth to target of approximately 900-1,100m (Figure 11). Drilling intersected the top of the Rodeo Creek formation (Lower Plate) prior to termination of the hole at 1,254m but did not intersect any significant gold values.

Looking Northwest

Looking Northwest

NSM Ground

NSM

Figure 12: Conceptual long-section A-A' showing location of Carlin, Leeville-Turf and Fallon deposits (NGM) on-trend of the Carlin-East project and drillhole CE21-003 completed by Ridgeline in 2021.

# NGM Carlin-East Earn-In Agreement

On July 17, 2023, the Company announced that it had entered into a transaction, the NGM Carlin-East Earn-In-Agreement, with Nevada Gold Mines pursuant to which NGM can acquire an interest in the Carlin-East Project. NGM can incur a minimum of \$4.5 million (of which \$1.5 million is guaranteed) in qualifying work expenditures over an initial five-year term to earn an initial 60% interest in Carlin-East and will have further options to increase its interest to a total 75% interest as outlined below (Figure 13). NGM will assume operatorship of the project immediately.

Earn-In Agreement Highlights

- Reimbursement of Prior Expenditures: Within 15 days of signing the definitive agreement, NGM will reimburse a total of \$100,000 to Ridgeline in consideration for recent overhead and work expenditures at Carlin-East.
- Initial Earn-In Option: NGM will assume operatorship of the project and can earn-in to a 60% interest in the project by incurring a minimum of \$4.5 million in qualifying work expenditures over five years, including:
  - o \$1.5 million in guaranteed work expenditures before December 31, 2025.
  - o \$3.0 million in work expenditures before July 14, 2028.
  - NGM and Ridgeline will each elect two representatives to a Carlin-East technical steering committee, which will meet quarterly to review budgets and exploration progress.
- Second Earn-In Option: NGM will retain a one-time option to earn an additional 10% interest in the project by sole-funding an additional \$5.0 million in work expenditures before July 14, 2030.
- Development Funding Option: Within 90 days of a joint venture decision to proceed with development and construction of a mine and/or related processing facilities on Carlin-East, NGM will have a one-time option to elect to provide, or arrange for third-party, financing of Ridgeline's portion of debt financing required for the development in consideration, in either case, for an additional 5% interest in the project for a total of 75% (or 65% if the second option was not exercised).

Figure 13: Carlin-East earn-in agreement highlights



# **BELL CREEK PROJECT**

## **Project description**

The Bell Creek Project, acquired in February 2020 from Marvel-Jenkins LLC is situated west of the Carlin-East Project and consists of 1,300 acres of private mineral rights directly adjacent to NGM's Ren deposit (1.6 Moz grading 6.6 g/t Au) as well as directly on trend of the multi-million-ounce Goldstrike and Rodeo-Meikle deposits (Figure 13).

The Company executed a surface access agreement for its Bell Creek property with NGM in January 2021. The agreement is in effect through December 31, 2024 and will allow the Company to utilize NGM's Carlin Complex Road infrastructure to access the Bell Creek property, which is located directly adjacent to NGM's development-stage Ren and Banshee underground gold deposits on the Carlin Trend.

REN 1.6Moz @ 6.6 g/t Au<sup>(9)</sup> (NGM) **Bell Creel** (100% RDG) Carlin-East (NGM Earn-in) Carlin Mine 19.5 km<sup>2</sup> Complex (NGM) Fallon l.0Moz @ 11.3 g/t Au<sup>(9)</sup> (NGM) Carlin-East Property Claim Blocks & N. Carlin Trend Carlin East (NGM Earn-In) Coyote Claim Block Bell Creek Property North Carlin Trend Deposits North Carlin Trend Framework Faults REN Area Faults

**Figure 14:** Plan view map of the North Carlin Trend showing location of the Bell Creek project in relation to Ridgeline's Carlin-East project and the NGM owned Ren deposit which released a maiden resource of 1.6 Moz grading 6.6 g/t Au in Q1, 2022.

## **Exploration Program Objective**

The Company will maintain all mineral rights in good standing in 2022 but will not complete any further exploration activities due to the high costs of drill testing targets at Bell Creek at projected depths of 1,000+ vertical meters. The Company's technical team project's multiple fault structures known to control mineralization at Ren onto the Bell Creek property (Figure 15). The Company will continue to assess options for advancing this strategic exploration asset.

REN DEPOSIT 1.6Moz @ 6.6 g/t Au<sup>(9)</sup> 7.0m @ 32.37 g/t 16.6m @ 5.04 g/t 21.4m @ 7.17 g/t 13.1m @ 7.23 g/t MRC-21006 MRC-20011 12.8m @ 26.39 g/t Mineralized Fault Projection 7.6m @ 13.77 g/t MRC-21001 0m 4.6m @ 5.04 g/t Mineralized Fault Projection 4.6m @ 10.53 g/t 3.0m @ 4.22 g/t MRC-20021 8.0m @ 16.95 g/t Mineralized Fault Projection 3.8m @ 24.76 g/t 2.6m @ 5.10 g/t MRC-21010 6.7m @ 22.25 g/t 17.8m @ 6.45 g/t 22.3m @ 7.30 g/t MRC-21007 Meikle Goldstrike **Mine Tailings** 

Figure 15: Zoomed in map of the Ren Deposit resource and Bell Creek project with multiple fault structures interpreted as projecting onto the Bell Creek property.

# **BIG BLUE PROJECT**

# **Project description**

Big Blue is an early-stage porphyry Cu-Au-Ag exploration prospect located in Elko County, Nevada, approximately 75 km southeast of the city of Elko, NV. The project area includes the past producing Delker Mine, which produced 94,434 pounds of copper at an average grade of 6.2% Cu between 1916-1917 1 and shares its southern boundary with Reyna Silver's Medicine Springs Ag-Pb-Zn CRD project.

