

First Quantum Minerals Announces 2019 Preliminary Production and 2020-2022 Guidance

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TORONTO, Jan. 09, 2020 - [First Quantum Minerals Ltd.](#) ("First Quantum" or the "Company") (TSX:FM) today announced preliminary production for the three months and year ended December 31, 2019, and guidance for production, capital expenditure and costs for the years 2020 to 2022.

2019 PRELIMINARY PRODUCTION

The Company achieved its highest ever annual copper production of 702,000 tonnes, an increase of 96kt from 2018 production. Copper production in Q4 2019 was 204kt compared to 158kt in the same quarter in 2018.

Cobre Panama's final mill (8th mill), came on line in mid-December, providing additional capacity on the third milling train. Mill throughput can now ramp-up to annualized production of 85 million tonnes. Mill throughput for the month of December was 6.6 million tonnes. Production for Q4 2019 was 60kt with 25kt produced in the month of December.

Kansanshi copper production for the fourth quarter was in line with the comparable period of 2018 though, as noted in Q2 and Q3 2019, lower oxide ore grades and resulting recoveries contributed to lower copper production for the year compared with 2018.

Sentinel copper production for the fourth quarter reflects lower feed grades and lower recoveries due to transitional ore mined from the east cutback of the pit which resulted in lower production compared with the comparable period of 2018.

Amounts are preliminary and subject to final adjustment. The final production figures will be provided in the Company's financial results for the fourth quarter and year ended December 31, 2019.

	Q4 2019	Q4 2018	Year 2019	Year 2018
Copper production (tonnes) ^{1,2}	204	158	702	606
Gold production (ounces) ²	78	48	257	185
Zinc production (tonnes)	3	8	18	27

	Q4 2019	Q4 2018	Year 2019	Year 2018
Copper (000's tonnes) ^{1,2}				
Cobre Panama ²	60	-	147	-
Kansanshi	61	62	232	252
Sentinel	51	61	220	224
Las Cruces	18	18	48	71
Other	14	17	55	59
	204	158	702	606

	Q4	Q4	Year	Year
Gold production (000’s ounces) ²	2019	2018	2019	2018
Cobre Panama ²	28	-	60	-
Kansanshi	36	33	145	130
Other	14	15	52	55
	78	48	257	185

¹ Production presented on a copper concentrate basis, i.e. mine production only. Production does not include output from the Kansanshi smelter.

² Copper and gold production volumes include pre-commercial and commercial production from Cobre Panama. Cobre Panama was declared in commercial production from September 1, 2019.

Copper (000’s tonnes)	Q4	Q4	Year	Year
	2019	2018	2019	2018
Commercial	204	158	634	606
Pre-commercial	-	-	68	-
	204	158	702	606

Gold (000’s ounces)	Q4	Q4	Year	Year
	2019	2018	2019	2018
Commercial	78	48	233	185
Pre-commercial	-	-	24	-
	78	48	257	185

2020 – 2022 GUIDANCE

Guidance is based on a number of assumptions and estimates as of December 31, 2019, including among other things, assumptions about metal prices and anticipated costs and expenditures. Guidance involves estimates of known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors which may cause the actual results to be materially different.

Production guidance

000’s	2020	2021	2022
Copper (tonnes)	830 - 880	800 - 850	800 - 850
Gold (ounces)	280 - 300	280 - 300	280 - 300
Nickel (tonnes)	15 - 20	25 - 28	25 - 28

Production guidance by operation

Copper

000’s tonnes	2020	2021	2022
Cobre Panama	285 - 310	310 - 330	310 - 340
Kansanshi	220 - 235	220 - 235	220 - 230
Sentinel	230 - 240	240 - 255	250 - 260
Las Cruces	52	-	-
Other sites	43	30	20

Gold

000’s ounces	2020	2021	2022
Cobre Panama	120 - 130	125 - 135	135 - 145
Kansanshi	120 - 130	120 - 130	120 - 130

