

# **Copper Mountain Announces New Integrated Mine Plan, Increases Copper and Gold Annual Production, Extends Mine Life and Lowers Cash Costs**

25.02.2019 | [CNW](#)

VANCOUVER, Feb. 25, 2019 - Copper Mountain Mining Corporation ("Copper Mountain" or the "Company") is pleased to announce a new integrated life of mine production plan ("Integrated Production Plan" or "Plan") for its Copper Mountain Mine located in southern British Columbia. The Integrated Production Plan includes a modest expansion of the existing Copper Mountain Mine ("CMM") mill to 45,000 tonnes per day (tpd) and integrates production from New Ingerbelle ("New Ingerbelle").

The results include a 102% increase in Mineral Reserves, a 27% increase in average annual copper equivalent production of 116 million pounds (over the first ten years), a 12-year extension in mine life to 26 years and a decrease in C1 cash costs to US\$1.15 per pound produced, when compared to the previous CMM production plan included in the Company's 2018 NI 43-101 Technical Report for the Copper Mountain Mine, filed in November 2018.

The Integrated Production Plan outlines a phased approach to the investments in the mill expansion and New Ingerbelle development. The first phase would be the plant expansion, which requires the installation of a third ball mill. The plant expansion could be completed as early as the first quarter of 2020 and is forecasted to cost approximately US\$25 million. The second phase would be for the development of New Ingerbelle, which requires capital of about US\$23 million. The after-tax NPV (8%) of the Integrated Production Plan for the Copper Mountain Mine, including both growth projects, is approximately US\$619 million. All metrics are on a 100% basis. All Dollars are in U.S. Dollars.

"The new Integrated Production Plan completely transforms the Copper Mountain operations," states Gil Clausen, Copper Mountain's President and CEO. "For minimal capital and minimal risk, we have the potential to realize significant value. We expect to increase our annual production, double total life of mine production, extend the mine life and decrease unit costs. Our growth projects build upon an already solid operating base allowing us the potential to increase and advance near term production. Over the next ten years the project has no negative cash flow years, and the Company is actively reviewing the replacement of existing debt packages that would allow for significant cash to be available from cash flows that would enhance overall value to the Company."

Copper Mountain has filed a NI 43-101 Technical Report for the Copper Mountain Mine ("Technical Report") containing the Integrated Production Plan and Mineral Reserve and Mineral Resource estimate on SEDAR ([www.sedar.com](http://www.sedar.com)).

## Highlights

Highlights from the Integrated Production Plan, which includes an expansion of the existing mill to 45,000 tpd and the inclusion of New Ingerbelle, are provided below.

	2019 Integrated Production Plan
After-tax NPV (8%)(1)	US\$619M
Total Initial CAPEX (1)	US\$48M
Total Copper Equivalent (CuEq) Production (1)	2,344 Mlbs
Total Copper Production	1,895 Mlbs
Total Gold Production	982 koz
Annual CuEq Production (1,2,3)	116 Mlbs
Annual Copper Production(2)	93 Mlbs
Annual Gold Production(2)	49 koz
Average Copper Recovery	85.5%
Mine Life	26 years
Average C1 Cash Costs, net of by-product credits (1)	

US\$1.87/lb



- (1) Assumes consensus pricing ranging from US\$2.94/lb Cu to \$3.20/lb Cu with a long-term copper price of \$3.18/lb and, US\$1,314/oz Au and US\$17.75/oz Ag and a USD to CAD exchange rate of 1.32:1
- (2) First ten years of production, commencing in 2020
- (3) See Appendix 1 for graph of production by year

## Mining and Processing

The Integrated Production Plan assumes a plant expansion to 45,000 tpd from 40,000 tpd and the integration of the New Ingerbelle pit. The Plan is based on Mineral Reserves only and does not include any other Mineral Resource categories. The Company believes that potential exists to increase production further by converting Resources to Reserves as well as increasing resources through exploration. The Plan stipulates New Ingerbelle ore would be trucked to the Copper Mountain Mine, using CMM's existing mine equipment fleet, CMM's expanded 45,000 tpd mill and tailings facility. The Integrated Production Plan assumes the start-up of the third ball mill in the second quarter of 2020.

The current CMM concentrator uses a simple processing flowsheet composed of primary and secondary crushing, and grinding, followed by sulphide rougher/cleaner flotation circuits. The Technical Report plans for the installation of a 22'ft x 38'ft, 12.6?MW ball mill to be integrated into the existing grinding circuit, which would allow for an increase in throughput to 45,000 tpd with a finer grind of about 150 µm. It is envisioned that the mill would operate as a tertiary grinding circuit, installed after the existing two ball mills that operate in parallel and would provide for a larger energy input into the ball milling circuits (See Appendix 2 for Proposed Flowsheet). Decreasing the final grind from 225 µm to 150 µm would allow for higher flotation recoveries, maximizing the value of mined ore tonnes. The Company currently owns the new ball mill and has it stored for a project construction start-up decision.

