

Northgate Minerals Intersects Two Major Intervals in the YD West Zone at Young-Davidson

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- Hole YD11-242 Intersects 5.30 g/t gold over 44.1 m and
- Hole YD11-240A Intersects 2.67 g/t gold over 193.0 m

VANCOUVER, Aug. 25, 2011 [/CNW/](#) - [Northgate Minerals Corporation](#) (TSX: NGX) (NYSE Amex: NXG) is pleased to report that Hole YD11-242 in the YD West zone intersected 5.30 grams per tonne ("g/t") gold over 44.1 metres (m) (estimated true thickness is 30.0 m), including 6.49 g/t over 27.5 m. Hole YD11-240A, an oblique hole drilled at an approximate 45°angle to the zone, returned 2.67 g/t over 193.0 m (estimated true thickness is 48.3 m). The YD West zone is located just west of the currently known 2.8 million ounce reserve¹ at Young-Davidson in northern Ontario. Production of the Young-Davidson mine is scheduled to commence in 2012.

The YD West zone continues to expand since Discovery Hole YD10-198 intersected 3.46 g/t over 79.5 m last year. Additional intersections have returned some of the highest-grade intervals ever drilled on the property, including Hole YD11-234B, which returned 4.31 g/t gold over 79.6 m (see press release dated June 7, 2011). The most recent intervals, YD11-242 and 240A, confirm the highly prospective YD West zone hosting a thick auriferous horizon.

Holes YD11-242 and 240A Highlights

- Hole YD11-242 returned 5.30 g/t gold over 44.1 m (estimated 30.0 m true thickness).
- - The hole contains a higher grade section of 6.49 g/t over 27.5 m.
- - The hole is located about 65 m below and 50 m east of Hole YD11-234B.
- Hole YD11-240A, an oblique hole, returned 2.67 g/t gold over 193.0 m.
- - The hole contains two higher grade sections of 4.32 g/t over 9.0 m and 5.08 g/t over 6.8 m.
- - The hole includes a 21 m section of a post-mineral diabase dyke. The entire intersection (with the dyke removed) grades 2.99 g/t gold over 172.0 m.
- - This new intersection is oblique to the zone as the hole was designed to test both the attitude of the post mineral dykes and the continuity of the zone between the dykes. The intersection suggests the zone is continuous for at least 190 m down dip.
- Holes YD11-240A and YD11-242 are both very significant intersections and will be utilized to perform a resource estimation in the fall. These reported holes also demonstrate the continuity of the YD West zone, which remains open down dip and to the west.
- - Two diamond drills continue to explore in this area. An additional underground exploration drill has been mobilized to the property to test below the UBZ zone, located both below and east of current reserves.

"With the most recent drill results, we are confident the YD West zone will add significant resources to the property, as many of the holes have returned higher than average reserve grade" commented Richard Hall, President and CEO of Northgate. "As production from the Young-Davidson mine is scheduled to commence in 2012, we look forward to completing a resource estimation of this new zone, which could increase the mine's average annual production or extend the initial 15-year mine-life."

Diamond Drill Program

The purpose of the 2011 diamond drill program on the west flank of the Young-Davidson deposit is to

explore for new resources west of a major north-south trending diabase dyke that appeared to have truncated and displaced the zone. Northgate resolved the fault displacement with Discovery Hole YD10-198. To date, nine holes have intersected the YD West zone and all but one has returned ore-grade intersections (see Figures 1 & 2 and Tables 1 & 2).

In order to perform a geologically accurate resource estimation, Northgate drilled a perpendicular (oblique) hole, YD11-240A, relative to the exploration holes in the zone to resolve the location and correlation of the north-south trending post-mineral diabase dyke. The hole traversed the post-mineral dyke approximately midway through the YD West zone. The geological information from this hole will be very useful in modeling both the dykes and the zone itself.

Hole YD11-242 was completed in an area where we required a pierce point in the zone between a thick intersection in YD11-234B and hole YD11-234A (1.22 g/t over 13.4 m), which appeared to have a significant portion of mineralization replaced by a post-mineral dyke. Hole YD11-242 intercepted mineralization midway between 234B and 234A and returned 5.30 g/t gold over 44.1 m. This hole confirms the continuity of the YD West zone and suggests that a significant portion of mineralization in hole 234A was indeed replaced by a post-mineral dyke.

