

Japan Gold Reports High-Grade Gold in Grab Samples from the Kitano-o Gold District, Ikutahara Project, North Hokkaido, Japan

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VANCOUVER, May 7, 2018 /CNW/ - Japan Gold Corp. (TSX-V: JG) (OTCQB: JGLDF) ("Japan Gold" or the "Company") reports results of surface prospecting and mapping over the historic Kitano-o Gold District. The Kitano-o Gold District is located on the Company's 19,114 hectare Ikutahara Project in North Hokkaido, Japan, Figure 1. Results highlight the presence of high-grade mineralization in grab samples taken from historic mine dumps and workings.

The Kitano-o Gold District includes the historic Kitano-o, Ikutahara, Showa mines and the Sakinzawa workings. Japan Gold has focused on geological and alteration mapping and geochemical sampling to develop an understanding of the epithermal gold-vein mineralization. The company has designed an aggressive scout drilling program to test these targets this season.

Rock Sample Results Summary

Assay results were received for 270 selective grab and chip samples collected from mine dumps, workings and outcrops in the Kitano-o Gold District. Sample locations and significant gold results (>1 g/t Au) are presented in Figure 2 and Table 1.

Kitano-o Mine: One mine dump sample from the western area of the Kitano-o mine workings gave a high gold result of 8.59 g/t Au. Other mine dump and outcrop samples returned gold results ranging from 1.01 to 8.59 g/t Au, (refer to Table 1). Corresponding silver results are generally low and range from 1.16 to 13.2 g/t Ag.

Ikutahara Mine: Two mine dump samples from the Ikutahara workings returned high gold results of 37.3 g/t Au and 35.3 g/t Au. Other mine dump samples returned gold results ranging from 2.21 to 9.03 g/t Au. Corresponding silver results are generally low and range from 2.71 to 35.5 g/t Ag.

Showa Mine: Five mine dump samples from the Showa workings returned high gold results of 93.3 g/t Au, 36.4 g/t Au, 35.3 g/t Au and 17.6 g/t Au. These samples contain visible electrum/free gold disseminated in thin comb quartz veins, (refer to Figures 3 and 4). Nine other samples returned gold results ranging from 1.31 to 6.39 g/t Au. Corresponding silver results are generally low and range from 1.6 to 22.9 g/t Ag.

Sakinzawa Workings: Three outcrop samples of quartz stockworked rhyolite in the Sakinzawa creek returned gold results of 17.2 g/t Au, (refer to Figure 5), supporting a reconnaissance outcrop sample of 43.8 g/t collected in 2013. Corresponding silver results are generally low and range from 2.56 to 15.85 g/t Ag.

Geological mapping completed by the Company over the Kitano-o Gold District has confirmed the presence of a significant epithermal system hosted in Late Miocene rhyolitic volcanics and associated intrusions. The presence of widespread sinter and bedded sinter outcrops at Kitano-o, (refer to Figures 2 and 6) define the paleo-surface during gold deposition and indicate the preserved nature of the epithermal mineralisation in the district.

Rock chip results reflect gold and silver grades from historic mine records and confirm the presence of high-grade mineralization in the Kitano-o Gold District. The presence of high-grade material in mine dumps is also supportive of mineralization being open at the time of deposition.

John Proust, Chairman and CEO of Japan Gold, stated: "The significance of newly identified sinter outcrops at Kitano-o, along with historically mined eluvial gold deposits and sub-sinter quartz veins along with confirmatory high-grade samples reported here, underscore the compelling nature of these prospects and the potential to discover additional mineralization beneath and around the Kitano-o Gold District."

extensive historic workings. A drilling program to test the Kitano-o Gold District has been prepared in anticipation of approval granted and subsequent approvals for drilling this year."

Historic Kitano-o Gold District

The historic Kitano-o Gold District consists of four known historic eluvial and hard rock gold mines and workings; Kitano-o and Sakinzawa over an approximate 6 kilometre by 2.5 kilometre area. The district is highlighted by an extensive co-incident gold-arsenic-antimony mercury anomaly in stream sediment samples over the area.

Historic production from the Kitano-o mine (96,540 ounces at a grade of 5.9 g/t)⁷ was largely from rich residual surface eluvium (gold-bearing eluvium). Lesser gold production is reported from selective hard rock mining of narrow sub-sinter quartz veins and stockworks hosted in extensively altered rhyolitic volcanoclastics, flow-domes, lake sediments and silica sinter deposits. Records sourced for the Ikutahara and Showa mines are include the following:

Historic Gold and Silver Production Records for the Ikutahara and Showa Mines¹.