Further metallurgical testing on the New Ingerbelle pit ore has been completed and has yielded positive results. Samples collected within the final New Ingerbelle pit limits indicate the ore will have improved flotation performance, similar to that of historical New Ingerbelle mill recoveries of 87% to 89%. The testwork indicates copper recovery at New Ingerbelle to be better than the recovery experienced to date at CMM, with higher gold content and recovery. The average life of mine copper recovery is expected to be 85.5%, approximately 5% higher than current levels at CMM.

Total ore mined is expected to be 363 million tonnes and total waste mined is expected to be 663 million tonnes, with an improved strip ratio of 1.82, when compared to the 2018 CMM Mine Plan, of 2.88. Using improved recoveries of 85.5% for copper, 69% for gold and 69% for silver, total production is expected to be 1,895 million pounds of copper, 982,000 ounces of gold and 7.3 million ounces of silver. A summary of mining, processing and production metrics is provided below. A more detailed life of mine production schedule is available in the 2019 Technical Report filed on SEDAR.

Total ore mined (kt)	363,399
Total waste (kt)	662,931
Strip ratio	1.82
Total dry tonnes processed (kt) (includes low-grade stockpile)	419,976
Tonnes processed (ktpd) <sup>(1)</sup>	45
Total CuEq production (Mlbs)	2,344
Total copper production (Mlbs)	1,895
Total gold production (koz)	982
Total silver production (koz)	7,314
Average annual CuEq production <sup>(1)</sup> (Mlbs)	116
Average annual copper production <sup>(1)</sup> (Mlbs)	93
Average annual gold production <sup>(1)</sup> (koz)	49
Average annual silver production <sup>(1)</sup> (koz)	370
Average copper recovery	85.5%
Average gold recovery	69%
Average silver recovery	69%
Average copper feed grade <sup>(1)</sup>	0.30%
Average gold feed grade <sup>(1)</sup>	0.13 g/t
Average silver feed grade <sup>(1)</sup>	1.00 g/t
Mine life	26 years

(1) First ten years of production, starting in 2020

### Capital and Operating Costs

The initial capital cost required to increase throughput to 45,000 tpd is estimated to be approximately US\$25.2 million. This includes the installation of the third ball mill and other required equipment costs but does not include the actual cost of the ball mill as the Company has already purchased the mill. The capital required for the start-up of the New Ingerbelle pit is estimated to be approximately US\$22.7 million, the majority of which is for the completion of a short bridge from New Ingerbelle to the Copper Mountain Mine side. The Company expects development of New Ingerbelle to take approximately 24 months. See Appendix 3 for a depiction of the proposed site layout. The Technical Report assumed that pre-stripping for New Ingerbelle would be completed by contract mining and was not included in the initial capital as New Ingerbelle is now integrated into the Copper Mountain Mine production schedule. As required under IFRS, in periods when the stripping ratio exceeds the average life of mine stripping ratio, the excess costs over the mine stripping ratio expected costs would be treated as capital expenditures and amortized. All waste in the life of mine production plan above the average strip ratio in any year is treated as such, including New Ingerbelle development.

Total life of mine sustaining capital for CMM is estimated to be US\$214 million. The majority of sustaining capital is related to the replacement of mobile mining equipment.

Average C1 cash costs, net of by product credits, are approximately US\$1.74 per pound of copper, for the first ten years starting in 2020, and US\$1.87 per pound of copper over the life of mine. Total operating unit costs are estimated to be US\$9.92 per tonne milled, which includes mining costs of US\$2.10 per tonne mined and processing costs of US\$4.44 per tonne milled. A unit cost breakdown is provided below.

Operating Unit Costs	
Mining (US\$ per tonne mined)	US\$2.10
Processing (US\$ per tonne milled)	US\$4.44
G&A (US\$ per tonne milled)	US\$0.36
Total Mine Site Operating Cost (US\$ per tonne milled)	US\$9.92

All capital and operating costs assume a long-term Canadian Dollar exchange rate to U.S. Dollar exchange rate of 1.32 to 1.

#### Project Economics

The after-tax NPV for the mill expansion and integration of New Ingerbelle, assuming an 8% discount rate, is US\$619 million. The economics are based on a Canadian Dollar to U.S. Dollar exchange rate of 1.32 to 1 and consensus metal pricing that varies over the initial four years and has long-term metal prices of US\$3.18 per pound copper, US\$1,314 per ounce of gold and US\$17.75 per ounce of silver. A sensitivity analysis on varying long-term copper prices was completed on the after-tax NPV (8%) and the results are summarized below.

