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IMPERIAL METALS CORP. [IPM-T] GIBRALTAR MINES LTD.

[GBM-V,T] 22,881,413 shs.

GIBRALTAR JOINT VENTURE FORMED - Pierre Lebel, president, reports Imperial Metais

Corp. has signed an option agreement with Gibraltar Mines Ltd. for the formation of a 50/50 joint venture to develop Imperial's wholly-owned

Mount Polley copper/gold deposit in central B.C.. 40 km east of the Gibraltar Mine at McLeese Lake and 60 miles east of Williams Lake. Formation of the joint venture will be preceeded by a 15-month option period during which Gibraltar will undertake an extensive due diligence evaluation to confirm tonnage, grade and metallurgy, as estimated by Wright Engineers Ltd. in its comprehensive feasibility study of June, 1990. The cost of this evaluation, if taken to completion, will exceed CDN \$1,500,000.

The parties hope to establish the feasibility of linking the proposed Mount Polley Mine to Gibraltar's McLeese Lake milling facilities by conveyor or other means of surface transport, allowing the milling of Mount Polley ore at McLeese Lake. The estimated rate of production would be 22,000 tons per day. The use of the McLeese Lake mill and tailings facilities and Gibraltar's mining equipment greatly enhances the economics of the proposed development by reducing capital and operating costs and cutting the project lead time. Should the linkup plan be viable, Imperial will contribute the Mount Polley ore body and Gibraltar will dedicate its physical plant and heavy mobile mining equipment to the joint venture. Additional costs associated with ore transportation from Mount Polley to the McLeese Lake concentrator, modifications to Gibraltar's milling and tailings facilities and on site facilities at Mount Polley will be paid for by the joint venture.

Geological reserves at Mount Polley contain 2,500,000 ounces of gold and 1.3 billion pounds of copper in 214,000,000 tons, grading 0.26% copper and 0.01 oz.gold/ton. The initial recoverable reserves as reported in the Wright study are: 711,000 ounces of gold and 322 million pounds of copper in 54,000,000 tons grading 0.38% copper and 0.016 oz.gold/ton, with excellent opportunities for further expansion. Preliminary evaluation work by Imperial and Gibraltar suggests the project would be profitable with rapid payback of new capital expenditures. (SEE GCNL NO.34, 18Feb94, P.3 FOR OTHER IMPERIAL METALS NEWS)

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