

Equinox Gold Announces Grant of Stock Options and RSUs

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VANCOUVER, British Columbia, Jan. 12, 2018 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- [Equinox Gold Corp.](#) (TSX-V:EQX) (OTC:LWLCF) ("Equinox Gold" or the "Company") announces that pursuant to the Company's stock option plan and the restricted share unit plan ("RSUs") it has granted 2,140,000 incentive stock options and 3,046,125 RSUs, including 110,500 RSUs with performance vesting conditions ("pRSUs"), to certain directors, officers and employees that are exercisable and issuable for up to 5,186,125 common shares in the Company. The stock options are exercisable at C\$1.15 per share, have expiration dates that range between June 30, 2022 and January 9, 2023, and have various vesting terms that range between June 30, 2018 and December 30, 2020. The RSUs vest between June 30, 2018 and December 30, 2019. Fifty percent of the pRSUs will vest on the announcement of first gold pour at the Company's Aurizona Gold Mine ("Aurizona") in Brazil and fifty percent will vest on the announcement of commercial production at Aurizona.

The Company has granted incentive stock options to First Globe Capital International Inc. ("First Globe") to purchase up to 100,000 common shares of the Company until January 9, 2023 at an exercise price of C\$1.15 per share. First Globe is based out of Vancouver, British Columbia, and is owned by Anish Sunderji. First Globe will provide institutional marketing and advisory services to Equinox Gold.

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About Equinox Gold

Equinox Gold is a Canadian mining company with a multi-million-ounce gold resource base, near-term and growing gold production from two past-producing mines in Brazil and California, and a long-term growth platform with a diverse portfolio of gold and copper assets in North and South America. Construction is underway at the Company's Aurizona project in Brazil with the objective of pouring gold by year-end 2018, and a prefeasibility study is underway at the Company's Castle Mountain project in California with the objective of restarting production. Further information about Equinox Gold's current portfolio of assets and long-term growth strategy is available at www.equinoxgold.com or by email at ir@equinoxgold.com.

Cautionary Notes and Forward-Looking Statements

Neither the TSX Venture Exchange nor its Regulation Services Provider (as such term is defined in the policies of the TSX Venture Exchange) accepts responsibility for the adequacy or accuracy of this release.

This document contains certain forward-looking information and forward-looking statements within the meaning of applicable securities legislation (collectively "forward-looking statements"). The use of the words "will", "expected", "objective", "to purchase", "underway", and similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements contained in this news release include, but are not limited to, statements regarding construction activities underway at Aurizona, anticipated production from the Aurizona Gold Mine and Castle Mountain Gold Mine, the Castle Mountain prefeasibility study, and the growth potential of the Company. Although the Company believes that the expectations reflected in such forward-looking

statements and/or information are reasonable, undue reliance should not be placed on forward-looking statements since the Company can give no assurance that such expectations will prove to be correct. These statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that may cause actual results or events to differ materially from those anticipated in such forward-looking statements, including the risks, uncertainties and other factors identified in the Company's periodic filings with Canadian securities regulators, and assumptions made with regard to the Company's ability to complete construction at Aurizona and the timing to achieve production; the Company's ability to complete construction within the approved budget; the Company's ability to complete the Castle Mountain prefeasibility study and the results of the study; the expectation that options and RSUs will be exercised which will result in additional shares being issued, and the Company's ability to achieve its expected growth and production potential. Furthermore, the forward-looking statements contained in this news release are made as at the date of this news release and the Company does not undertake any obligations to publicly update and/or revise any of the included forward-looking statements, whether as a result of additional information, future events and/or otherwise, except as may be required by applicable securities laws.

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