# ASX and Media Release

Wednesday 21st April 2021



# White Rock Announces an A\$8.8 Million Placement to Fully Fund an Expanded 2021 Exploration Season in Alaska, USA.

ASX Code: WRM OTCQX: WRMCF

**Issued Securities** 

Shares: 72.7 million Options: 3.0 million

**Cash on hand** (31 Dec 2020) A\$11.5M

Market Cap (16 April 2021) A\$44.3M at A\$0.61 per share

#### **Directors & Management**

Peter Lester Non-Executive Chairman

## Matthew Gill

Managing Director & Chief Executive Officer

Jeremy Gray
Non-Executive Director

Shane Turner Company Secretary

Rohan Worland Exploration Manager

For further information, contact: Matthew Gill or Shane Turner Phone: 03 5331 4644

info@whiterockminerals.com.au www.whiterockminerals.com.au

# **Highlights**

- White Rock announces an equity raising of approximately A\$8.8 million (before costs) through a Placement.
- The funds from the Placement are to be used to fully fund the Company's expanded Alaskan exploration activities in 2021, including the operation of three diamond drill rigs, at the Company's large Last Chance Gold IRGS Prospect and its Red Mountain high-grade Silver-Zinc-Gold-Lead VMS Prospect, and for working capital.
- Issue price of A\$0.51 (51 cents) per share represents a 14% discount to the 14-day volume weighted average price (VWAP) of White Rock shares. Subject to shareholder approval, the Placement also includes attaching 1 for 2 unlisted options with an exercise price of A\$0.77 (77 cents) and maturity of 36 months from date of issue.
- There is notable participation from a range of significant domestic and international institutional and sophisticated investors.

White Rock Minerals Ltd (ASX: WRM; OTCQX: WRMCF) (**White Rock**) is pleased to announce a proposed equity raising to raise a total of up to approximately A\$8.8 million before costs, comprising a placement under which White Rock has successfully received commitments to issue 17,254,902 fully paid ordinary shares to various institutional and sophisticated investors at an issue price of A\$0.51 per share (**Placement**). The Placement includes attaching 1 for 2 unlisted options, with an exercise price of A\$0.77 and maturity of 36 months from the date of issue, subject to shareholder approval at the next general meeting of the Company.

The issue price under the Placement represents a 14% discount to the volume weighted average price of White Rock shares during the 14 trading days immediately prior to the date of this announcement.

The funds raised from the Placement will be applied towards White Rock's 2021 exploration program at its Last Chance Gold IRGS Prospect and its Red Mountain Silver-Zinc-Gold-Lead VMS Prospect in Alaska, in particular:

- 3 Drill Rigs planned for the full season, up from one rig in past drill seasons;
- Surface Reconnaissance and Geochemistry;
- Surface Geophysics;
- Airborne EM; and
- Working Capital.

Viriathus Capital Pty Ltd (Viriathus) and Sanlam Private Wealth Pty Ltd (Sanlam) are acting as Joint Lead Managers to the Placement.

<u>White Rock's MD & CEO Matt Gill said</u>: "The level of interest shown in this capital raising has been tremendous and I would like to think that goes to the great exploration opportunities we have before us in Alaska. This capital raising will allow White Rock to be fully funded right through the 2021 field season in Alaska, operating three diamond drill rigs, and also conducting airborne and on-ground geophysics. Further, we will also be able to get boots on the ground to continue generating targets at our new gold and VMS prospects for drill testing.

"Our three-pronged drilling plan is very exciting – we will be drilling to expand our existing high-grade silver-zinc VMS resource at Dry Creek, we will be doing deeper follow-up drilling at our large Last Chance gold anomaly, only discovered last year, and we plan to also drill test some new VMS prospects only announced in January this year.

"The speed with which we can identify, assess and drill at our project in Alaska is testament to the team that White Rock has assembled in-country, and the smooth and efficient approvals process that exists in Alaska.

"We have attracted some serious interest in the recently discovered Last Chance gold target and the ongoing silverzinc VMS exploration story and this funding will allow us to fly airborne geophysics this month and be mapping, geochemical sampling and acquiring geophysics information from June onwards. The first drill rig is planned to commence drilling late-May with three drill rigs operating from mid-June.

"It is extremely pleasing to note that our major shareholder Crescat has agreed to support the capital raising by participating in the Placement to maintain their holding at ~10%.

"The Board is very appreciative of the strong support shown from our current shareholders, and welcomes the interest and support being shown from the new investors joining the White Rock journey through the Placement. This is an exciting time for White Rock and its shareholders".

<u>Dr Quinton Hennigh, White Rock's Technical Adviser said</u> "White Rock has a plethora of exploration opportunities across its contiguous Last Chance-Red Mountain project in central Alaska. The dual opportunity to explore an exciting new large orogenic/intrusion-related gold system and a potentially world class volcanogenic massive sulphide district at a time when all metals are heading into a resounding bull market puts White Rock in a league all by itself.