Mine	Tonnes	Gold g/t	Silver g/t	Operating Years	Source
Ikutahara	96,812	5.2	40.6	1934-1943	MMAJ, 1990
	216	35.6	Not recorded	1960-1961	MMAJ, 1990
Showa	12,323	16.8	7.8	1934-1943	MMAJ, 1990

In the late 1980's MMAJ (Metals Mining Agency of Japan) conducted exploration over the Kitano-o Gold District and surrounding area as part of a metallogenic study of the region. Their work included geological mapping, gravity and CSAMT geophysical surveys, regional soil geochemical survey, petrological studies, age dating and culminated in the drilling of two vertical diamond core geophysical targets.

The MMAJ work defined a large shallowly eroded epithermal system encompassing the Kitano-o Gold District, documenting the relationship between gold mineralization and rhyolite intrusions and provided valuable information on the depth to basement (100 m).

The hard rock mine workings at Ikutahara and Showa, at the southern end of the Kitano-o Gold District, are defined by tunnels and large mine dumps distributed along a north-northwest trending ridgeline.

The mine workings at Kitano-o are represented by numerous shallow diggings, pits, sluicing benches, and collapsed tunnels along a 2.5 kilometre by 0.4 kilometre east-west alignment of altered conical hills and curve-linear ridges.

Historic reports and papers written on the Kitano-o mine workings^{1,2,3} indicate that free gold was won from rich eluvial pits described as a yellow-brown clay-sand-boulder soil overburden ("Dosha-ko" ore). The auriferous eluvium averaged about 5 g/t Au (max. 15 m thick) with a reported gold grade of about 5 g/t Au (max. 40 g/t Au) in the most productive areas. The dosha pits were formed by the disintegration and oxidation of the underlying hydrothermally altered mineralized bedrock under free-surface cold-climate conditions ("cryogenic weathering")².

Multiple narrow gold-quartz veins (>130) were reportedly worked beneath and surrounding the auriferous eluvium, however the depth of mining of the veins is sparse. The veins varied in width from <1 to 30 cm and thicker mineralised veins were encountered. Strike-lengths varied from several metres to several 10's of metres and veins longer than 100 metres were reported. Several types of mineralised epithermal veins were reported in the district; banded quartz-chalcedony-adularia veins (F), crystalline quartz veins, clay-rich veins and a late-stage porcellaneous clay veins^{1, 2}.

The Sakinzawa workings are located at the northern end of the Kitano-o Gold District. Alluvial and colluvial gold was won

Sakinzawa creek and its broad floodplain during the 1930's, however, there are no production records. Small hard rock quartz breccia and stockworks have also been found along Sakinzawa creek and on the western flank of Maruyama peak, a prominent rhyolite flow-dome landform.

MMAJ and the NICAM Joint Venture (Nissho Iwai Corp/Austpac/MIM) carried out exploration work on Sakinzawa creek in the 1990's. This work included geological mapping, ground geophysics (CSAMT), trenching, RC drilling and one diamond drill hole (MMAJ).

Trenching in Sakinzawa creek exposed a 100m x 300m zone of silicified, brecciated and quartz veined mudstones and sandstones beneath shallow colluvium and returned highly encouraging channel-chip results including 9 m at 24 g/t gold and samples ranging from 15 to 109 g/t Au⁴.

The 300 m vertical diamond hole (2MAHB4) drilled by MMAJ on Maruyama ridge intersected silicified mudstone-sandstone to 140 m depth containing minor narrow quartz veins assaying up to 2.3 g/t Au¹. This is a useful stratigraphic hole but a low grade target.

Ikutahara Project Overview

The Ikutahara Project comprises 56 prospecting rights application blocks covering an area of 19,114 hectares underlain by Miocene-Pliocene age volcano-sedimentary rocks and older meta-sedimentary basement rocks.

Multiple gold-silver and mercury prospects, including 17 documented historic mines and workings, are located within the project area. The majority comprise epithermal veins, with other hot spring related features such as hydrothermal breccias and silica sinters.

The prospects were discovered and intermittently mined between 1910 and 1943. Gold mining in Japan was suspended in 1943 by government regulation aimed at focusing resources to more strategic commodities during World War II. Many of the historic mines were active in the area stopped in ore and never reopened. The project area has seen only minor exploration since then.

References

¹ Metal Mining Agency of Japan, March 1990, Geological Survey Report for Fiscal Year 1989, Northern Hokkaido Area, Gold Deposits Overview.

² Watanabe, M (1940). Showa – Kitano-oh type gold deposits, J. Japan, Assoc. Min. Petr. Econ. Geol. 23: pp. 23-30.

³ Maeda, H. (1996). Relationship between volcanic activity and epithermal gold-silver mineralization: Example from Kitami vicinity in Kitami metallogenic province, Hokkaido, Japan, Resource Geology 46 (5): pp. 279-285.