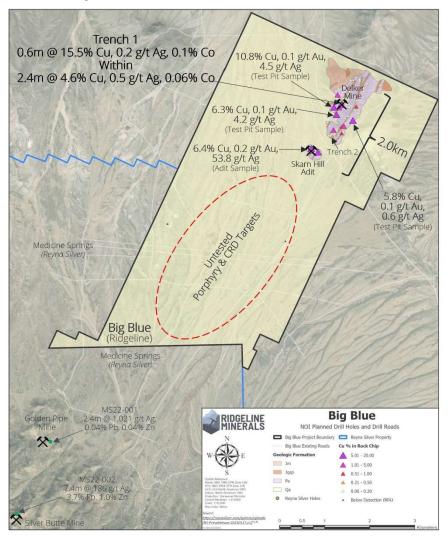
Outcropping garnet skarn with high-grade  $Cu \pm Au$ -Ag rock chip samples collected by Ridgeline occurs on the Project on two outcropping buttes surrounded by post-mineral gravels covering a roughly five (5) km target area zoning towards Medicine Springs (See June 19, 2023 Press Release <u>HERE</u>). The primary target at Big Blue is porphyry-skarn  $Cu \pm Au$ -Ag mineralization, which may be the source of CRD mineralization at Medicine Springs – analogous to the Butte Valley porphyry Cu-Au system inferred to be a source of CRD mineralization at the Company's Selena project. The 100% owned Project is comprised of a total of 29 square kilometers of highly prospective exploration ground that has seen limited exploration since the early 1900's and will benefit from the Ridgeline teams systematic approach to discovery.

#### Trench Assay Highlights:

- Trench 1 (Delker Mine): 0.6 metres ("m") grading 15.5% Cu, 0.18 g/t Ag and 0.1% cobalt ("Co") within 2.4 m grading 4.6% Cu, 0.52 g/t Ag and 0.06% Co (Figure 16)
  - Note that trench sampling was conducted across the face and roof or "back" of the Delker Mine adit with the core of the mineralized horizon mined out during historical mining activities in 1916-1917

o Trench 1 is the first instance of strongly elevated cobalt mineralization sampled on the project

Figure 16: Plan view map showing high-grade Cu-Ag-Co trench results at the Delker Mine as well as rock chips taken throughout the Delker Mine and Skarn Hill target area



# **Rock Chip Highlights:**

- Select rock chip samples returned grades up to 10.8% Cu, 0.10 g/t Au, 4.51 g/t Ag (sample #32) and 5.8% Cu, 0.07 g/t Au, 0.63 g/t Ag (sample #21) (Figure 17)
- A total of fourteen rock chip samples were collected in May 2023 ranging from 0.01-10.8% Cu, below detection limit ("BDL") 0.10 g/t Au and 0.10 4.51 g/t Ag (avg. 2.0% Cu, 0.02 g/t Au, 0.59 g/t Ag)

For a full table of rock chip sample assays click **HERE** 

Trench 1 0.6m @ 15.5% Cu, 0.2 g/t Ag, 0.1% Co Within 2.4m @ 4.6% Cu, 0.5 g/t Ag, 0.06% Co 1.0% Cu 0.5% Cu Backpack Drill Site 5.8% Cu Backpack Drill Site 0.9% Cu 4.3% Cu 1.6% Cu 1.0% Cu Trench 2 No significant values **Big Blue** Project Geology & Copper in Rock Chip Big Blue Existing Road 5.01 - 20.00 A 1.01 - 5.00 0.51 - 1.00 0.21 - 0.50 0.00 - 0.20

Figure 17: Plan view map of the Delker Mine area showing high-grade trenches and rock chips (Cu%). Mineralization directly associated with NE trending felsic dike swarm

# **ROBBER GULCH PROJECT**

#### **Project description**

Robber Gulch is host to a shallow-oxide, Carlin-Type gold discovery located approximately 30 km southeast of the city of Burley, Cassia County Idaho. The project area is comprised of 117 contiguous lode claims (9.3km²) that straddle both federally administered Bureau of Land Management and US Forest Service lode claims and is easily accessible through a network of county-maintained gravel roads via Idaho State Highway 30. Carlin-Type Mineralization at Robber Gulch is hosted within Pennsylvanian to Permian age silty limestones and calcareous siliciclastics that are exposed within erosional windows beneath post-mineral volcanic rocks. The project is historically underexplored and exhibits similar age host rocks and mineralization style to Liberty Gold's Black Pine Deposit located 88 km's to the southeast (Figure 17). As part of the exploration agreement, the Company will also inherit a comprehensive geologic database with technical highlights and exploration earn-in terms detailed below:

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Robber trank

Robber tr

Figure 17: Location of the Robber Gulch project in Cassia County Idaho.

# **Surface Sampling Highlights**

# Trenching

- Trench 1: 52m grading 0.26 g/t Au & 48m @ 0.26 g/t Au
- Trench 2: 60m grading 0.40 g/t Au
- Trench 3: 189m grading 0.43 g/t Au including 45m grading 0.88 g/t Au (Figure 18)

#### Rock Chips

- 264 rock chips with grades up to 6.5 g/t Au and a low of 0.001 g/t Au
- Zone of high-grade rock chips (6.5 & 2.7 g/t Au) located on US Forest Service ("USFS") ground have never been drill-tested (<u>Figure 18</u>)

#### Soil Samples

- 2,053 soil samples with multi-element analysis available for the majority of samples
- Au in soils Min = 0.0 g/t Au, Med = .009 g/t Au, Max = 0.81 g/t Au

# **Historical Drill Highlights**

- AC-4: 12.2meters ("m") grading 0.90 gram per tonne ("g/t") gold ("Au") within 57.9m grading 0.34 g/t Au starting at 21.3m with the hole bottoming in 10.7m grading 0.25 g/t Au (Figure 18)
- RG-RC-21-02: 30.5m grading 0.30 g/t Au starting from surface
- RG-RC-21-03: 12.1m grading 0.65 g/t Au starting from surface (Figure 18)
- RG-RC-21-04: 6.1m grading 1.46 g/t Au (Hole drilled to 6.1m cased and ready for re-entry)
- RG-9: 3.1m grading 0.58 g/t Au and 4.6m grading 0.53 g/t Au within 79.2m grading 0.20 g/t Au starting from surface

