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***Almaden options Siwash property to Wheaton River***

Wheaton River Minerals Ltd

WRM

Shares issued 52,969,799

Jun 10 2002 close \$1.480

Monday Jun 10 2002

News Release

Mr. Duane Poliquin reports

**ALMADEN MINERALS LTD.: SIWASH UPDATE**

Almaden Minerals has entered into an option agreement with Wheaton River Minerals Ltd. for Almaden's Siwash gold property near Merritt, B.C. Under the terms of this agreement, Wheaton will provide \$350,000 to be spent on exploration of the property during 2002, with work being conducted by Almaden.

Once the full expenditure is complete, Wheaton will have earned a 10-percent interest in the property. Wheaton will have a right to convert this interest into shares of Almaden at a conversion price of 90 cents, with the number of shares to be issued to Wheaton being equal to \$350,000 divided by the conversion price. Almaden shall also have the right to reacquire the interest earned in the property by Wheaton at the same conversion price and for the same number of shares outlined above.

Almaden will use these funds this summer to conduct surface exploration, including diamond drilling, to extend the known gold-bearing veins, seek new parallel veins and test other known geochemical gold anomalies on the property.

The property produced 51,753 ounces of gold from 18,414 tons of ore in the 1990s. Current estimated resources on the property are 123,000 tons at an average grade of 1.153 ounces of gold per ton.

**WARNING:** The company relies upon litigation protection for "forward-looking" statements.

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SOURCE: Almaden Minerals Ltd.

## Almaden Minerals Ltd: Siwash Update

VANCOUVER, BRITISH COLUMBIA, August 19, 2002 --The 2002 diamond drill program on the Company's Elk property is well under way with 2600 metres completed in sixteen NQ holes. The Elk claims are located in the Okanagan area of Southern British Columbia and include the Siwash Gold Mine which produced 51,460 ounces of gold from 18,190 tons of quartz vein ore extracted from open pit and underground mine workings in the mid 1990's from the B vein system. This year's 4500 metre drill program is testing the WD vein system, the Deep B shoot, the Gold Creek West vein and the Bullion Creek structure.

The WD vein is located 200m north of the B vein system, and has an inferred resource of 29,130 ounces of gold at a grade of 1.252 oz/t in 23,260 tons. In the current drill program, the continuity of the WD vein was tested with fifty metre step-outs to the south and east. All holes intersected the vein near the projected depth and will result in an increase of the resource. Hole 311 returned 0.561 oz/t gold over a true width interval of 2.15 metres indicating good continuity of the structure and mineralization to depth. This is the deepest hole on this structure to date.

Two holes were drilled into the Bullion Creek structure, located 700m north of the B vein, to test a zone of hydrothermal alteration. Strongly altered granodiorite was intersected in both holes and narrow pyritic quartz veins returned an assay of 0.103 oz/t gold over a true width of 1.0 metres. The presence of gold mineralization in Bullion Creek zone establishes good potential for other high-grade shoots.

The Gold Creek West vein, 400m southwest of the mine site, was tested by nine drill holes in 1996 and 2000 and shows continuity of structure and mineralization over a strike length of 190 metres. Four holes drilled, during the current drill program intersected the vein at the projected locations and have extended its continuity a further 100m to the west. Results are pending.

The DeepB shoot on the B vein system is located immediately below the existing mine workings and can be accessed by extending the existing decline approximately 600m. It contains an inferred resource of 35,600 oz Au in 12,200 tons grading 2.925 oz/t. Four perimeter holes seeking to extend the Deep B shoot down-plunge have been completed. Results from three (SND02317, 18, 19) have been returned and are listed in the table below.

Hole Number	Area	From (m)	To (m)	True Width Interval (m)	AU Zone oz/t	AU gm/t	AG oz/t	AG
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		<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>Interval</u>	<u>True width (m)</u>	<u>Core</u>	<u>Au (opt)</u>	<u>Au (g/t)</u>	<u>Ag (opt)</u>
SND02310	WD	254.35	255.06	0.71	0.50	WD	0.337	11.54	0.412
		14.12							
SND02311	WD	270.65	272.27	1.62	0.93	WDa	0.004	0.13	
SND02311	WD	273.13	274.00	0.87	0.50	WDb	1.078	36.97	2.001
		68.60							
SND02311	WD	273.25	276.10	2.85	2.15	WDb	0.561	19.22	2.575
		88.29							
SND02311	WD	275.07	276.29	1.22	1.00	WDc	0.653	22.39	4.549
		155.97							
SND02312	WD	109.43	110.08	0.65	0.50	WDb	0.597	20.45	1.138
		39.01							
SND02313	WD	163.43	164.03	0.60	0.50	WDb	1.007	34.54	1.809
		62.01							
SND02314	Bullion								
	Crk	60.05	61.20	1.15	1.00	BC	0.001	0.04	
SND02315	Bullion								
	Crk	74.29	75.60	1.31	1.00	BC	0.103	3.53	
SND02316	West								
	Pit	45.95	48.11	2.16	1.00	B	0.044	1.51	
SND02316	West								
	Pit	52.98	56.95	3.97	1.00	B	1.109	38.03	
SND02317	DeepB	266.83	267.55	0.72	0.50	Bb	0.137	4.70	0.526
		18.04							
SND02318	DeepB	201.74	202.25	0.51	0.50	PC	0.200	6.87	
SND02318	DeepB	225.00	225.97	0.97	0.50	B	0.020	0.70	0.157
		5.38							
SND02319	DeepB	251.50	252.00	0.50	0.50	-	0.628	21.53	0.506
		17.35							
SND02319	DeepB	270.45	271.09	0.64	0.50	B	0.230	7.89	1.132
		38.80							

All samples were analyzed at Acme Analytical Labs in Vancouver using wet geochemical, fire assay and metalics techniques. Duplicate and blank samples were included in the sample shipments sent to Acme and confirmed procedural quality. Check assays will be carried out by Chemex Labs in Vancouver. Wojtek Jakubowski, P. Geo. is the qualified person supervising the program.

A new resource/reserve calculation will be done incorporating the 2002 drill program results on completion of check assaying and data compilation.

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Duane Poliquin, President

The Toronto Stock Exchange has not reviewed nor accepted responsibility for the adequacy or accuracy of the contents of this news release which has been prepared by management. Statements contained in this news release that are not historical facts are forward looking statements as that term is defined in the private securities litigation reform act of 1995. Such forward -looking statements are subject to risks and uncertainties which could cause actual results to differ materially from estimated results.