⁴ Austpac Gold NL company reports 1992-1993

⁵ Watanabe, Y (1996). Genesis of Vein-hosting Fractures in the Kitami Region, Hokkaido, Japan, Resource Geology, 46 (5): pp. 289-300.

⁶ Gold Mines in Japan, The Mining & Materials Processing Institute of Japan, 1990.

⁷ Garwin, Hall, Watanabe, 2005. Tectonic Setting, Geology, and Gold and Copper Mineralization in Cenozoic Magmatic Belts of Asia and the West Pacific, Economic Geology 100th Anniversary Volume, pp. 891–930.

Qualified Person

The technical information in this news release has been reviewed by Japan Gold's President & Chief Operating Officer, Dr. Tetsuo Iwano, PhD, FAusIMM, who is a Qualified Person as defined by National Instrument 43-101.

Sampling

The samples reported herewith represent selected grab samples collected from historic mine dumps or selected chip samples collected from rock exposures found in historic mine adits and rock outcrops found in creeks. The selected grab samples reported in this announcement are believed to originate from the underlying bedrock. Grab samples are selected samples and are not necessarily representative of the mineralization hosted on the property. Rock sample preparation and assaying were done by ALS Chemex, Guangzhou, China. Gold was analyzed by 50-charge Fire Assay and AAS finish. 48 multielement analysis including silver were done by four-acid digest and ICP-AES/MS determination.

The laboratory inserts its own blank, standards & sub-split pulp duplicates for Quality Control and reports these results accordingly. Results fall within acceptable levels of accuracy and precision.

Twelve pulps from a selection of high-grade and low-grade gold results were sent to ALS Chemex, Townsville, Australia for external gold check analyses. The external gold results repeat well and show a strong correlation (>0.9) with the original gold results.

On behalf of the Board of Japan Gold Corp.

"John Proust"

Chairman & CEO

About Japan Gold Corp.

[Japan Gold Corp.](http://www.japangold.com) is a Canadian mineral exploration company focused solely on gold and copper-gold exploration in Japan. The Company holds 32 prospecting rights and 178 prospecting rights applications accepted in Japan for a combined area of 69,505 hectares (695 square-kilometres) over 17 separate projects. These prospecting rights and applications cover areas with known gold occurrences and a history of mining, and are prospective for both high-grade epithermal gold mineralization and gold-bearing lithocaps, which could indicate the presence of porphyry mineralization. Japan Gold's leadership team has decades of resource industry and business experience, and the Company has recruited geologists and technical advisors with experience exploring and operating in Japan. The Company completed an initial scout diamond drilling program on a high-grade epithermal gold vein target at Akebono Prospect in late November 2017. More information is available at www.japangold.com or by email at info@japangold.com.

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Table 1: Ikutahara Project: Kitano-o Gold District Significant Rock Chip Results (>1 g/t Au)