The new YD West intersections are considered significant and confirm the continuity of the zone. The YD West zone has excellent potential to add significant gold resources to the project. Two diamond drills will continue to focus in this area until the end of the year.

Overview of Young-Davidson Exploration Area

Gold mineralization on the Young-Davidson property is present primarily in an intrusive syenite host rock dipping at approximately 70 degrees to the south. Figure 1 illustrates a longitudinal view of the YD West zone with current reserves illustrated in dark red to the east.

Figure 1 - YD West Zone-Longitudinal Section

<http://www.northgateminerals.com/Theme/Northgate/files/Releases/2011/YDFig1-Aug2011.jpg>

Figure 2 - 9300m Level Plan

<http://www.northgateminerals.com/Theme/Northgate/files/Releases/2011/YDFig2-Aug2011.jpg>

Figure 2 presents a level plan (horizontal slice) of the property's geology immediately adjacent to the main Young-Davidson reserves. The currently defined reserves terminate against the brown diabase dyke that was the western limit of the reserve. The holes shown on the level plan are projected either 75 m up dip or 225 m down dip to the 9300 m level and clearly demonstrate that the younger diabase dyke occupies a fault with an apparent offset of 50 m to 100 m to the north on the western side of the dyke. The actual displacement on the fault is to the north, downwards or a combination of the two.

Table 1: Assay Results from YD West Zone

Hole ID	From (m)	To (m)	Interval (m)	True Thickness (m)	Gold Uncut (g/t)	Gold Cut 20 g/t
YD11-242	1239.0	1283.1	44.1	30.0	5.30	4.80
	1248.5	1276.0	27.5	18.7	6.49	5.69
YD11-240A	1135.0	1328.0	193.00	48.3	2.67	2.67
incl	1135.0	1256.2	121.20	30.3	2.79	2.79
incl	1159.0	1195.0	36.00	9.0	4.32	4.32
incl	1277.2	1328.0	50.80	12.7	3.48	3.48
incl	1277.2	1304.5	27.30	6.8	5.08	5.08

Table 2: Previous Assay Results from YD West Zone

Hole ID	From (m)	To (m)	Interval (m)	True Thickness (m)	Gold Uncut (g/t)	Gold Cut 20 g/t
YD11-234B	1064.8	1144.4	79.60	55.0	4.31	4.21
incl	1094.5	1144.4	49.90	34.4	5.66	5.51
incl	1128.0	1142.9	14.90	10.3	10.62	10.10
YD11-234A	1202.6	1221.8	19.20	13.4	1.22	1.22
YD11-234	1216.9	1234.7	17.80	9.5	4.37	4.37
incl	1217.8	1226.1	8.30	4.4	6.82	6.82
YD10-198	1258.0	1337.5	79.5	53.5	3.46	3.46
YD10-198A	1333.7	1355.0	20.20	14.2	6.31	5.42
YD10-198B	1353.5	1364.4	10.9	7.7	5.43	5.43
YD10-226A	1097.3	1134.0	36.7	25.3	0.74	0.74
	1115.1	1125.5	10.4	7.2	1.19	1.19
YD11-239	Target zone occupied by diabase dyke ('dyked out')					

Quality Control - Analyses and Sample Location

Details of quality assurance/quality control procedures for sample analysis and drill hole survey methodology are reported in detail in the Canadian National Instrument 43-101 Standards of Disclosure for Mineral Projects ('NI 43-101') compliant Technical Report filed on SEDAR (www.sedar.com) on August 21, 2009.

Qualified Persons

The program design, implementation, quality assurance/quality control and interpretation of the results are under the control of Northgate's geological staff, which includes a number of individuals who are qualified persons as defined under NI 43-101. Carl Edmunds, PGeo, Northgate's Exploration Manager, is responsible for the overall supervision of the program.

Note to Investors:

The terms "Qualified Person", "Mineral Reserve", "Proven Mineral Reserve", "Probable Mineral Reserve",

"Mineral Resource", "Measured Mineral Resource", "Indicated Mineral Resource", and "Inferred Mineral Resource" used in this news release are defined in accordance with NI 43-101.

Northgate Minerals Corporation is a gold and copper producer with mining operations, development projects and exploration properties in Canada and Australia. Our vision is to be the leading intermediate gold producer by identifying, acquiring, developing and operating profitable, long-life mining properties.

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1 See press release dated January 25, 2010.

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