"I recently spent time with the Company's team reviewing drill plans for the upcoming 2021 exploration season, and it became clear that the large number of high-quality drill targets easily justifies adding a third drill. With three drills, White Rock can now follow-up and tackle: 1) numerous high priority gold targets at Last Chance, 2) tackle multiple new VMS targets, some of which were discussed in a recent news release, and 3) expansion drilling of apparent high-grade, wider extensions of the existing silver-rich zinc VMS deposit at Dry Creek.

"This capital raise underpins White Rock's ability to pursue this aggressive campaign. I cannot wait to see the 2021 program commence in June."

Further details about the Placement are set out below.

The trading halt in White Rock's shares can now be lifted.

# **Placement**

Under the Placement, White Rock has successfully received commitments to issue 17,254,902 million fully paid ordinary shares to various institutional and sophisticated investors at an issue price of A\$0.51 per share to raise approximately A\$8.8 million.

The Placement is to be issued using White Rock's existing placement capacity under ASX Listing Rules 7.1 and 7.1A and accordingly shareholder approval will not be required for the issue of shares under the Placement. These shares are expected to be issued on or about Thursday, 29 April 2021. All shares issued under the Placement will rank equally with White Rock's existing shares on issue

Subject to shareholder approval at the next general meeting of the Company, White Rock proposes to issue 1 attaching unlisted option for every 2 new shares issued under the Placement with an exercise price of A\$0.77 and maturity of 36 months from the date of issue.

The Placement is not underwritten.

#### Joint Lead Manager Fee Arrangements

Viriathus Capital Pty Ltd (**Viriathus**) and Sanlam Private Wealth Pty Ltd (**Sanlam**) are acting as Joint Lead Managers to the Placement and as part of their fee arrangements will receive 300,000 White Rock unlisted options with the same terms as those attaching to the Placement shares, subject to shareholder approval. Further details about these fee arrangements are set out in the Appendix 3B lodged separately with ASX.

# **About White Rock**

White Rock Minerals Ltd (ASX:WRM, OTCQX:WRMCF) is an Australian minerals exploration and development company with activities focussed on two projects: Red Mountain and Mt Carrington.

The 100% owned <u>Red Mountain Project</u>, covering 798km<sup>2</sup>, is located in the Bonnifield District of central Alaska. The Company is exploring for Intrusion Related Gold System (IRGS) mineralisation and high-grade zinc and precious metals volcanogenic massive sulphide (VMS) deposits.

IRGS exploration is focussed on the Last Chance gold target located within the Tintina Gold Province, host to giant gold deposits including Donlin Creek (45 Moz Au), Fort Knox (13.5 Moz Au) and Pogo (10 Moz Au), which are all Cretaceous aged IRGS deposits.

VMS exploration is focussed in the East Bonnifield District within the Yukon-Tanana Terrane. There are already two high-grade zinc-silver rich deposits with an Inferred Mineral Resource<sup>1</sup> of **9.1 million tonnes @ 157g/t silver, 5.8% zinc and 0.9g/t gold for a grade of 13.2% ZnEq**<sup>3</sup>, alternatively, <u>for a grade of 609g/t AgEq</u><sup>2</sup>.

Mt Carrington is a 100% owned advanced gold-silver epithermal project located in the southern New England Fold Belt, northern NSW, Australia. A 2020 Pre-Feasibility Study (PFS)<sup>4</sup> Update into the "Gold First" development stage declared an Ore Reserve of 4.1 million tonnes at 1.3g/t gold for 174,000 ounces gold from within an overall Mineral Resource of 352,000 ounces gold. There is also a Silver Mineral Resource estimate totalling 23 million ounces. The gold pits are pre-stripped and there is considerable existing infrastructure including a tailings storage facility, freshwater dam, granted Mining Leases, access to State grid power and site office. The PFS financial metrics for this project are robust, especially in this strong gold price environment. Using a conservative A\$2,300 per ounce, the 2020 Gold First PFS financial metrics demonstrate a capital payback of just 14 months, an IRR greater than 80% and with free cash flow generated from the gold over its first 5 years of greater than A\$120M.

With successful implementation of the Stage One gold development the Company expects to investigate a Stage Two operation to develop the silver deposits and remaining gold deposits. The Mt Carrington Mining Leases are enveloped by an Exploration Licence (183km²) with demonstrated potential for epithermal and intrusion-related gold, silver and copper mineralisation. White Rock has generated and refined an extensive exploration target portfolio at Mt Carrington since 2010.

Mt Carrington is currently subject to a Term Sheet signed with ASX listed Thomson Resources (ASX:TMZ) to advance the project via a joint venture<sup>5</sup>.



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Refer ASX Announcement 26<sup>th</sup> April 2017 "Maiden JORC Mineral Resource, Red Mountain".

