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Northgate Exploration Limited: New Zone Discovered at Nugget; Kemess North Resource Confirmed by Continued Drilling

September 18, 2002

VANCOUVER, BRITISH COLUMBIA—Northgate Exploration Limited (TSX: NGX - News) is pleased to announce assay results for a further twelve diamond drill holes from its 2002 exploration program including the first results from drilling at the Nugget target where thick intersections of gold-copper porphyry mineralization have been newly discovered. Drilling on Kemess North continues to intersect substantial mineralization, confirming the geological model of the deposit and the 5.7 million ounce resource previously defined. The Company also reports that its regional exploration program has commenced with drilling on two properties outside Northgate's extensive land position.

→ BREUDA
→ PRAXIS
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Highlights

- * Results from the first hole at the Nugget Zone, located one kilometre west of the proposed pit outline at Kemess North, included three intervals each between 50-60 metres in width with grades of up to 0.2% copper and 0.55 gmt gold.
- * Drilling completed on 35 holes at Kemess North representing 70% of this year's program has further delineated the high-grade porphyry dome with grades greater than 1 gmt gold equivalent. The broad dimensions of the dome are now estimated to be 700 meters by 400 metres with a maximum thickness of 370 metres. Grades continue to increase with depth.
- * Two holes have been completed at Kemess East with partial assays available from one hole.
- * Regional exploration drilling at the Canasil and Praxis properties has commenced.

Ken Stowe, President & CEO stated that, "We have received assay results back on approximately half of the 2002 exploration program. This intersection at Nugget opens up the potential for a thick zone of gold-copper mineralization to occur at shallower depth than at Kemess North and even closer to Kemess South in a previously untested area. These results in particular confirm our opinion that the region surrounding Kemess South, including both Kemess North and now, the Nugget represent a substantial gold-copper porphyry camp in British Columbia."

2002 EXPLORATION PROGRAM REVIEW

Nugget Discovery

The Company recently started drilling the Nugget target located one kilometre to the west of the Kemess North pit outline. Three holes are complete but assays are available only on two holes (KN-02-23 and KN-02-30). KN-02-23 intersected three zones of gold-copper mineralization in both the Takla Group volcanic rocks and the quartz-monzonite intrusive rocks, geology similar to Kemess North. This confirms a much larger continuous porphyry system than was previously known. Further drilling is planned to be completed during the current field season. Highlights from hole KN-02-23 include:

Hole	Intersected Width (metres)	Gold (gmt)	Copper (%)
KN-02-23	56.4	0.451	0.198
	62.0	0.550	0.134
	54.0	0.374	0.186

Kemess North Project

Continued drilling in the east and central cirque area of Kemess North has defined additional intersections. Of particular note, is the further refining of the high-grade porphyry dome first discovered in 2001. This zone has now been confirmed both in terms of grade continuity and plan dimensions (approximately 700 metres east-west by 400 metres north-south) with thicknesses of up to 370 metres at 1 gram per tonne gold equivalent.

A deeper zone has also been intersected in the Central cirque area. This area was the focus of previous diamond drilling in 1992 but these older holes were terminated at much shallower depths. These new results should positively impact the 5.7 million ounce gold resource previously calculated by Northgate in 2001.

Drill highlights from the 2002 Kemess North program are found below and a complete summary of drilling results is found in the attachments:

Hole	Intersected Width (metres)	Gold (gmt)	Copper (%)
KN-02-01*	154.2	0.89	0.46
KN-02-03*	79.8	0.81	0.30
KN-02-03*	111.4	0.84	0.37
KN-02-04*	98.5	0.96	0.44
KN-02-09*	105.4	0.71	0.37
KN-02-13*	200.2	0.61	0.30
KN-02-16	206.0	0.54	0.29
KN-02-24	71.0	0.89	0.44

*Assay results for these holes were previously released on August 7, 2002.

Kemess East

The porphyry system at Kemess North is characterized by an extensive surface gossan, 3.5 kilometres in strike length, which still remains open in several directions. Exploration drilling in 2001 confirmed the existence of a north-south trending fault, which appeared to bound the mineralization on the east. Drilling at Kemess East, a target 750 metres southeast of Kemess North is looking for the faulted-off extension of the deposit on the other side of this structure.

Two holes have been completed at Kemess East in the 2002 program, with partial assay results available on one of the holes (KN-02-32) including a 15.5 metre intersection of 1.17 gmt gold.

2002 Regional Exploration

Brenda Property

The first hole on the Brenda property, located approximately 19 kilometres north of Kemess North was collared on September, 8, 2002 and results are still pending. The Brenda property, under option from Canasil Resources Inc., has both porphyry type gold-copper and epithermal type gold-silver targets.

Praxis Property

Two diamond drill holes have been completed on the Praxis Property, under option from Praxis Goldfields Inc., located near Stewart, BC and assay results are pending. Two additional holes are planned in the coming weeks. Drilling is targeted toward Eskay Creek style deposits in a volcanogenic massive sulphide environment.

