



Northgate Minerals Corporation

News Release

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Northgate Minerals Announces Diamond Drill Results Adjacent to Established Reserves on the Young-Davidson Property

Hole YD09-120 Intersects Mafic Volcanic Mineralization Grading 7.6 g/t Over 13.5m

VANCOUVER, October 13, 2009 – Northgate Minerals Corporation (TSX: NGX, NYSE Amex: NXG) is pleased to report drill results for 29 shallow diamond drill holes totalling 2,424 metres (m) at its 100%-owned Young-Davidson project near the town of Matachewan in northern Ontario. Drilling took place on Northgate's Young-Davidson property immediately east of the current ore reserve in and around historic mine workings, which was operated by Matachewan Consolidated during the mid 1900s (1934-1954).

Drill Highlights

- **Hole YD09-120**, beyond the eastern limit of historic mining, intersected 7.6 grams per tonne (g/t) gold over 13.5m
- **Hole YD09-114**, south of historic mining, intersected 13.8 g/t gold over 2.0m and 7.1 g/t gold over 3.8m
- **Holes YD09-132**, within historic near surface workings, intersected 1.9 g/t gold over 36.1m including 7.0 g/t over 5.0m

Ken Stowe, President and Chief Executive Officer, remarked, "This is our first exploration program targeting the higher grade mafic volcanic hosted gold mineralization east of the currently known syenite hosted gold reserves on the Young-Davidson property. While the open pit potential tonnage is modest, holes such as YD09-120 and YD09-114 indicate that there is still higher grade mafic volcanic gold mineralization to be discovered on the property."

Diamond Drill Program

The purpose of the 2009 exploration diamond drill program to the east of the Young-Davidson deposit was to assess the potential for high grade mafic volcanic hosted gold mineralization within 50m of surface, which would have the potential to add open pit reserves in and around existing mine workings.

Select surface holes are listed in Table 1 below and the complete list of holes are listed in Table 2. All surface holes are plotted on Figure 1, a geology map of a portion of the Young-Davidson property.

Table 1 – Select Young-Davidson Surface Holes

Hole ID	From (m)	To (m)	Core Length (m)	Gold Grade Uncut (g/t)	Gold Grade Cut to 20 g/t
YD09-108	2.6	12	9.4	1.48	
incl	2.6	3.7	1.1	8.95	
YD09-110	5.4	16.2	10.8	0.76	
YD09-111	39.8	52.3	12.5	2.07	
incl	39.8	45	5.2	3.31	
YD09-112	17.3	27.7	10.4	1.03	
YD09-114	38.2	40.2	2.0	15.51	13.76
	55.2	59	3.8	7.11	
YD09-116	61.5	66	4.5	0.79	
YD09-120	25.7	39.2	13.5	10.11	7.63
incl	33.6	37.8	4.2	26.99	19.04
YD09-132	12.3	48.4	36.1	1.94	
incl			5.0	7.00	
YD09-134			5.8	7.57	6.86

(True thicknesses estimated to be 70-90% of core length)

Overview of Young-Davidson Exploration Area

Gold mineralization on the Young-Davidson property is present primarily in an intrusive syenite host rock dipping at approximately 70 degrees to the south. Figure 1, shown below, presents a portion of the property geology and the location of the holes reported herein to the east of the currently known reserves between 22,700E and 23,800E.