Prospect	Sample No.	Sample Type	Au g/t	Ag g/t	Hg ppm	As ppm	Sb ppm	Se ppm	Te ppm	Tl ppm	Cu ppm	Pb ppm
Ikutahara	SAM01893	Dump	37.3	35.5	2.82	28.9	16.6	2	0.26	2.99	3.6	7.2
Ikutahara	SAM02216	Dump	35.3	26.3	4.37	74.2	23.9	2	0.41	3.3	6.5	6.5
Ikutahara	SAM01889	Dump	9.03	24.4	8.41	30	40.1	4	0.11	0.44	2.5	5.7
Ikutahara	SAM01888	Dump	7.47	3.87	2.76	60.2	37.3	1	0.19	0.32	3	7.5
Ikutahara	JG0011	Outcrop/Adit	6.08	6.67	tba	48.7	13.75	<1	0.12	0.41	4	14.5
Ikutahara	SAM01897	Dump	3.99	7.41	8.39	855	27.4	5	<0.05	0.31	23.4	56.9
Ikutahara	SAM01886	Dump	2.59	2.71	2.04	24.5	7	1	0.12	0.88	3	8.6
Ikutahara	SAM01891	Float	2.46	7.24	3.4	71.3	20.4	2	0.07	0.31	2.9	4.6
Ikutahara	SAM02006	Float	2.45	5.52	0.584	14.6	13.9	<1	<0.05	0.29	0.7	0.7
Ikutahara	SAM01892	Float	2.21	5.97	4.77	40.6	14.5	<1	<0.05	2.97	7.5	8.6
Ikutahara	JG0017	Outcrop	1.04	2.61	4.16	593	21	2	<0.05	0.08	17.2	25.1
Showa	SAM01867	Dump	93.3	17.4	5.74	2	21.4	<1	<0.05	<0.02	0.5	9.7
Showa	SAM01866	Dump	36.4	11.6	4.75	1.2	12.45	1	<0.05	<0.02	0.5	18.4
Showa	SAM01894	Dump	19.35	8.49	3.57	1.7	11.05	1	<0.05	<0.02	0.9	10.9
Showa	SAM01858	Dump	18.2	19.3	7.14	1.1	21.4	<1	<0.05	0.02	0.5	5.4
Showa	SAM01842	Dump	17.6	22.9	15.43	<0.2	16.35	1	<0.05	0.02	0.9	3.2
Showa	SAM01857	Dump	6.39	11.1	13.07	<0.2	16.65	4	<0.05	0.02	0.6	12.9
Showa	JG0081	Outcrop/Adit	5.26	3.32	tba	7.7	18	3	0.12	0.04	0.6	21.4
Showa	SAM02210	Outcrop/Adit	4.43	1.99	2.11	1.7	11.95	0.5	0.05	0.03	0.3	19.3
Showa	SAM02211	Outcrop/Adit	3.05	1.6	2.17	1.9	12.4	0.5	0.05	0.03	0.7	15.7
Showa	SAM01856	Dump	2.74	6.13	14.24	<0.2	9.58	1	<0.05	0.03	0.7	13.4
Showa	SAM01865	Outcrop	2.7	7.11	12.41	2.1	14.8	1	<0.05	<0.02	0.7	14
Showa	SAM01861	Float	1.76	2.37	0.883	0.5	7.79	<1	<0.05	0.02	0.5	6.8
Showa	SAM01860	Float	1.63	11.4	61.2	<0.2	12.35	17	<0.05	0.02	0.6	5.3
Showa	SAM02209	Outcrop/Adit	1.47	1.73	22.7	8.6	24.4	3	0.2	0.04	3.8	33.2
Showa	JG0080	Outcrop	1.39	0.41	2.31	0.8	8.51	<1	<0.05	<0.02	0.2	54.2
Showa	SAM02189	Dump	1.31	13.8	11.1	73.1	27.6	2	0.23	0.17	8.7	6.8
Showa	JG0079	Outcrop	1.21	3.09	2.76	2	14.8	1	<0.05	0.02	0.4	15.6
Kitano-o												

JG0069

Dump

54.4

6.99

tba

694

3

10.3

0.02

26.4

Kitano-o	SAM02155	Dump	8.59	3.45	0.393	314	14.35	1	0.05	1.21	8.4	2.8
Kitano-o	SAM02115	Outcrop/Bench	5.78	13.2	0.096	78.5	9.12	1	<0.05	1.29	2.3	19.8
Kitano-o	JG0077	Dump	3.09	28.7	0.992	51.9	15.95	1	0.08	1.63	5.8	12.5
Kitano-o	SAM02175	Dump	3.02	3.13	2.91	890	60.5	5	5.06	0.04	12.4	24
Kitano-o	JG0078	Outcrop	1.74	4.15	2.05	47.2	20.3	<1	3.26	3.45	1.8	5.2
Kitano-o	SAM02117	Dump	1.6	4.78	10.5	3	15.5	1	<0.05	0.07	0.9	12.1
Kitano-o	SAM02120	Dump	1.29	1.16	2.57	29.7	35	<1	<0.05	0.04	1.3	4.9
Kitano-o	SAM02156	Dump	1.27	0.62	0.292	97.6	8.91	1	0.05	0.55	2.5	2.2
Kitano-o	SAM02171	Outcrop/Adit	1.22	1.96	0.574	88.7	15.55	2	<0.05	1.79	3.3	11.4
Kitano-o	JG0018	Outcrop	1.17	1.27	0.191	60.4	17.15	1	0.1	2.57	4.7	12.9
Kitano-o	JG0064	Outcrop	1.03	8.21	5.19	347	36.3	2	<0.05	1.7	6.5	34.4
Kitano-o	SAM02149	Dump	1.01	7.86	2.89	139.5	43.2	2	3.33	0.16	4.9	17
Sakinzawa	50004	Outcrop	43.8	27.2	0	282	19	0	0	10	3	7
Sakinzawa	SAM02069	Outcrop/Creek	17.2	15.9	0.231	452	20	3	<0.05	7.84	7.4	9.5
Sakinzawa	SAM02058	Outcrop/Creek	4.34	2.56	0.067	43.7	136	1	<0.05	2.72	2.8	7.4
Sakinzawa	50001	Outcrop	1.53	6.7	0	356	35	0	0	10	3	4
SOURCE	Japan Gold Corp.											
Sakinzawa	SAM02071	Outcrop/Creek	1.34	3.24	0.049	116.5	17	2	<0.05	7.82	2	3.7
Sakinzawa	50007	Outcrop	1.22	2.8	0	258	24	0	0	10	3	7
Sakinzawa	50003	Outcrop	1.09	3.1	0	278	17	0	0	10	3	7

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