Drill core assays for Northgate's 2002 exploration program have been performed by ALS Chemex in North Vancouver. The 2002 drill program at Kemess North was designed and managed by staff at the Kemess Mine, headed by Mike Hibbitts, Chief Geologist and Project Coordinator.

Northgate is in the business of mining and exploring for gold and copper, with a focus on opportunities in North and South America. The Corporation's principal assets are the 275,000 ounce per year Kemess South mine in north-central British Columbia and the adjacent Kemess North Project where a significant exploration discovery was made in 2001. Significant growth potential exists at Kemess North, which contains an inferred resource of 5.7 million ounces of gold. A

\$5 million 34,000 metre diamond drilling program commenced in early June.

This news release contains certain forward-looking statements that reflect the current views and/or expectations of Northgate Exploration Limited with respect to its performance, business and future events. Such statements are subject to a number of risks, uncertainties and assumptions. Actual results and events may vary significantly.

KEMESS NORTH PROJECT 2002 Exploration Program Summary of Drilling Results

Location	Hole	Interval (m)**	Length (m)	Cu (%)	Au (gmt)
Kemess North	KN-12-12B	509.0-634.0	125.0	0.236	0.419
	Including	509.0-540.0	31.0	0.362	0.675
	KN-12-17B	597.9-640.0	42.1	0.263	0.359
	KN-02-01	170.6-566.0	395.4	0.291	0.528
	Including	407.4-561.6	154.2	0.464	0.887
	Including	422.8-482.0	59.2	0.542	1.049
	KN-02-02	Hole lost before intersecting target			
	KN-02-03	353.2-714.4	361.2	0.237	0.413
	Including	447.1-526.9	79.8	0.297	0.809
	KN-02-04	264.0-375.4	111.4	0.368	0.841
	Including	321.6-375.4	53.8	0.408	1.186
	KN-02-05	224.6-544.4	330.8	0.294	0.570
	Including	409.7-508.2	98.5	0.435	0.959
	KN-02-06	228.0-496.0	268.0	0.224	0.406
	KN-02-07	478.3-517.7	39.4	0.300	0.430
		587.4-619.4	32.0	0.270	0.541
	KN-02-08	284.8-404	119.2	0.212	0.547

KN-02-09	229.0-498.0	270.0	0.285	0.586
Including	392.6-498.0	105.4	0.367	0.710
KN-02-10	242.3-368.5	126.2	0.184	0.296
KN-02-11	Porphyry system not intersected (Post Mineralization Intrusives)			
KN-02-12	517.9-584.4	66.5	0.250	0.326
KN-02-13	69.7-159.5	89.8	0.152	0.333
	390.8-591.0	200.2	0.303	0.614
Including	494.4-526.0	31.6	0.497	1.594
KN-02-14	11.2-70.7	59.5	0.207	0.262
	240.0-269.0	29.0	0.194	0.381
	460.0-474.0	14.0	0.315	0.509
	554.0-568.0	14.0	0.178	0.364
KN-02-16	407.0-613.0	206.0	0.290	0.537
Including	539.5-585.0	45.5	0.469	1.252
	734.0-798.0	63.0	0.218	0.358
KN-02-17	10.7-28.0	17.3	0.294	0.271
	51.8-79.3	27.5	0.226	0.292
	128.4-140.4	12.0	0.251	0.386
	200.4-231.0	30.6	0.211	0.311
	460.0-527.6	67.6	0.209	0.273
	600.0-637.0	37.0	0.231	0.290
KN-02-18	493.7-537.4	43.7	0.369	0.530
	559.1-573.0	13.9	0.371	0.892
KN-02-19	339.0-418.4	19.4	0.105	0.589
KN-02-20	Porphyry system not intersected (Post Mineralization Intrusives)			
KN-02-21	79.0-192.0	113.0	0.159	0.310
	207.0-608.0	397.5	0.210	0.252
KN-02-22	551.0-706.2	155.2	0.233	0.223
KN-02-24	119.0-283.0	164.0	0.162	0.361
	327.0-705.6	378.6	0.301	0.484
Including	407.0-478.0	71.0	0.440	0.891
KN-02-25	Significant mineralization not intersected			
KN-02-26	Hole lost before intersecting target			
KN-02-28	20.5-228.0	207.5	0.183	0.396
	318.0-521.0	203.0	0.155	0.371
KN-02-29	625.0-648.0	23.0	0.211	0.307
	719.0-768.0	49.0	0.362	0.485
KN-02-31	7.62-27.43	19.81	0.260	0.294
	144.8-325.9	181.1	Assays are pending	
KN-02-33	Assays are pending			
KN-02-35	Assays are pending			
KN-02-36	Assays are pending			
KN-02-37	Assays are pending			