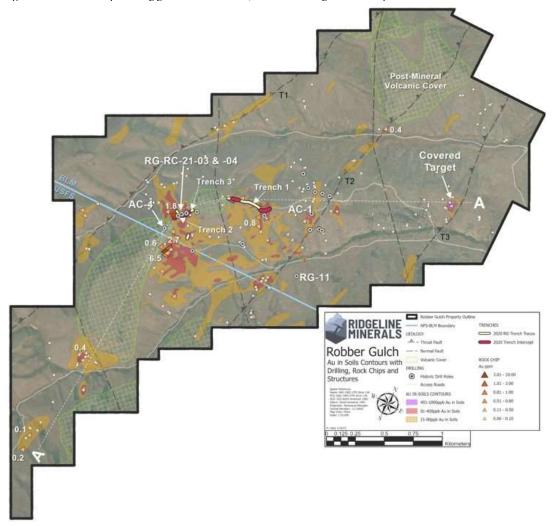


Figure 18: Plan view map showing gold in soils contours, surface trenching and rock chips at Robber Gulch.

# **Exploration Earn-In Terms**

Ridgeline may earn a 100% interest in the project by:

- Making the initial execution payment of \$50,000 and all option payments totaling \$750,000 (all dollar amounts in USD) over a five-year period (of which up to \$350,000 may be payable in common shares of the Company;
- Delivering 150,000 shares in Ridgeline Minerals Corp. to EMX by the second anniversary of the Agreement; and
- Completing \$650,000 in exploration expenditures before the fifth anniversary of the Agreement

#### **Commercial Terms**

Upon closing of the exploration earn-in option agreement, EMX will retain a 3.25% net smelter return ("NSR") royalty on the Project. Ridgeline can reduce the NSR royalty to 2.25% by:

- Completing an initial 0.5% royalty buyback with a payment of \$1,500,000 to EMX prior to the third anniversary of the option exercise (year 8);
- Paying \$2,000,000 to EMX anytime thereafter for the remaining 0.5%.
  - Ridgeline will make Annual Advance Royalty payments of \$50,000 that increase to \$75,000 upon completion of a Preliminary Economic Assessment or Order of Magnitude Study with payments to cease upon commencement of commercial production
- Ridgeline will make Project milestone payments (payable in cash or, at the election of the Company, in common shares) consisting of:
  - a. \$250,000 upon completion of a Preliminary Economic Assessment,
  - b. \$500,000 upon completion of the earlier of a Prefeasibility or Feasibility Study, and
  - c. \$1,000,000 upon a positive development decision.

#### **Exploration Program Objective**

The Company did not complete any exploration work on the property in 2022 to instead focus exploration dollars on the company's flagship project at Selena. The company does intend to complete field mapping, surface sampling and backpack drill sampling in 2023 to advance the project towards a maiden drill program.

# EXPLORATION AND EVALUATION ASSET EXPENDITURE

Title to exploration and evaluation assets involves certain inherent risks due to the difficulties of determining the validity of certain claims as well as the potential for problems arising from the frequently ambiguous conveyancing history characteristics of many exploration and evaluation assets. The Company has investigated titles to its exploration and evaluation assets and, to the best of its knowledge, titles to the exploration and evaluation assets remain in good standing.

The Company's exploration and evaluation expenditures for the six months ended June 30, 2023 were as follows:

	Carlin-East / Bell Creek	Swift	Selena	Robber Gulch / Big Blue	Total
Additions:					
Geophysics	\$ -	- \$	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Geochemistry	-	-	4,812	-	4,812
Drilling	-	-	1,080	-	1,080
Assays	-	-	34,508	-	34,508
Land fees and permitting	41,023	-	41,211	109,666	191,900
Geology salaries and fees	-	-	157,409	155,929	313,338
Property administration	-	-	-	-	-
Total additions for the period	41,023	-	239,020	265,595	545,638
Balance at December 31, 2022	2,889,751	1,573,468	3,713,964	70,956	8,248,139
	2,930,774	1,573,468	3,952,984	336,551	8,793,777
Movement in foreign exchange	53,310	28,621	71,904	6,122	159,957
Balance at June 30, 2023	\$ 2,984,084	\$ 1,602,089	\$ 4,024,888	\$ 342,673	\$ 8,953,734

The Company's exploration and evaluation expenditures for the year ended December 31, 2022 were as follows:

	Carlin-East / Bell Creek	Swift	Selena	Robber Gulch	Total
Additions:					
Geophysics	- \$	- \$	\$ 54,410	\$ -	\$ 54,410
Geochemistry	-	-	11,734	-	11,734
Drilling	203	-	1,012,097	-	1,012,300
Assays	-	-	92,345	5,896	98,241
Land fees and permitting	146,938	_	252,349	_	399,287
Geology salaries and fees	36,418	-	677,246	_	713,664
Property administration	-	-	37,526	-	37,526
Acquisition payment	-	_	-	69,305	69,305
Total additions for the year ended December 31, 2022	183,559	-	2,137,707	75,201	2,396,467
Balance at December 31, 2021	2,879,047	1,667,587	1,798,413	-	6,345,047
Total exploration costs	3,062,606	1,667,587	3,936,120	75,201	8,741,514
Movement in foreign exchange	(172,855)	(94,119)	(222,156)	(4,245)	(493,375)
Balance at December 31, 2022	\$ 2,889,751	\$ 1,573,468	\$ 3,713,964	\$ 70,956	\$ 8,248,139

# SUMMARY OF CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL OPERATING RESULTS

The Company's operating results for the periods ended June 30 is as follows:

	T	hree months ended June 30	Six months ended June 30		
	2023	2022	2023	2022	
General and administrative expenses					
Administration and office	\$ 34,133	\$ 28,962	\$ 54,823	\$ 51,454	
Investor relations	69,953	61,801	133,974	106,249	
Personnel costs	82,771	67,736	167,866	137,724	
Professional fees	42,085	33,758	47,751	49,008	
Filing fees	12,524	10,355	21,407	22,013	
Insurance	6,254	14,104	12,011	26,511	
Depreciation	12,677	19,988	23,522	41,810	
Other	3,020	4,962	4,702	12,194	
Share-based compensation	4,666	7,071	9,191	16,238	
Operating loss	268,083	248,737	475,247	463,201	
Foreign exchange loss (gain)	37,083	(37,008)	35,886	(33,838)	
Interest income	(14,350)	(386)	(16,665)	(783)	
Loss for the period	290,816	211,343	494,468	428,580	
Other comprehensive (income) loss					
Foreign currency translation	(266,949)	251,214	(274,772)	130,911	
Comprehensive loss for the period	\$ 23,867	\$ 462,557	\$ 219,696	\$ 559,491	
Loss per common share					
Basic and fully diluted	\$ (0.00)	\$ (0.00)	\$ (0.01)	\$ (0.01)	
Weighted average number of common shares outstanding					
Basic and fully diluted	84,401,571	55,736,949	76,565,224	55,714,912	
Total assets	12,110,861	8,121,575	12,110,861	8,121,575	

Administration and office expenses in both 2023 and 2022 were costs primarily for the Nevada exploration office and have increased due to higher inflationary costs.

Investor relations expenses in 2023 were higher compared to the same period in 2022 due to an increase in marketing activities related to the private placement financing in April 2023.

Personnel costs in 2023 were higher compared to the same period in 2022 due to lower exploration activities resulting in less personnel costs capitalized to mineral properties in the current 2023 period.

Professional and filing fees in 2023 were higher compared to the same period in 2022 due to the timing of corporate income tax filing services and legal restructuring fees.

Depreciation expense in 2023 was lower compared to the same period in 2022 due to a lower leased property balance in the current 2023 period.

Stock-based compensation was lower in 2023 compared to the same period in 2022 due to a decrease in the granting of stock-based equity instruments to directors and management of the Company in 2022 which had some vesting during the current 2023 period.

The foreign exchange loss was related to the movement in the foreign exchange rate between the Canadian dollar and the US dollar during the period.

The total assets as at June 30, 2023 were higher than at June 30, 2022 due to funds received from the completed private placement in April 2023.

#### Quarterly Financial Data

	Q2 23	Q1 23	Q4 22	Q3 22	Q2 22	Q1 22	Q4 21	Q3 21
Administration and office	\$ 34,133	\$ 20,690	\$ 25,729	\$ 3,478	\$ 28,962	\$ 22,492	\$ 13,895	\$ 16,540
Investor relations	69,953	64,021	55,195	81,348	61,801	44,448	71,148	82,655
Personnel costs	82,771	85,095	46,748	68,753	67,736	69,988	74,829	81,319
Professional fees	42,085	5,666	23,227	27,828	33,758	15,250	37,159	29,321
Filing fees	12,677	8,883	10,828	10,109	10,355	11,658	7,262	14,362
Insurance	6,254	5,757	9,807	(6,148)	14,104	12,407	11,770	9,958
Depreciation	12,677	10,845	19,077	18,538	19,988	21,822	14,493	14,451
Other	3,020	1,682	2,977	2,366	4,962	7,232	2,403	2,521
Share-based compensation	4,666	4,525	147,506	6,332	7,071	9,167	252,963	8,598
Operating loss	268,083	203,652	341,094	212,604	248,737	214,464	485,922	259,725
Foreign exchange loss (gain)	37,083	(1,197)	42,845	(33,372)	(37,008)	3,170	4,400	(13,253)
Interest income	(14,350)	(2,315)	(11,180)	(10,321)	(386)	(397)	(120)	(179)
Net loss for the period	\$ 290,816	\$ 195,829	\$ 372,759	\$ 168,911	\$ 211,343	\$ 217,237	\$ 490,202	\$ 246,293

The Company's administration and office expense in Q2 2023 was consistent with the overall quarterly amounts. Investor relations costs are due to marketing activities and fluctuate based on the Company's targeted marketing initiatives within the respective quarter. Personnel costs fluctuate between quarters with exploration activities. Certain personnel costs are capitalized to mineral properties when those employees are working directly on exploration programs. Depreciation is related to the acquisition of property and equipment, including vehicles, for exploration activities. Foreign exchange gains and losses are related to the movement in the USD:CAD rates during each quarter.

# LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES

The Company's statement of cashflows for the six months ended June 30 is as follows:

	2023	2022
Cash flow used in operating activities before non-cash working capital adjustments	\$ (375,440)	\$ (373,227)
Changes in non-cash operating working capital:		
Decrease in receivables and prepaids	853	25,964
Increase in accounts payable and accrued liabilities	21,772	29,505
	(352,815)	(317,758)
Cash flows used in investing activities	(1,149,947)	(602,098)
Cash flows from financing activities	3,081,173	(25,747)
Increase (decrease) in cash	1,578,411	(945,603)
Effect of exchange rate changes on cash	29,424	(12,136)
Cash - beginning of period	1,186,036	1,987,402
Cash - end of period	\$ 2,793,871	\$ 1.029.663

For the period ended June 30, 2023:

- Cash flows used in operating activities increased in 2023 compared to the same period in 2022 due to changes in non-cash working capital movements.
- Cash flows used in investing activities increased in 2023 compared to the same period in 2022 due to the completion of the Selena drill program at the end of the 2022 year. As a result, a significant amount of the drill costs were paid in 2023 which were recorded in accounts payables at December 31, 2022.
- Cash flows from financing activities in 2023 was due to the completed private placement in April 2023.

## **Contractual Obligations**

As of June 30, 2023, the Company had the following contractual obligations outstanding:

	Total	Less than 1 year		1 – 3 years		3-	3-5 years		More than 5	
Loans payable	\$ 70,048	\$	19,482	\$	38,964	\$	11,602	\$	-	

# SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY

The Company's authorized share capital consists of unlimited common shares without par value.