Long Term Copper Price (US\$ per lb)	After-tax NPV (8%)
-10%	US\$435 million
\$3.18 (long term consensus)	US\$619 million
+10%	US\$799 million

#### Mineral Reserves and Mineral Resources

The Copper Mountain Operation Mineral Reserve more than doubled when compared to the September 1, 2018 Mineral Reserve. The Mineral Reserve is included in the Mineral Resource and the effective date of the Mineral Reserve and Mineral Resource is January 1, 2019. A summary of the Mineral Reserve and Mineral Resource is provided below.

Copper Mountain Operation Mineral Reserves							
	Tonnes	Copper	Gold	Silver	Copper	Gold	Silver
	('000s)	(%)	(g/t)	(g/t)	(M lbs)	(k oz)	(k oz)
Proven							
CMM Pit	81,768	0.32	0.09	1.55	571	233	4,067
New Ingerbelle Pit	60,455	0.26	0.16	0.52	346	315	1,016
Sub-total (Pit)	142,223	0.29	0.12	1.11	916	548	5,083
Stockpile	56,124	0.16	0.04	0.45	196	72	814
Total Proven	198,346	0.25	0.10	0.92	1,112	620	5,897
Probable							
CMM Pit	93,301	0.23	0.07	0.98	473	225	2,938
New Ingerbelle Pit	132,355	0.23	0.14	0.46	669	614	1,952
Sub-total (Pit)	225,656	0.23	0.12	0.67	1,142	838	4,890
Stockpile	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Probable	225,656	0.23	0.12	0.67	1,142	838	4,890
Proven & Probable							
CMM Pit	175,069	0.27	0.08	1.24	1,043	457	7,005
New Ingerbelle Pit	192,810	0.24	0.15	0.48	1,015	929	2,968
Sub-total (Pit)	367,879	0.25	0.12	0.84	2,058	1,386	9,973
Stockpile	56,124	0.16	0.04	0.45	196	72	814
Proven & Probable	424,002	0.24	0.11	0.79	2,254	1,458	10,787

Mineral  
Reserve  
Notes:  
JORC  
and  
Mineral  
Reserves  
Standards  
generated  
in accordance  
with the  
Mineral  
Reserves  
Reporting  
Code  
Mineral  
Reserves,  
and  
Production  
Statistics  
in tonnes and  
short tons  
based on  
100% recovery  
of  
68%,  
and  
silver  
process  
recovery  
of  
71%  
is  
based  
on  
geo-metallurgical  
domains

Copper Mountain Operation Mineral Resources (based on a 0.10% Cu cut-off grade)							
	Tonnes	Copper	Gold	Silver	Copper	Gold	Silver
	('000s)	(%)	(g/t)	(g/t)	(M lbs)	(M oz)	(M oz)
<b>Measured</b>							
CMM	100,616	0.29	0.09	1.30	632	0.282	4.21
New Ingerbelle	60,465	0.26	0.16	0.51	341	0.313	0.99
Total Measured	161,081	0.27	0.12	1.01	973	0.595	5.21
<b>Indicated</b>							
CMM	228,088	0.21	0.08	0.77	1,057	0.568	5.65
New Ingerbelle	159,551	0.23	0.14	0.45	809	0.739	2.33
Total Indicated	387,639	0.22	0.11	0.64	1,866	1.31	7.98
<b>Total M&amp;I</b>							
CMM	328,704	0.23	0.08	0.93	1,690	0.85	9.86
New Ingerbelle	220,016	0.24	0.15	0.47	1,149	1.05	3.33
Total M&I	548,720	0.24	0.11	0.75	2,839	1.90	9.86
<b>Inferred</b>							
CMM	131,254	0.19	0.08	0.57	560	0.322	2.39
New Ingerbelle	106,000	0.22	0.13	0.41	512	0.453	1.40
Total Inferred	237,254	0.21	0.10	0.50	1,071	0.776	3.79

#### Mineral Resource Notes:

- 1 Mineral Resources were estimated using the January 1, 2019 mining surface for Copper Mountain Mine
- 2 Mineral Resources are constrained by a \$3.50/lb Cu pit shell
- 3 Cut-off grade is based on copper grade only
- 4 Mineral Resources are inclusive of Mineral Reserves but do not include stockpiled material
- 5 Mineral Resources are reported at a 0.10% cut-off
- 6 Totals may not add due to rounding

#### Competent Persons Statement

The information in this report that relates to Exploration Targets, Exploration Results, Mineral Resources or

Ore Reserves is based on information compiled by Peter Holbek, B.Sc (Hons), M.Sc., P. Geo. Mr. Holbek is a full time employee of the Company and has sufficient experience which is relevant to the style of mineralization and type of deposit under consideration and to the activity being undertaken to qualify as a Competent Person as defined in the 2012 Edition of the 'Australasian Code for Reporting of Exploration Results, Mineral Resources and Ore Reserves'. Mr. Holbek does consent to the inclusion in this news release of the matters based on their information in the form and context in which it appears.