Figure 1 – Young-Davidson Geology and Hole Locations

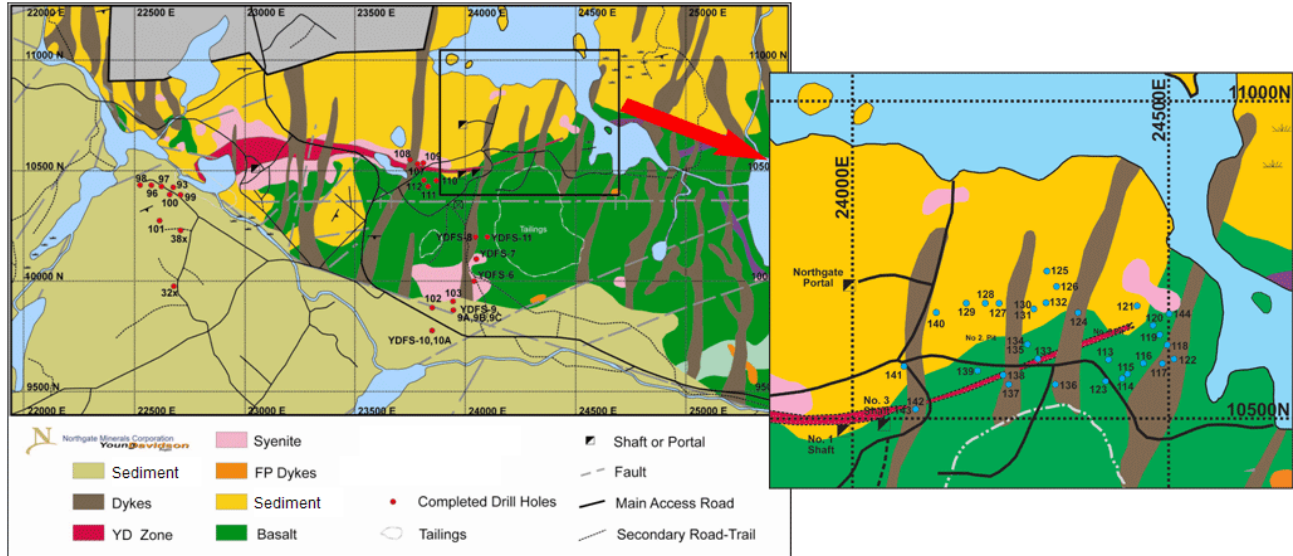


Figure 2 Mafic Volcanic Hosted Gold Surface to 50 Metre Depth

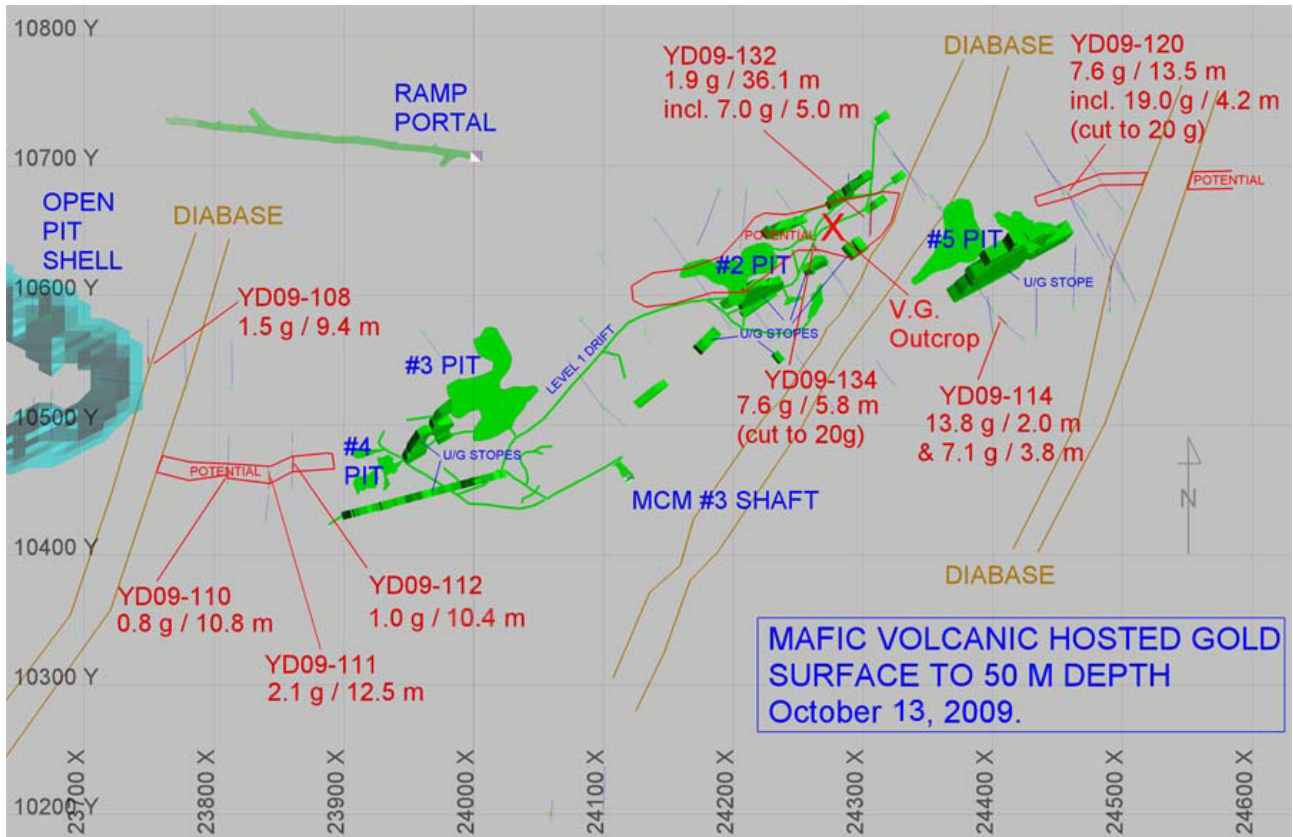


Table 2 – Drill Collar Co-Ordinates

Hole ID	Northing (m)	Easting (m)	Elevation (m)	Collar Azimuth	Collar Dip	Depth (m)
YD09-107	23779	10530	10347	0	-45	51
YD09108	23749	10545	10347	0	-45	66
YD09-109	23814	10529	10350	0	-45	51
YD09-110	23810	10455	10346	0	-45	51
YD09-111	23840	10427	10346	0	-45	60
YD09-112	23860	10452	10345	0	-45	57
YD09-113	24400	10588	10348	325	-45	37
YD09-114	24424	10566	10349	325	-63	59
YD09-115	24434	10570	10349	0	-45	51
YD09-116	24462	10592	10350	0	-45	66
YD09-117	24490	10588	10349	0	-45	51
YD09-118	24501	10612	10350	325	-45	58
YD09-119	24485	10630	10352	325	-45	203.5
YD09-120	24472	10661	10354	325	-45	66
YD09-121	24455	10678	10354	325	-45	155
YD09-122	24510	10595	10350	325	-45	150
YD09-123	24400	10571	10348	0	-45	40
YD09-124	24358	10668	10355	145	-45	141
YD09-125	24307	10734	10346	145	-45	99
YD09-126	24323	10710	10347	145	-45	150
YD09-127	24233	10681	10343	145	-45	39
YD09-128	24210	10682	10348	180	-45	114
YD09-129	24190	10682	10348	180	-45	64.6
YD09-130	24289	10672	10344	214	-45	28.8
YD09-131	24289	10672	10344	0	-45	40
YD09-132	24307	10682	10344	0	-45	51
YD09-133	24293	10594	10347	325	-63	55.5
YD09-134	24277	10618	10347	325	-45	39
YD09135A	24277	10618	10347	145	-78	99
YD09-136	24324	10531	10347	325	-77	111
YD09-137	24249	10553	10346	325	-45	120

(Holes with no assays reported have no significant mineralized intervals)

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Quality Control – Analyses and Sample Location

Details of quality assurance/quality control procedures for sample analysis and drill hole survey methodology are reported in detail in the Canadian National Instrument 43-101 Standards of Disclosure for Mineral Projects (“NI 43-101”) compliant Technical Report filed on SEDAR (www.sedar.com) on August 21, 2009.

Qualified Persons

The program design, implementation, quality assurance/quality control and interpretation of the results are under the control of Northgate’s geological staff, which includes a number of individuals who are qualified persons as defined under NI 43-101. Carl Edmunds, PGeo, Northgate’s Exploration Manager, is responsible for the overall supervision of the program.

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Note to Investors:

The terms “Qualified Person”, “Mineral Reserve”, “Proven Mineral Reserve”, “Probable Mineral Reserve”, “Mineral Resource”, “Measured Mineral Resource”, “Indicated Mineral Resource”, and “Inferred Mineral Resource” used in this news release are defined in accordance with NI 43-101.

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Northgate is a gold and copper producer with mining operations, development projects and exploration properties in Canada and Australia. Northgate is forecasting record gold production of approximately 380,000 ounces in 2009 and is targeting growth through further acquisition opportunities in stable mining jurisdictions around the world. Northgate is listed on the TSX under the symbol NGX and on the NYSE Amex under the symbol NXG.