On June 30, 2023, the Company had 91,870,780 common shares issued and outstanding. At the date of this MD&A, the Company had 91,087,780 common shares issued and outstanding.

On April 27, 2023, the Company closed a non-brokered private placement consisting of 22,535,000 units ("Unit") at a price of C\$0.20 per unit which raised gross proceeds of C\$4,507,000. Each unit consists of one common share of the Company and one-half of one common share purchase warrant (each whole warrant, a "Warrant"). Each whole warrant is exercisable to acquire one share at a price of C\$0.30 per share for a period of two years from the closing date. The Company paid an aggregate finder's fee of C\$240,958.

On September 29, 2022, the Company closed a non-brokered private placement consisting of 12,732,500 units at a price of C\$0.20 per Unit which raised gross proceeds of C\$2,546,500. Each Unit consisted of one common share of the Company and one-half of one non-transferable common share purchase warrant. Each Warrant can be exercisable to acquire one share at a price of C\$0.30 until September 29, 2024. The Company paid a finder's fee of C\$45,900.

#### **Share Purchase Warrants**

In February 2023, 6,094,875 share purchase warrants with exercise prices ranging from C\$0.45 to C\$0.55 expired unexercised.

At the date of this MD&A, the following share purchase warrants were outstanding:

Number of share purchase warrants	Exercise price C\$	Expiry date
6,366,250	0.30	September 2024
11,267,500	0.30	April 2025
17,633,750		

# **Share Options**

The Company provides share-based compensation to its directors, officers, employees, and consultants through grants of share options.

The Company has adopted a stock option plan (the "Plan") to grant share options to directors, officers, employees and consultants to acquire up to 10% of the issued and outstanding shares of the Company. Vesting is determined at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

The Company uses the Black-Scholes option pricing model to determine the fair value of share options granted. For employees, the compensation expense is amortized on a graded vesting basis over the requisite service period which approximates the vesting period. Compensation expense for share options granted to non-employees is recognized over the contract services period or, if none exists, from the date of grant until the options vest.

The Company uses historical data to estimate option exercise, forfeiture and employee termination within the valuation model. The risk-free interest rate is based on a treasury instrument whose term is consistent with the expected term of the share options. The Company has not paid and does not anticipate paying dividends on its common stock and, therefore, the expected dividend yield is assumed to be zero. Companies are required to utilize an estimated forfeiture rate when calculating the compensation expense for the reporting period. Based on the best estimate, management applied the estimated forfeiture rate of Nil in determining the compensation expense recorded in the consolidated financial statements for the period ended June 30, 2023.

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Number of share options	Exercise price per share C\$	Expiry Date
2,050,000	0.12	Jul – Aug 2024
1,225,000	0.22	Mar – Apr 2025
270,000	0.36	Nov 2025
60,000	0.50	Apr 2026
680,000	0.37	Dec 2026
450,000	0.22	Oct 2027
250,000	0.25	Dec 2027
4,985,000		

# **Deferred Share Units ("DSU")**

DSUs are granted to the Company's directors and officers as a part of compensation under the terms of the Company's deferred share units plan (the "DSU Plan"). Each DSU entitles the participant to receive the value of one common share of the Company (a "Common Share"). The maximum number of awards of DSU's and all other security based compensation arrangements shall not exceed 10% of the Company's outstanding shares.

Participants are entitled to the value of the Common Share upon termination of their service. In accordance to the DSU Plan, upon each vesting date the Company shall decide at, at its sole discretion whether, participants receive (a) the issuance of Common Shares equal to the number of DSUs vesting, or (b) a cash payment equal to the number of vested DSUs multiplied by the fair market value of a Common Share, calculated as the closing price of the Common Shares on the TSX-V for the trading day immediately preceding such payment date; or (c) a combination of (a) and (b).

On the grant date of DSUs, the Company determines whether it has a present obligation to settle in cash. If the Company has a present obligation to settle in cash, the DSUs are accounted for as liabilities, with the fair value remeasured at the end of each reporting period and at the date of settlement, with any changes in fair value recognized in profit or loss for the period. The Company has a present obligation to settle in cash if the Company has a past practice or a stated policy of settling in cash, or generally settles in cash whenever the counterparty asks for cash settlement. If no such obligation exists, DSUs are accounted for as equity settled share-based payments and are valued using the share price of the Common Share on grant date. Since the Company controls the settlement, the DSU's are considered equity settled.

At the date of this MD&A, the following DSUs were outstanding:

Number of DSUs	Weighted average grant date fair value per DSU (C\$)
570,000	0.36
300,000	0.37
300,000	0.22
1,170,000	

#### **Restricted Share Units ("RSU")**

RSUs are granted to the Company's directors, officers, and employees as a part of compensation under the terms of the Company's restricted share units plan (the "RSU Plan"). Each RSU entitles the participant to receive the value of one Common Share. The maximum number of awards of RSU's and all other security based compensation arrangements shall not exceed 10% of the Company's outstanding shares.

The number of RSUs awarded and underlying vesting conditions are determined by the Board of Directors in its discretion. In accordance with the RSU Plan, upon each vesting date the Company shall decide, at its sole discretion,

whether participants receive (a) the issuance of Common Shares equal to the number of RSUs vesting, or (b) a cash payment equal to the number of vested RSUs multiplied by the fair market value of a Common Share, calculated as the closing price of the Common Shares on the TSX-V for the trading day immediately preceding such payment date; or (c) a combination of (a) and (b).

On the grant date of RSUs, the Company determines whether it has a present obligation to settle in cash. If the Company has a present obligation to settle in cash, the RSUs are accounted for as liabilities, with the fair value remeasured at the end of each reporting period and at the date of settlement, with any changes in fair value recognized in profit or loss for the period. The Company has a present obligation to settle in cash if the Company has a past practice or a stated policy of settling in cash, or generally settles in cash whenever the counterparty asks for cash settlement. If no such obligation exists, RSUs are accounted for as equity settled share-based payments and are valued using the share price of the Common Share on grant date. Since the Company controls the settlement, the RSU's are considered equity settled.

