



## **LION ONE ACCELERATES MINE DEVELOPMENT AND CONSTRUCTION AT THE TUVATU ALKALINE GOLD PROJECT IN FIJI**

**North Vancouver, B.C., February 17, 2023 - Lion One Metals Limited (TSX-V: LIO) (OTCQX: LOMLF) (ASX: LLO) ("Li on One" or the "Company")** announces the acceleration of mine development and plant construction following the completion of project financing, at the Company's 100% owned Tuvatu Alkaline Gold Project in Fiji.

Lion One has advanced the number 2 development drive by over 250 meters and has completed the first cut of high-grade material from the URA1 lode. The samples taken from this first cut averaged 14 g/t gold and are designated for the high-grade ROM stockpile.

Lion One CEO Walter Berukoff commented "In conjunction with ongoing mine development, we are preparing to mobilize personnel for the installation and commissioning of the Tuvatu gold processing plant. All of the processing plant components have already been delivered to Fiji, with shipments of the remaining bulk materials in progress and expected to be delivered by the end of March to coincide with the completion of infrastructure for the mill area, electrowinning facility, and gold room."

The Lion One processing plant will treat material using a two-stage crushing process, with a primary jaw crusher and secondary cone crusher feeding a two-stage grinding circuit. The ground material will feed an integrated two stage gravity concentration circuit with some concentrates treated by an intensive cyanide leaching reactor and the remainder of the concentrates leached using conventional cyanide Carbon in Leach (CIL) technology. Gold will be recovered from the gold laden carbon using conventional absorption desorption recovery (ADR) technology and smelted on site to produce gold doré bars. The leached tailings will be treated using the SO<sub>2</sub>/air process to remove any residual cyanide. Filtered tailings will be transported to Lion One's tailings storage facility 3.5 km from the Tuvatu mine site.

Lion One plans to operate at an initial production capacity of 300 tonnes per day for the initial 18 months of operations before increasing the capacity to 500 tpd in mid-2025. The initial mining will focus on the near-surface resource while advancing underground development into high-grade mineralization in Zone 500.

The 2023 drilling program will be focused on three fronts: grade control drilling of the near-term production blocks; drill-testing regional targets with the aim of identifying additional separate mineralized systems within the greater Navilawa caldera; and completing the geophysical (CSAMT) surveys initiated in 2022 to delineate additional drill targets.

### **About Tuvatu**

The Tuvatu Alkaline Gold Project is located on the island of Viti Levu in Fiji. The January 2018 mineral resource for Tuvatu as disclosed in the technical report "Technical Report and Preliminary Economic Assessment for the Tuvatu Gold Project, Republic of Fiji", dated September 25, 2020, and prepared by Mining Associates Pty Ltd of Brisbane Qld, comprises 1,007,000 tonnes indicated at 8.50 g/t Au (274,600 oz. Au) and 1,325,000 tonnes inferred at 9.0 g/t Au (384,000 oz. Au) at a cut-off grade of 3.0 g/t Au. The technical report is available on the Lion One website at U and on the SEDAR website at [www.sedar.com](http://www.sedar.com).

Continued...