	KN-02-38		Assays are pending			
	KN-02-39		Drilling is in progress			
	KN-02-42		Drilling is in progress			
Nugget	KN-02-23	118.6-175.0	56.4	0.198	0.451	
		432.0-494.0	62.0	0.134	0.550	
		542.0-596.0	54.0	0.186	0.374	
	KN-02-30	75.4-88.2	12.8	0.078	0.702	
	KN-02-34	0-14.33	14.3	Significant mineralization not intersected		
		14.3-816.0	801.7	Assays are pending		
	KN-02-40		Drilling is in progress			
Kemess East	KN-02-27		Significant mineralization not intersected			
	KN-02-32	127.6-143.12	15.5	0.056	1.168	
		254.6-469.4	214.8	Assays are pending		
	KN-02-41		Drilling is in progress			

KEMESS NORTH PROJECT
2002 Exploration Program Summary of Drilling Hole Locations

Location Hole No.	Easting (m)	Northing (m)	Elevation (m)	Azimuth	Dip	Length (m)
Kemess North						
KN-02-12B*	10282.240	16018.290	1794.380	340	-80	163.59
KN-02-17B**	10561.685	16095.934	1688.240	0	-90	165.39
KN-02-01	10458.930	16139.050	1699.140	360	-80	624.10
KN-02-02	10557.000	16377.650	1624.710	0	-90	224.64
KN-02-03	10460.780	16033.030	1707.690	360	-80	770.23
KN-02-04	10578.570	16289.420	1645.410	360	-75	450.90
KN-02-05	10356.230	16236.370	1736.820	360	-85	590.40
KN-02-06	10159.780	16341.220	1750.300	180	-85	602.59
KN-02-07	10461.190	15933.830	1724.970	360	-80	736.70
KN-02-08	10249.180	16367.610	1818.000	346	-80	423.67
KN-02-09	10358.300	16320.290	1736.580	360	-85	578.21
KN-02-10	10053.570	16264.580	1682.710	0	-90	502.01
KN-02-11	10157.510	16489.490	1784.890	0	-90	496.82
KN-02-12	10559.440	15989.110	1705.170	0	-90	688.54
KN-02-13	10360.000	16045.000	1740.000	360	-85	690.98
KN-02-14***	10061.900	15871.470	1692.080	0	-90	616.61
KN-02-15	9960.130	15904.610	1687.840	0	-90	626.94
KN-02-16****	10360.000	15840.000	1745.000	360	-75	803.84
KN-02-17	10062.930	15994.110	1683.080	0	-90	703.14
KN-02-18	10654.110	16067.110	1686.400	0	-90	736.70
KN-02-19	10364.550	16440.960	1729.900	360	-85	469.37
KN-02-20	10456.660	16361.900	1677.800	360	-75	458.70
KN-02-21	10069.650	16156.510	1678.020	0	-90	620.88
KN-02-22	10760.000	15980.000	1738.000	360	-85	721.46
KN-02-24	10551.958	16192.210	1679.128	0	-90	710.18
KN-02-25	10759.923	15976.200	1694.257	180	-75	764.13
KN-02-26	9858.307	16050.750	1672.376	0	-90	102.71
KN-02-28	9755.060	15761.200	1743.220	0	-90	623.93
KN-02-29	10360.000	15740.000	1770.000	0	-90	785.85

KN-02-31	9838.940	16223.120	1649.510	360	-70	325.85
KN-02-33	9960.680	16120.840	1663.650	0	-90	508.10
KN-02-35	9859.200	16132.860	1665.290	0	-90	577.60
KN-02-36	9929.730	16218.360	1653.040	0	-90	586.89
KN-02-37	10093.000	15158.000	1889.000	180	-70	491.46
KN-02-38	9860.000	15999.000	1679.000	0	-90	625.61
KN-02-39	10160.000	15880.000	1677.000	0	-90	in progress
KN-02-42	9760.000	16153.000	1672.000	360	-80	in progress

Nugget						
KN-02-23	8845.280	15091.100	1831.530	360	-75	1011.02
KN-02-30	8355.180	15596.850	1726.610	360	-70	450.19
KN-02-34	8332.290	15036.080	1755.710	360	-70	815.95
KN-02-40	8340.000	15314.000	1737.000	360	-70	in progress

Kemess East						
KN-02-27	11784.770	15486.650	1736.230	360	-70	473.30
KN-02-32	11011.600	15445.260	1852.070	180	-60	469.39
KN-02-41	11460.000	15760.000	1803.000	180	-70	in progress

* Re-bottomed hole KN-00-12

** Re-bottomed hole KN 01-17

*** Extra 196.90 metres drilled since August 7, 2002 New Release

All assays by ALS Chemex

All intervals calculated from the assays of individual samples taken approximately every two metres in the holes.

NOTE: To view the corresponding maps please click on the links listed below,

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