



PRESS RELEASE

May 8, 2002

***PHASE ONE EXPLORATION AT DAMOTI LAKE GOLD PROJECT
AND PROPOSED PRIVATE PLACEMENT***

The Board of Directors is pleased to announce the planned first phase of exploration at its Damoti Lake Gold Project. An initial program of mapping, soil sampling, as well as a detailed reconnaissance program is scheduled to commence in mid June.

Canadian Zinc signed a letter of intent to enter into an option on the 4600 hectare Damoti Lake project with Doublestar Resources Ltd. in March 2002 (see press release dated March 11th 2002.) Both Companies recognised an opportunity to further explore and expand the gold potential on the property. The gold at Damoti has been identified within an Iron Formation. Previous work on the property, including diamond drilling and limited underground development has outlined a geological resource estimate for the whole Damoti Lake property of 2.1 million tons grading 0.297 ounces per tonne, including the higher-grade Horseshoe Zone containing 452,000 tons grading 0.415 ounces per tonne. (Sierra Mining and Engineering, LLC – Resource Estimate for Quest International Resources Corp., July 1997.) Significant high grade gold has been previously intercepted in numerous diamond drill holes with gold concentrations in excess of 1 ounce per tonne over significant widths, close to surface. The small amount of underground work on site, produced a surface stockpile estimated to contain 4200 tons of rock grading 0.451 opt gold.

The host Iron Formation occurs throughout the entire 12-kilometer length of the property with numerous gold showings, both on surface and in drill core over much of its length. Canadian Zinc believes that the property is substantially under-explored. Along with further detailed exploration drilling within the Iron Formation, additional evaluation for gold will be carried out across adjacent rock units, where favorable structures and geophysical signatures are known to occur. Further work is aimed at expanding the high-grade gold mineralisation intersected to date, over the full 12 kilometres of the known Iron Formation.

The Company is also advancing its primary Northwest Territories project, Prairie Creek to production by continuing with the regulatory and permitting process. Canadian Zinc's 100% owned Prairie Creek base metal and silver mine and mill facility, originally financed by the Hunt Brothers in the 1980's, was developed at a cost to date of over \$80,000,000, but has never operated. An independent scoping study carried out by MRDI indicated a resource at Prairie Creek of 11.8 million tons grading 12.5% zinc, 10.1% lead, 161 grams per tonne silver, and 0.4% copper.

Canadian Zinc plans to raise \$1,000,000 by way of private placements of Flow Through Shares and non-flow through units to Canadian and European investors respectively. Final details of these proposed financings will be announced shortly. Proceeds from the financings will be used at Damoti Lake to conduct exploration and confirmation drilling, as well as drilling of newly identified targets. Funds will also be expended at Prairie Creek, as well as for general working capital.

“John A. MacPherson”

**John A. MacPherson
Chairman**

This news release may contain forward looking statements based on assumptions and judgments of management regarding future events or results that may prove to be inaccurate as a result of exploration or other risk factors beyond its control. Actual results may differ materially from the expected results.