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WESTERN CANADIAN INVESTMENTS

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NO. 227 (1994) NOVEMBER 28, 1994 NO. 227 (1994) NOVEMBER 28, 1994

NINE MONTHS ENDED SEPTEMBER	30, 1994	1993
REVENUE \$ 1	15,700,000	\$ 6,800,000
NET PROFIT (LOSS)	(490, 493)	1,822,824
BARNINGS (LOSS) PER SHARE	(3¢)	18¢

NORTH AMERICAN METALS CORP.

[NAM-V] 1	4,509,055 SHS.
NINE MONTHS ENDED SEPTEMBE	<u>R 30, 1994 1993</u>
REVENUE \$	15,700,000 \$ 19,200,000
NET PROFIT (LOSS)	(2,381,641) 1,229,776
EARNINGS (LOSS) PER SHARE	(16¢) 9¢

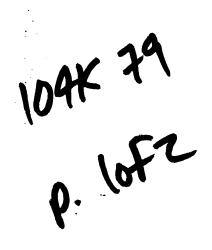
MINING POSTPONED UNTIL 1995 - Peter Tredger, vice president, finance, reports North

American Metals Corp. suffered a number of setbacks towards the end of 1994, culminating in a postponement of mining operations until 1995. Of the net loss for the nine months noted above, \$1,800,000 was due to the effect of rising gold prices on the value of forward gold sales contracts with the company's parent, Wheaton River Minerals Ltd., which owns 81% of North American Metals. Gold production from the 100%-owned Golden Bear Mine 160 km south of Atlin northwest B.C. was 29,726 ounces, recovered from 88,920 tonnes of ore grading 11.5 grams gold/tonne.

The change in fortunes for North American Metals was largely the result of lower than expected mining grades during the last months of the Main Bear deposit, higher than expected operating costs due to poor ground conditions and expensive termination requirements as the workforce was reduced from a peak of 140 down to 37 at this writing. The poor mining grades in the Main Bear deposit, originally forecast at 15 grams gold/tonne, prompted the decision to cease production earlier than originally planned.

An attempt to replace the Main Bear production by fast-tracking the Kodiak heap leach project was unsuccessful due to weather constraints. The permits for the project were received August 8, allowing less than three months for construction before freezeup. Re-engineering of certain aspects of the mine and heavy rains prevented safe emplacement of the heap leach pad liner on schedule. The rain also caused a flood on September 21, which has been listed as a one-in-500-year event. The flood caused damage to bridges, roads and the mine's airstrip, at an estimated cost in excess of \$1,000,000. A large portion of this was covered by insurance. Construction of the Kodiak heap leach project is now slated to resume in June 1995, with production expected by September.

Despite these setbacks, the future for North American Metals remains promising. The company's management recognized in 1993 that in order to survive, reserves on the property had to be increased. An aggressive exploration program combined with the introduction of heap leaching to the property has increased the mine life to five years, including the Kodiak A, B and C deposits and the Low Grade Stockpile. The 1994 exploration program also resulted in a new discovery. Diamond drilling to the north of the Kodiak deposits



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> resulted in the discovery of another heap leachable deposit, the Ursa. While further drilling must be conducted to estimate reserves, six holes out of a 12-hole program returned economic gold values. The deepest hole, which was the last drilled during the program, returned a cut grade of 12.2 grams gold/tonne across a true width of 27.2 metres. This is the best hole ever drilled on the property.

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The decline ramp to the Grizzly zone, 400 metres below the Main Bear deposit, has advanced to 700 metres. The target advance of 900 metres should be reached near year-end. A second potential deposit, the Cub, was encountered during the program. Underground drilling to delineate both deposits begins at the end of November and will continue until the end of February. The successful development of the Grizzly will allow North American Metals to operate a second mine from the Golden Bear site.

During the past year, North American has added an additional 318,000 ounces to be mineral inventory at Golden Bear, more than was mined from the property during the past five years. Exploration at the Grizzly, Cub and Ursa deposits has the potential to more than double the inventory in the coming months. **REPADRE** <u>CAPITAL CORP.</u> [RPD-V, T] holds a 2% NSR for the life of the mine. (SEE GCNL NO.192, Oct.6/94, P.1 FOR PREVIOUS PROJECT INFORMATION)

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