At the date of this MD&A, the following RSUs were outstanding:

Number of RSUs	Number of RSUs vested	Weighted average grant date fair value per RSU C\$
58,333	-	0.36
50,000	-	0.37
75,000	-	0.22
183,333	-	

# PROPERTY TERMS AND COMMITMENTS

#### Carlin-East Project, Nevada, United States

The Carlin-East Project is subject to a 3.25% production royalty and annual advance minimum royalty ("AMR") payments until commercial production is announced. The Company can purchase up to 1% of the production royalty (leaving 2.25%) for \$3,000,000 in the first eight years of the Carlin-East Option Agreement. All AMR payments will be offset against 70% of the production royalty payments as they become due.

The Carlin-East Option Agreement has an underlying term of 99 years unless sooner terminated or the option is exercised, with AMR payments as follows: \$10,000 on or before August 8, 2018 (paid); \$10,000 on or before August 8, 2019 (paid); \$20,000 on or before August 8, 2020 (paid); \$30,000 on or before August 8, 2021 (paid); \$40,000 on or before August 8, 2022 (paid); \$60,000 on or before August 8, 2023 (paid); \$80,000 on or before August 8, 2024 and \$100,000 per year on the eighth anniversary and thereafter. These AMR's will cease upon commencement of commercial production. The underlying option to acquire a 100% interest in the Carlin-East Project pursuant to the Lease and Option Agreement can be exercised prior to commercial production for \$1,000,000 (the "Purchase Price").

#### Bell Creek Property, Nevada, United States

The primary term of the Bell Creek Mining Lease will be 10 years from the effective date (the "Bell Creek Primary Term"), during which Ridgeline NV has an option and right to: (a) purchase all of the Lessor's right, title and interest in the Bell Creek Property for a purchase price of \$10,000,000, subject to the Lessor's reservation of a production royalty of 1.5% of the NSR from the production of valuable minerals (the "Bell Creek Option to Purchase"); or (b) extend the Bell Creek Mining Lease for an additional 15 years (the "Bell Creek Option to Extend Lease") for a payment of \$100,000. The Bell Creek Option to Purchase and the Bell Creek Option to Extend Lease are exercisable up to 90 days prior to the expiration of the Bell Creek Primary Term. Thereafter Ridgeline has the option to further extend the Bell Creek Mining Lease for additional one-year periods for certain cash payments.

The Company must incur \$250,000 of exploration costs during the first five years of the Bell Creek Mining Lease. The Lessor will retain a 3% NSR production royalty on the Bell Creek Property during the term of the Bell Creek Mining Lease from the sale of any valuable minerals extracted, produced and sold from the Bell Creek Property. Ridgeline NV can reduce the 3% NSR production royalty by: (a) exercising the Bell Creek Option to Purchase the Bell Creek Property and reducing the NSR production royalty to 1.5%, or (b) buy down up to 1% of the NSR production royalty at any time during the Bell Creek Primary Term for \$6,000,000 (or \$3,000,000 per each 0.5%). Ridgeline NV will also pay the

Lessor a 1% production royalty for valuable minerals extracted, produced and sold from properties in the area of interest of one mile from any boundary of the Bell Creek Property (the "Bell Creek AOI Royalty").

During the term of the Bell Creek Mining Lease, regardless of whether production is occurring on the Bell Creek Property, unless Ridgeline NV exercises the Bell Creek Option to Purchase or terminates the Bell Creek Mining Lease, Ridgeline must pay the Lessor the following AMR payments on or before each anniversary of the effective date over the term of the Bell Creek Mining Lease:

- \$20,000 on the first anniversary (paid);
- \$25,000 on the second anniversary (paid);
- \$30,000 on the third anniversary (paid);
- \$35,000 on the fourth anniversary;
- \$40,000 on the fifth anniversary;
- \$45,000 on the sixth anniversary;
- \$50,000 on the seventh anniversary; and
- \$75,000 on the eighth anniversary and each subsequent anniversary date.

All AMR payments will be offset against the NSR production royalty and the Bell Creek AOI Royalty.

#### Swift and Selena Projects, Nevada, United States

The Swift and Selena projects are subject to a 3.25% production royalty. The Company can purchase up to 1% of the production royalty (leaving 2.25%) for \$3,000,000 in the first 8 years of the Swift and Selena Option Agreement. All AMR payments will be offset against 70% of the production royalty payments as they become due.

#### Nevada Gold Mines Corporation Swift Earn-In-Agreement

On September 22, 2021, the Company announced that it had entered into a transaction with Nevada Gold Mines Corporation ("NGM") (the "NGM Swift Earn-In-Agreement") pursuant to which NGM can acquire an interest in the Company's Swift Project. NGM can incur a minimum of \$20 million (of which \$4 million is guaranteed) in qualifying work expenditures over an initial five-year term to earn an initial 60% interest in Swift and will have further options to increase its interest to a total 75% interest. NGM assumed operatorship of the project immediately.

- initial earn-in option: NGM will assume operatorship of the project and can earn-in to a 60% interest in the project by incurring a minimum of \$20 million in qualifying work expenditures over five years, including.
  - o \$4 million in guaranteed work expenditures before December 31, 2023.
  - o \$16 million in work expenditures and preparation of a technical report in compliance with the requirements of National Instrument 43-101 before December 31, 2026.
  - o NGM and Ridgeline will each elect two representatives to a Swift technical steering committee, which will meet quarterly to review budgets and exploration progress.
- Second Earn-In Option: NGM will retain a one-time option to earn an additional 10% interest in the project by sole-funding an additional \$10 million in work expenditures before December 31, 2029.

As part of the NGM Swift Earn-In-Agreement, NGM reimbursed a total of \$372,762 to Ridgeline as consideration for work expenditures at Swift. This amount was received in October 2021 and recorded as a recovery of exploration and evaluation assets of the Swift Property.