 $<sup>^2</sup>$  Silver equivalent grades are estimated using S&P Global forecast for the 200 to 2030 period as at 2 November 2020 adjusted for recoveries derived from historical metallurgical testing work and calculated with the formula:  $AgEq = 100 \times [(ZIN \times 2,425 \times 0.9) + (Pb\% \times 2,072 \times 0.75) + (Cu\% \times 6,614 \times 0.70) + (Agg/t \times (21.00/31.1035) \times 0.70) + (Aug/t \times (1,732/31.1035) \times 0.80)] / (21.00/31.1035 \times 0.70)$ . White Rock is of the opinion that all elements included in the metal equivalent calculation have reasonable potential to be recovered and sold. WRM has chosen to report AgEq grades in addition to AgEq grades as although individually zinc is the dominant metal by value, the precious metals (Ag+Au) are of similar contribution by value (Ag+Au) for silver+qold respectively) and will be recovered and sold separately to the zinc.

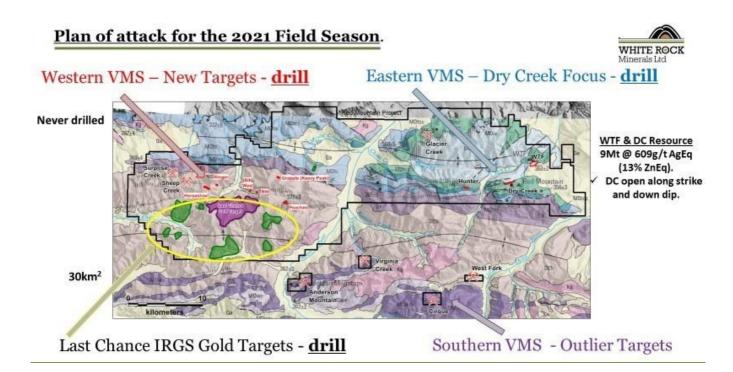
 $<sup>^3</sup>$  Zinc equivalent grades are estimated using S&P Global forecasts for the 2020 to 2030 period as at 2 November 2020 adjusted for recoveries derived from historical metallurgical testing work and calculated with the formula:  $ZnEq = [(Zn\% \times 2,425 \times 0.9) + (Pb\% \times 2,072 \times 0.75) + (Cu\% \times 6,614 \times 0.70) + (Ag g/t \times (21.00/31.1035) \times 0.70) + (Au g/t \times (1,732/31.1035) \times 0.80)] / (2,425 \times 0.9)$ . White Rock is of the opinion that all elements included in the metal equivalent calculation have reasonable potential to be recovered and sold.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Refer ASX Announcement 19th August 2020 "Exceptional Updated Gold Pre-Feasibility Study Results".

# Red Mountain Project – silver-rich zinc VMS and a large IRGS gold anomaly, Central Alaska.



**Figure 1**: Location of the Red Mountain Project (including the Last Chance gold target) within the Tintina Gold Province and its major gold deposits including Donlin Creek (45Moz Au; NovaGold & Barrick), Pogo (10 Moz Au; Northern Star) and Fort Knox (13.5Moz Au; Kinross).



#### **Contact Details**

Matthew Gill or Shane Turner 03 5331 4644 info@whiterockminerals.com.au www.whiterockminerals.com.au

# This document has been authorised for release by the Board.

This announcement may contain certain 'forward-looking statements'. Any forecasts or other forward looking statements contained in this announcement are subject to known and unknown risks and uncertainties and may involve significant elements of subjective judgment and assumptions as to future events which may or may not be correct. There are usually differences between forecast and actual results because events and actual circumstances frequently do not occur as forecast and these differences may be material. White Rock does not give any representation, assurance or guarantee that the occurrence of the events expressed or implied in any forward-looking statements in this announcement will actually occur and you are cautioned not to place undue reliance on forward-looking statements.

# **Competent Persons Statement**

The information in this report that relates to exploration results is based on information compiled by Mr Rohan Worland who is a Member of the Australian Institute of Geoscientists and is a consultant to White Rock Minerals Ltd. Mr Worland has sufficient experience which is relevant to the style of mineralisation and type of deposit under consideration and to the activity which he is undertaking to qualify as a Competent Person as defined in the 2012 Edition of the 'Australasian Code for Reporting of Exploration Results, Mineral Resources and Ore Reserves'. Mr Worland consents to the inclusion in the report of the matters based on this information in the form and context in which it appears.

## No New Information or Data

This announcement contains references to exploration results, Mineral Resource estimates, Ore Reserve estimates, production targets and forecast financial information derived from the production targets, all of which have been cross-referenced to previous market announcements by the Company. The Company confirms that it is not aware of any new information or data that materially affects the information included in the relevant market announcements. In the case of Mineral Resource estimates, Ore Reserve estimates, production targets and forecast financial information derived from the production targets, all material assumptions and technical parameters underpinning the estimates, production targets and forecast financial information derived from the production targets contained in the relevant market announcement continue to apply and have not materially changed.