Photo 1: Aerial view of the Tuvatu plant site and surrounding Navilawa caldera



Photo 2: Aerial view of the Tuvatu production decline portal and plant site



Photo 3: Aerial view of the Tuvatu plant site





Photo 4: mining fleet



Photo 5: ball mills



Photo 6: mobile crusher



Photo 7: Tuvatu production decline



Photo 8: Tuvatu production decline



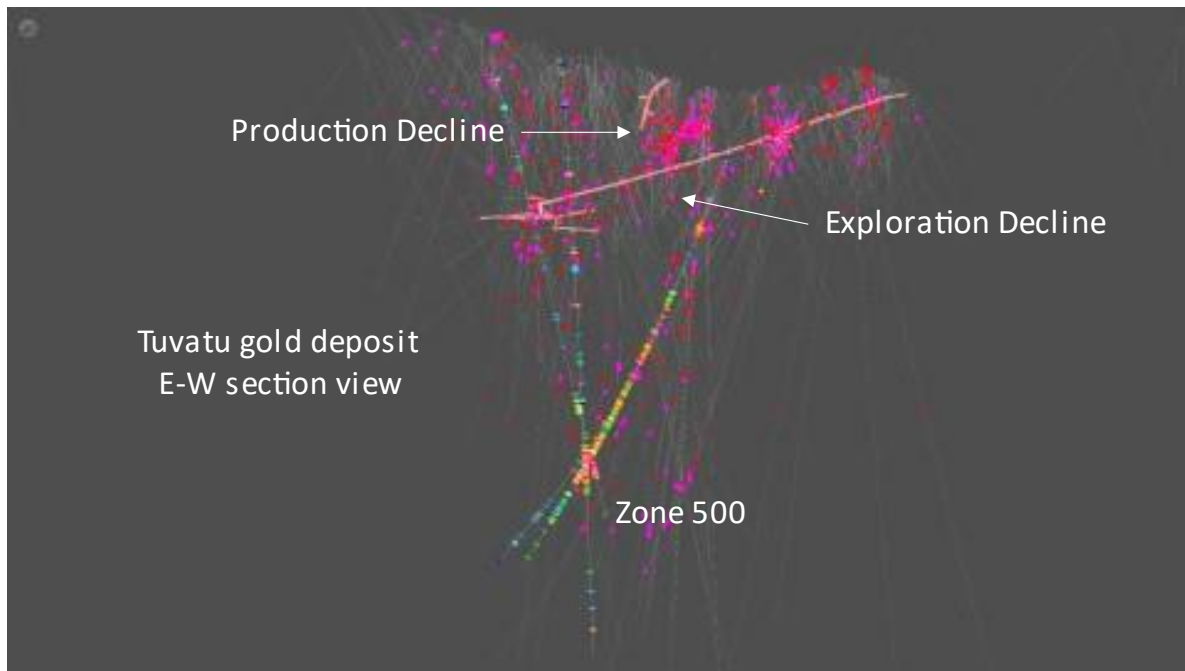


Figure1: section view of Tuvatu deposit

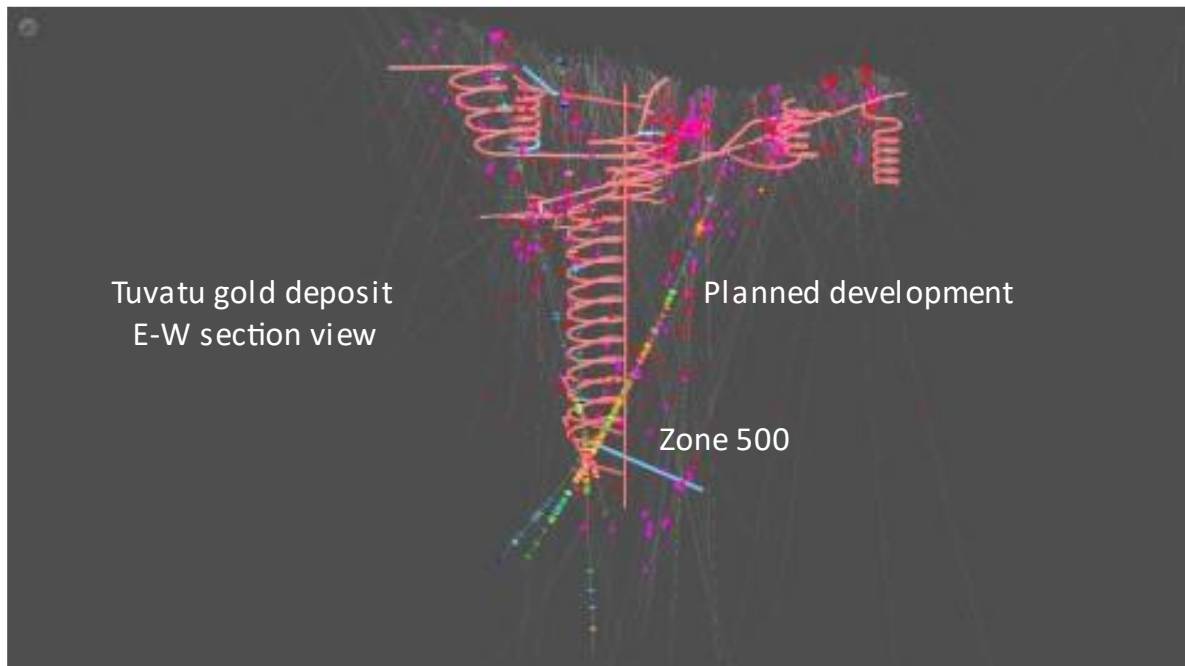


Figure 2 section view of Tuvatu deposit and planned development drives



Photo 9: First cut from URA1 Lode in Tuvatu production decline

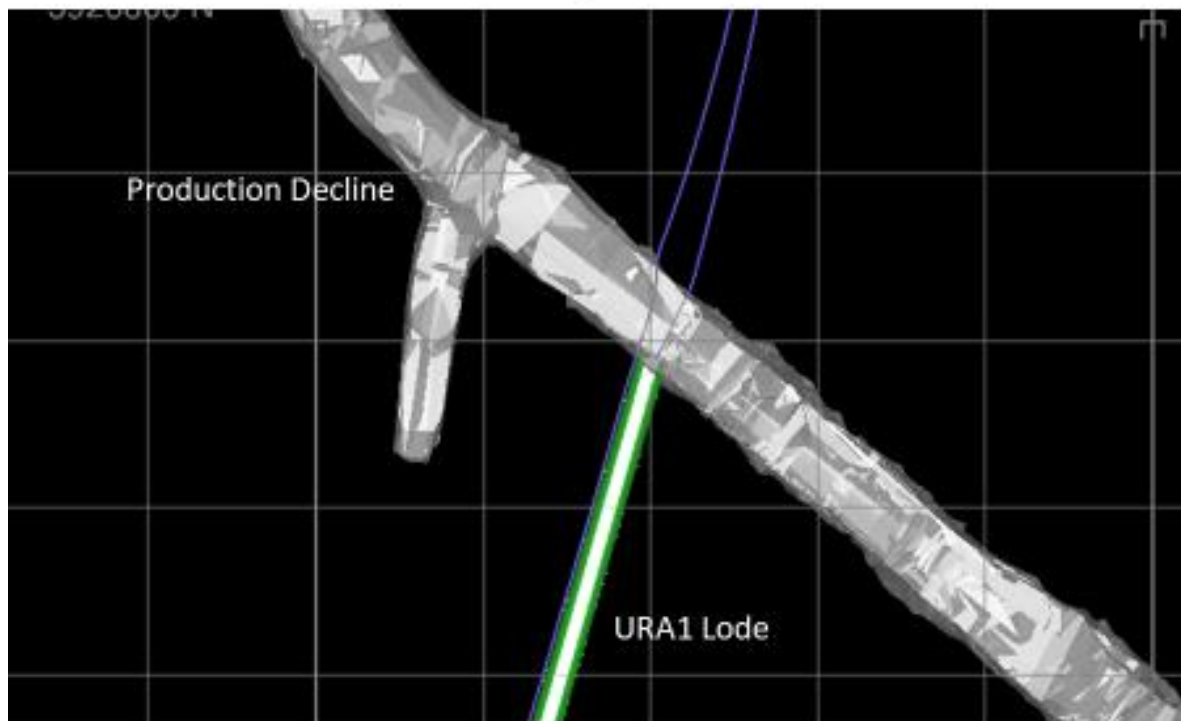


Figure 3: URA1 Lode accessed by Tuvatu production decline

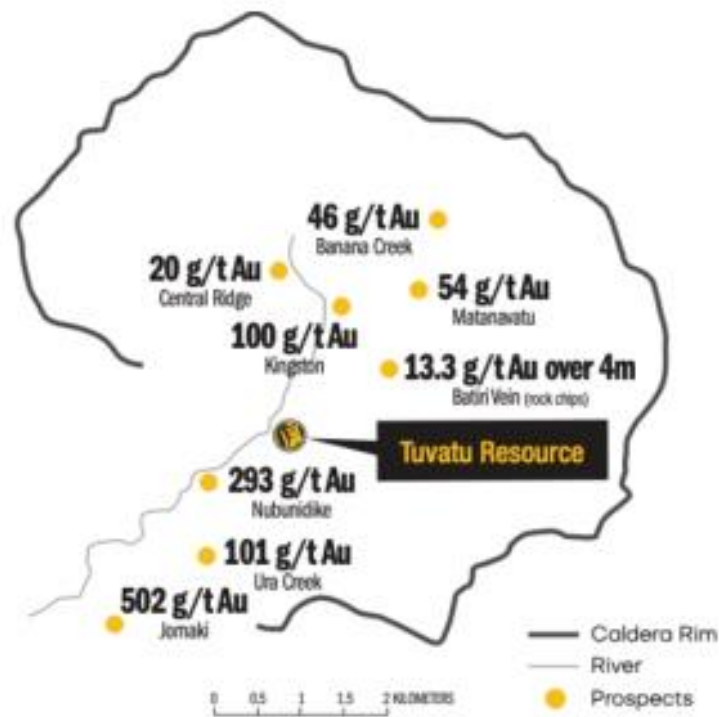


Figure 4: Tuvatu resource and regional targets in Navilawa caldera



Photo 10: Tuvatu tailings storage facility looking north into Navilawa caldera





Photo 11: aerial photo of Fiji head office compound and assay laboratory in Nadi



Photo 12: Lion One geochemical and metallurgical laboratory



Photo 13: Lion One geochemical and metallurgical laboratory





### **Qualified Person**

In accordance with National Instrument 43-101 – Standards of Disclosure for Mineral Projects (“NI 43-101”), Patrick Hickey, Chief Operating Officer, is the Qualified Person for the Company and has reviewed and is responsible for the technical and scientific content of this news release.

### **About Lion One Metals Limited**

Lion One’s flagship asset is 100% owned, fully permitted high grade Tuvatu Alkaline Gold Project, located on the island of Viti Levu in Fiji. Lion One envisions a low-cost high-grade underground gold mining operation at Tuvatu coupled with exciting exploration upside inside its tenements covering the entire Navilawa Caldera, an