# Marvel Property

In October 2019, the Company, through Ridgeline NV, entered into a mining lease ("Swift Mining Lease") with Marvel for certain mineral lands and unpatented mining claims located in Lander County, Nevada (the "Marvel Property"). The Marvel Property is part of the Swift Project and subject to the NGM Swift Earn-In Agreement.

As consideration for the first year rental payment, the Company will pay Marvel \$17,000 (paid), reimburse Marvel for the annual maintenance/holding fee obligation for the claims including an additional 5% of such costs and issuing Marvel 50,000 common shares (issued at a value of C\$11,000) in December 2019.

The primary term of the Swift Mining Lease will be 10 years from the effective date (the "Primary Term"), during which Ridgeline NV has an option and right to: (a) purchase all of Marvel's right, title and interest in the Marvel Property for a purchase price of \$10,000,000, subject to Marvel's reservation of a production royalty of 1.5% of the net smelter returns from the production of valuable minerals (the "Option to Purchase"); or (b) extend the Swift Mining Lease for an additional 15 years (the "Option to Extend Lease") for a payment of \$100,000. Thereafter Ridgeline has the option to further extend the Swift Mining Lease for additional one-year periods for certain cash payments.

The Company must incur \$175,000 of exploration costs during the first two years and an additional \$375,000 in the following three years. Marvel will retain a 3% NSR production royalty on the Marvel Property during the term of the Swift Mining Lease from the sale of any valuable minerals extracted, produced and sold from the Marvel Property. Ridgeline NV can reduce the 3% NSR production royalty by: (a) exercising its Option to Purchase the Marvel Property and reducing the NSR royalty to 1.5%, or (b) buy down up to 1% of the NSR production royalty at any time during the Primary Term for \$6,000,000 (or \$3,000,000 per each 0.5%). Ridgeline NV will also pay Marvel a 1% production royalty for valuable minerals extracted, produced and sold from properties in the area of interest of one mile from any boundary of the Marvel Property (the "AOI Royalty").

During the term of the Swift Mining Lease, regardless of whether production is occurring on the Marvel Property, unless Ridgeline NV exercises its Option to Purchase or terminates the Swift Mining Lease, Ridgeline must pay Marvel the following AMR payments on or before each anniversary of the effective date over the term of the Swift Mining Lease:

- \$20,000 on the first anniversary (paid);
- \$25,000 on the second anniversary (paid);
- \$30,000 on the third anniversary (paid);
- \$35,000 on the fourth anniversary;
- \$40,000 on the fifth anniversary;
- \$45,000 on the sixth anniversary;
- \$50,000 on the seventh anniversary; and
- \$75,000 on the eighth anniversary and each subsequent anniversary date.

All AMR payments will be offset against the NSR royalty and the AOI Royalty.

# OTHER DISCLOSURES

#### **Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements**

The Company had no material off-balance sheet arrangements as at the date of this MD&A.

# **Related Party Transactions**

The Company's related parties include key management personnel and directors. Key management personnel include those persons having authority and responsibility for planning, directing, and controlling the activities of the Company as a whole. The Company has determined that key management personnel consists of members of the Board and corporate officers, including the Company's Chief Executive Officer, Chief Financial Officer and Vice President of Exploration.

Direct remuneration paid to the Company's directors and key management personnel during the six months ended June 30 are as follows:

	2023	2022
Salaries and benefits	\$ 223,536	\$ 208,202
Share-based compensation	\$ 7,273	\$ 8,330

Salaries and benefits are capitalized to exploration and evaluation assets or expensed to personnel costs.

As at June 30, 2023, included in the accounts payable and accrued liabilities balance on the consolidated statement of financial position is C\$10,494 (December 31, 2022 – C\$9,269) due to the Company's directors and key management personnel.

#### **Financial instruments**

a) Fair value classification of financial instruments

The fair value hierarchy establishes three levels to classify the inputs to valuation techniques used to measure fair value. Level 1 inputs are quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities. Level 2 inputs are other than quoted prices included in Level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly (prices) or indirectly (derived from prices). Level 3 inputs are for the assets or liabilities that are not based on observable market data (unobservable inputs).

The Company's financial instruments consist of cash, restricted cash, receivables, accounts payable and accrued liabilities, loans payable and lease liability.

The carrying values of cash, restricted cash, receivables, accounts payable and accrued liabilities, loans payable and lease liability approximate their fair value due to their short terms to maturity.

The following tables summarize the classification and carrying values of the Company's financial instruments at June 30, 2023:

	FVTPL	An	nortized cost (financial assets)	Am	ortized cost (financial liabilities)	Total
Financial assets						
Cash	\$ -	\$	2,793,871	\$	-	\$ 2,793,871
Restricted cash	-		63,215		-	63,215
Receivables	-		9,649		-	9,649
Total financial assets	\$ -	\$	2,866,735	\$	-	\$ 2,866,735
Financial liabilities	 					
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ -	\$	-	\$	109,773	\$ 109,773
Loans payable	-		-		70,048	70,048
Lease liability	-		-		64,511	64,511
Total financial liabilities	\$ -	\$	-	\$	244,332	\$ 244,332

# CRITICAL ACCOUNTING ESTIMATES AND POLICIES

The preparation of condensed consolidated interim financial statements in conformity with IFRS requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported in the condensed consolidated interim financial statements and accompanying notes. Actual results could differ materially from those estimates.

Measurement of the Company's assets and liabilities is subject to risks and uncertainties, including those related to reserve and resource estimates; title to mineral properties; future commodity prices; costs of future production; future costs of restoration provisions; changes in government legislation and regulations; future income tax amounts; the availability of financing; and various operational factors. The Company's estimates identified as being critical are substantially unchanged from those disclosed in the MD&A for the year ended December 31, 2022.

Ridgeline is a mineral exploration company and is exposed to a number of risks and uncertainties due to the nature of the industry in which it operates and the present state of development of its business and the foreign jurisdictions in which it carries on business. The material risks and uncertainties affecting Ridgeline, their potential impact, and the Company's principal risk-management strategies are substantially unchanged from those disclosed in its MD&A for the year ended December 31, 2022.

# INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING

Management is responsible for designing internal control over financial reporting, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with IFRS. No change in the Company's internal control over financial reporting occurred during the period beginning on April 1, 2023 and ended on June 30, 2023 that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the Company's internal control over financial reporting.

# FORWARD LOOKING STATEMENTS

This MD&A contains "forward-looking information" within the meaning of applicable Canadian securities law and "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of the United States Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995.

Forward-looking information includes, but is not limited to, statements with respect to corporate strategies and plans of Ridgeline; requirements for additional capital; uses of funds; the value and potential value of assets and the ability of Ridgeline to maximize returns to shareholders; the future prices of gold and silver; the estimation of mineral reserves and resources; the realization of mineral reserve and resource estimates; capital and operating costs, and cash flows; potential size of a mineralized zone; potential expansion of mineralization; potential discovery of new mineralized zones; potential metallurgical recoveries and grades; plans for future exploration and development programs and budgets; permitting time lines; anticipated business activities; proposed acquisitions and dispositions of assets; and future financial performance.

In certain cases, forward-looking statements and information can be identified by the use of words such as "plans", "expects" or "does not expect", "is expected", "budgeted", "scheduled", "estimates", "forecasts", "intends", "anticipates", or "does not anticipate" or "believes" or variations of such words and phrases or statements that certain actions, events or results "may", "could", "would", "might", "will be taken", "occur" or "be achieved". While the Company has based these forward-looking statements on its expectations about future events as at the date that such statements were prepared, the statements are not a guarantee of Ridgeline's future performance and are based on numerous assumptions regarding present and future business strategies, local and global economic conditions, legal proceedings and negotiations, and the environment in which Ridgeline will operate in the future, including the price of gold and silver.

Other uncertainties and factors which could cause actual results to differ materially from future results expressed or implied by forward-looking statements and information include, amongst others, unanticipated costs, expenses or liabilities; discrepancies between actual and estimated mineral reserves and resources; the size, grade and continuity of deposits not being interpreted correctly from exploration results; the results of preliminary test work not being indicative of the results of future test work; fluctuations in commodity prices and demand; changing foreign exchange rates; the availability of funding on reasonable terms; the impact of changes in interpretation to or changes in enforcement of laws, regulations and government practices, including laws, regulations and government practices with respect to mining, foreign investment, royalties and taxation; the terms and timing of obtaining necessary environmental and other government approvals, consents and permits; the availability and cost of necessary items such as power, water, skilled labour, transportation and appropriate smelting and refining arrangements; and misjudgements in the course of preparing forward-looking statements.

In addition, there are also known and unknown risk factors which may cause the actual results, performance or achievements of Ridgeline to be materially different from any future results, performance or achievements expressed or implied by the forward-looking statements and information. Such factors include, among others, risks related to international operations, including legal and political risk; risks associated with changes in the attitudes of governments to foreign investment; changes in project parameters as plans continue to be refined; discrepancies between actual and anticipated production, mineral reserves and resources and metallurgical recoveries; global financial conditions; inability to upgrade Inferred mineral resources to Indicated or Measured mineral resources; inability to convert mineral resources to mineral reserves; conclusions of economic evaluations; future prices of gold and silver; delays in obtaining government approvals, permits or licences or financing or in the completion of exploration activities; environmental risks; title disputes; limitations on insurance coverage; as well as those factors discussed in the section entitled "Risk and Uncertainties" in this MD&A and in the section entitled "Risk Factors" in the Prospectus. Although the Company has attempted to identify important factors that could cause actual actions, events or results to differ materially from those described in forward-looking statements, there may be other factors that cause actions, events or results not to be as anticipated, estimated or intended. There can be no assurance that forward-looking statements will prove to be accurate, as actual results and future events could differ materially from those anticipated in such statements. Except as required under applicable securities legislation, the Company undertakes no obligation to publicly update or revise forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events, or otherwise. Accordingly, readers should not place undue reliance on forward-looking statements.

# TECHNICAL INFORMATION

John Langton (M.Sc., P.Geo.), an independent consultant to the Company and a Qualified Person as defined by NI 43-101, has approved the scientific and technical disclosure in this MD&A.

# Cautionary Note to United States Investors - Canadian Disclosure Standards in Mineral Resources and Mineral Reserves

The terms "mineral reserve", "Proven mineral reserve" and "Probable mineral reserve" are Canadian mining terms as defined in accordance with NI 43-101 under the guidelines set out in the CIM Definition Standards - For Mineral Resources and Mineral Reserves, adopted by the CIM Council on May 10, 2014, as may be amended from time to time by the CIM.

The definitions of Proven and Probable reserves used in NI 43-101 differ from the definitions in the SEC Industry Guide 7. Under SEC Industry Guide 7 standards, a "final" or "bankable" feasibility study is required to report reserves, the three year history average price is used in any reserve or cash flow analysis to designate reserves and the primary environmental analysis or report must be filed with the appropriate governmental authority.

In addition, the terms "mineral resource", "Measured mineral resource", "Indicated mineral resource" and "Inferred mineral resource" are defined in and required to be disclosed by NI 43-101; however, these terms are not defined terms under SEC Industry Guide 7 and normally are not permitted to be used in reports and registration statements filed with the SEC. Investors are cautioned not to assume that all or any part of mineral deposits in these categories will ever be converted into reserves. "Inferred mineral resources" have a great amount of uncertainty as to their existence, and great uncertainty as to their economic and legal feasibility. It cannot be assumed that all or any part of an Inferred mineral resource will ever be upgraded to a higher category. Under Canadian rules, estimates of Inferred mineral resources may not form the basis of feasibility or prefeasibility studies, except in rare cases.

Accordingly, information contained in this MD&A containing descriptions of Ridgeline's mineral deposits may not be comparable to similar information made public by U.S. companies subject to the reporting and disclosure requirements under the United States federal securities laws and the rules and regulations thereunder.