#### Qualified Persons

The Mineral Resource estimate for the Copper Mountain mine was prepared by Mr. Peter Holbek, B.Sc (Hons), M.Sc., P. Geo, who is the Vice President, Exploration of [Copper Mountain Mining Corp.](#). Mr. Holbek serves as the Qualified Person as defined by National Instrument 43-101. Mr. Holbek consents to the inclusion of the mineral resource in this news release and has approved the mineral resource information included in this news release.

Mr. Stuart Collins, P.E., serves as the Qualified Person as defined by National Instrument 43-101 and is the Qualified Person for information regarding the Copper Mountain Mine's Technical Information and Mineral Reserve. Mr. Collins is independent of the Company and has reviewed and approved the contents of this news release.

#### About Copper Mountain Mining Corporation:

Copper Mountain's flagship asset is the 75% owned Copper Mountain mine located in southern British Columbia near the town of Princeton. The Copper Mountain mine currently produces approximately 90 million pounds of copper equivalent, with production increasing to over 100 million pounds of copper equivalent a year in 2020. Copper Mountain also has the permitted, development-stage Eva Copper Project in Queensland, Australia and an extensive 4,000 km<sup>2</sup> highly prospective land package in the Mount Isa area. Copper Mountain trades on the Toronto Stock Exchange under the symbol "CMMC" and Australian Stock Exchange under the symbol "C6C".

Additional information is available on the Company's web page at [www.CuMtn.com](http://www.CuMtn.com).

On behalf of the Board of

[Copper Mountain Mining Corp.](#)

"Gil Clausen"

Gil Clausen, P.Eng.  
Chief Executive Officer

#### Forward-looking Statements

Note: This release contains forward-looking statements that involve risks and uncertainties. These statements may differ materially from actual future events or results. This press release includes expected results from the Integrated Production Plan for the Copper Mountain Mine but is still subject to a construction decision by the Company's Board of Directors and the Company's partner, Mitsubishi Materials Corporation (MMC). Readers are referred to the documents, filed by the Company on SEDAR at [www.sedar.com](http://www.sedar.com), specifically the most recent reports which identify important risk factors that could cause actual results to differ from those contained in the forward-looking statements. The Company undertakes no obligation to review or confirm analysts' expectations or estimates or to release publicly any revisions to any forward-looking statement.

View original

content:<http://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/copper-mountain-announces-new-integrated-mine-plan-increases-c>

SOURCE [Copper Mountain Mining Corp.](#)

**Contact**

Letitia Wong, Vice President Corporate Development & Investor Relations, 604-682-2992 Email: [letitia.wong@cumtn.com](mailto:letitia.wong@cumtn.com) or Dan Gibbons, Investor Relations 604-682-2992 ext. 238 Email: [Dan@CuMtn.com](mailto:Dan@CuMtn.com), Website: [www.CuMtn.com](http://www.CuMtn.com)

Dieser Artikel stammt von [Rohstoff-Welt.de](#)

Die URL für diesen Artikel lautet:

<https://www.rohstoff-welt.de/news/320115--Copper-Mountain-Announces-New-Integrated-Mine-Plan-Increases-Copper-and-Gold-Annual-Production-Extends->

Für den Inhalt des Beitrages ist allein der Autor verantwortlich bzw. die aufgeführte Quelle. Bild- oder Filmrechte liegen beim Autor/Quelle bzw. bei der vom ihm benannten Quelle. Bei Übersetzungen können Fehler nicht ausgeschlossen werden. Der vertretene Standpunkt eines Autors spiegelt generell nicht die Meinung des Webseiten-Betreibers wieder. Mittels der Veröffentlichung will dieser lediglich ein pluralistisches Meinungsbild darstellen. Direkte oder indirekte Aussagen in einem Beitrag stellen keinerlei Aufforderung zum Kauf-/Verkauf von Wertpapieren dar. Wir wehren uns gegen jede Form von Hass, Diskriminierung und Verletzung der Menschenwürde. Beachten Sie bitte auch unsere [AGB/Disclaimer!](#)

---

Die Reproduktion, Modifikation oder Verwendung der Inhalte ganz oder teilweise ohne schriftliche Genehmigung ist untersagt!  
Alle Angaben ohne Gewähr! Copyright © by Rohstoff-Welt.de -1999-2026. Es gelten unsere [AGB](#) und [Datenschutzrichtlinien](#).