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NEWS RELEASE

Miner River and Eagle Plains Acquire Kootenay Arc Polymetallic Property

March 24th, 1998

Cranbrook, BC: Partners Miner River Resources Ltd. (MRG : ASE) and Eagle Plains Resources (EPL : ASE) have negotiated an agreement whereby the joint-venture can earn a 100% interest (less 2% NSR) in the McPhee polymetallic property located in the West Kootenay area of southeastern British Columbia. Miner River will pay \$75,000 in cash and issue 50,000 common shares to earn it's 50% interest.

The McPhee Property consists of 118 units (7,160 acres) located approximately 15 km east of the Cominco smelter in Trail B.C. The property has excellent road-access, has been partially logged and is traversed by a high-voltage hydroelectric power line.

The McPhee property is located within the Kootenay Arc Mineral District and is underlain by rafted volcanic and sedimentary Rossland Group rocks. Both base and precious metal mineralization has been found associated with sheared strongly altered Elise Formation andesite flows and strongly silicified quartz pebble conglomerate of the Hall Formation. Rock sample values from the andesite included up to 13 gm/t Au, 6.8 gm/t Ag, 1.5 % Cu, 0.15% Ni, 0.05% Co and 3.8% Zn. The Second Relief Mine, located approximately 4 km northwest of the McPhee property was the second largest gold enriched skarn in B.C., producing over 3 million grams of Au with associated lead, zinc, silver and copper from a series of shear veins within both Elise and Archibald formation rocks.

The western part of the property hosts a zone of massive pyrrhotite and chalcopyrite within pebble conglomerate. A number of historical adits and shafts have been driven on this mineralization which occurs in a 1-5 m wide massive sulphide band that has been traced on surface for a distance of more than 1.5 km. Rock sample values from the massive sulphide zone contained up to 0.7% Cu, 0.06% Co, 0.26% W and 0.14% Mo. Samples of quartz pebble conglomerate from the property area returned values of up to 3.62 % Zn, 0.56% Pb, 42.5 g/t Ag and 150 ppb Au.

Soil sampling completed in 1997 indicates a large multi-element precious- and base-metal anomaly in an area underlain by a broad quartz stockwork zone in monzonite and monzonite sills thought to be of both Rossland Group and Bonnington Pluton affinity. The Rossland Mining camp, located approximately 20 km northwest of the McPhee property, was the second biggest lode gold camp in B.C., and saw historical production of more than

84,000 kg of Au from a series of sulphide veins associated with stockwork zones within Rossland Group monzonites. Free gold has been found in many of the creeks draining the McPhee property.

The property has seen no documented work before 1997, and government regional geologic mapping carried out in the area in the 1990's did not include the McPhee area. The massive sulphide horizon and other local mineralization is not recorded in the B.C. Minfile Index. The joint venture partners intend to carry out an aggressive geological mapping, soil sampling and prospecting program on the property during spring 1998, with follow-up diamond drilling in the fall of 1998.

On behalf of the Board of Directors

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