underexplored yet highly prospective 7km diameter alkaline gold system. Lion One’s CEO Walter Berukoff leads an experienced team of explorers and mine builders and has owned or operated over 20 mines in 7 countries. As the founder and former CEO of Miramar Mines, Northern Orion, and La Mancha Resources, Walter is credited with building over \$3 billion of value for shareholders.

### **On behalf of the Board of Directors of Lion One Metals Limited**

“Walter Berukoff”, Chairman and CEO

### **Contact Investor Relations**

Toll Free (North America) Tel: 1-855-805-1250

Email: [info@liononemetals.com](mailto:info@liononemetals.com)

Website: [www.liononemetals.com](http://www.liononemetals.com)

***Neither the TSX Venture Exchange nor its Regulation Service Provider accepts responsibility for the accuracy of this release***

*This press release may contain statements that may be deemed to be "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of applicable Canadian securities legislation. All statements, other than statements of historical fact, included herein are forward-looking information. Generally, forward-looking information may be identified by the use of forward-looking terminology such as "plans", "expects" or "does not expect", "proposed", "is expected", "budget", "scheduled", "estimates", "forecasts", "intends", "anticipates" or "does not anticipate", or "believes", or variations of such words and phrases, or by the use of words or phrases which state that certain actions, events or results may, could, would, or might occur or be achieved. This forward-looking information reflects Lion One Metals Limited's current beliefs and is based on information currently available to Lion One Metals Limited and on assumptions Lion One Metals Limited believes are reasonable. These assumptions include, but are not limited to, the actual results of exploration projects being equivalent to or better than estimated results in technical reports, assessment reports, and other geological reports or prior exploration results. Forward-looking information is subject to known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that may cause the actual results, level of activity, performance, or achievements of Lion One Metals Limited or its subsidiaries to be materially different from those expressed or implied by such forward-looking information. Such risks and other factors may include, but are not limited to: the stage development of Lion One Metals Limited, general business, economic, competitive, political and social uncertainties; the actual results of current research and development or operational activities; competition; uncertainty as to patent applications and intellectual property rights; product liability and lack of insurance; delay or failure to receive board or regulatory approvals; changes in legislation, including environmental legislation, affecting mining, timing and availability of external financing on acceptable terms; not realizing on the potential benefits of technology; conclusions of economic evaluations; and lack of qualified, skilled labor or loss of key individuals. Although Lion One Metals Limited has attempted to identify important factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those contained in forward-looking information, there may be other factors that cause results not to be as anticipated, estimated or intended. Accordingly, readers should not place undue reliance on forward-looking information. Lion One Metals Limited does not undertake to update any forward-looking information, except in accordance with applicable securities laws.*