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Forward-Looking Statements:

This Northgate press release contains “forward-looking information”, as such term is defined in applicable Canadian securities legislation and “forward-looking statements” within the meaning of the United States Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, concerning Northgate’s future financial or operating performance and other statements that express management’s expectations or estimates of future developments, circumstances or results. Generally, forward-looking information can be identified by the use of forward-looking terminology such as “expects”, “believes”, “anticipates”, “budget”, “scheduled”, “estimates”, “forecasts”, “intends”, “plans” and variations of such words and phrases, or by statements that certain actions, events or results “may”, “will”, “could”, “would” or “might” “be taken”, “occur” or “be achieved”. Forward-looking information is based on a number of assumptions and estimates that, while considered reasonable by management based on the business and markets in which Northgate operates, are inherently subject to significant operational, economic and competitive uncertainties and contingencies. Northgate cautions that forward-looking information involves known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that may cause Northgate’s actual results, performance or achievements to be materially different from those expressed or implied by such information, including, but not limited to gold and copper price volatility; fluctuations in foreign exchange rates and interest rates; the impact of any hedging activities; discrepancies between actual and estimated production, between actual and estimated reserves and resources or between actual and estimated metallurgical recoveries; costs of production; capital expenditure requirements; the costs and timing of construction and development of new deposits; and the success of exploration and permitting activities. In addition, the factors described or referred to in the section entitled “Risk Factors” in Northgate’s Annual Information Form for the year ended December 31, 2008 or under the heading “Risks and Uncertainties” in Northgate’s 2008 Annual Report, both of which are available on the SEDAR website at www.sedar.com, should be reviewed in conjunction with the information found in this press release. Although Northgate has attempted to identify important factors that could cause actual results, performance or achievements to differ materially from those contained in forward-looking information, there can be other factors that cause results, performance or achievements not to be as anticipated, estimated or intended. There can be no assurance that such information will prove to be accurate or that management’s expectations or estimates of future developments, circumstances or results will materialize. Accordingly, readers should not place undue reliance on forward-looking information. The forward-looking information in this press release is made as of the date of this press release, and Northgate disclaims any intention or obligation to update or revise such information, except as required by applicable law.

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