Other sites	40	35	25
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Nickel

000's tonnes	2020	2021	2022
Ravensthorpe	15 - 20	25 - 28	25 - 28

Cash cost and all-in sustaining cost

Copper (\$/ lb)	2020	2021	2022
C1	1.20 - 1.40	1.20 - 1.40	1.20 - 1.40
AISC	1.70 - 1.85	1.70 - 1.85	1.70 - 1.85

Production at Ravensthorpe is expected to ramp-up through 2020. In the first two full years of production, 2021 and 2022, C1 and all-in sustaining cost costs are expected to be between \$4.60 - \$4.80/lb and \$5.10 - \$5.40/lb respectively.

Capital expenditure

\$ million	2020	2021	2022
Capitalized stripping	250	250	250
Sustaining capital and other projects	600	600	600
Total capital expenditure	850	850	850

On Behalf of the Board of Directors of [First Quantum Minerals Ltd.](#)

G. Clive Newall
President

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CAUTIONARY STATEMENT ON FORWARD-LOOKING INFORMATION

Certain statements and information herein, including all statements that are not historical facts, contain forward-looking statements and forward-looking information within the meaning of applicable securities laws. The forward-looking statements include estimates, forecasts and statements as to the Company's expectations of production and sales volumes, and expected timing of completion of project development at Enterprise and post completion of construction activity at Cobre Panama and are subject to the impact of ore grades on future production, the potential of production disruptions (including at Cobre Las Cruces as a result of the land slippage in January 2019), capital expenditure and mine production costs, the outcome of mine permitting, other required permitting, the outcome of legal proceedings which involve the Company, information with respect to the future price of copper, gold, silver, nickel, zinc, pyrite, cobalt, iron and sulphuric acid, estimated mineral reserves and mineral resources, First Quantum's exploration and development program, estimated future expenses, exploration and development capital requirements, the Company's hedging policy, and goals and strategies. Often, but not always, forward-looking statements or information can be identified by the use of words such as "plans", "expects" or "does not expect", "is expected", "budget", "scheduled", "estimates", "forecasts", "intends", "anticipates" or "does not anticipate" or "believes" or variations of such words and phrases or statements that certain actions, events or results "may", "could", "would", "might" or "will" be taken, occur or be achieved.

With respect to forward-looking statements and information contained herein, the Company has made

numerous assumptions including among other things, assumptions about continuing production at all operating facilities, the price of copper, gold, nickel, zinc, pyrite, cobalt, iron and sulphuric acid, anticipated costs and expenditures and the ability to achieve the Company's goals. Forward-looking statements and information by their nature are based on assumptions and involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors which may cause the actual results, performance or achievements, or industry results, to be materially different from any future results, performance or achievements expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements or information. These factors include, but are not limited to, future production volumes and costs, the temporary or permanent closure of uneconomic operations, costs for inputs such as oil, power and sulphur, political stability in Zambia, Peru, Mauritania, Finland, Spain, Turkey, Panama, Argentina and Australia, adverse weather conditions in Zambia, Finland, Spain, Turkey, Mauritania and Panama, labour disruptions, potential social and environmental challenges, power supply, mechanical failures, water supply, procurement and delivery of parts and supplies to the operations, and the production of off-spec material.

See the Company's Annual Information Form for additional information on risks, uncertainties and other factors relating to the forward-looking statements and information. Although the Company has attempted to identify factors that would cause actual actions, events or results to differ materially from those disclosed in the forward-looking statements or information, there may be other factors that cause actual results, performances, achievements or events not to be anticipated, estimated or intended. Also, many of these factors are beyond First Quantum's control. Accordingly, readers should not place undue reliance on forward-looking statements or information. The Company undertakes no obligation to reissue or update forward-looking statements or information as a result of new information or events after the date hereof except as may be required by law. All forward-looking statements and information made herein are qualified by this cautionary statement.

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