

Westward Gold Inc. Welcomes Dr. John-Mark Staude as Newest Strategic Advisor

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[Westward Gold Inc.](#) (CSE: WG, OTCQB: WGLIF, FSE: IM50) ("Westward" or the "Company") is pleased to welcome Dr. John-Mark Staude as the Company's newest Strategic Advisor. Dr. Staude brings a wealth of leadership experience and Carlin-type gold expertise to Westward's robust team of exploration veterans, at a time when the Company is on the cusp of executing its most significant drill campaign to date at its flagship Toiyabe Hills Property in Lander County, Nevada (see press release dated February 27, 2025, for additional information).

Dr. John-Mark Staude, incoming Strategic Advisor, noted: "I've been following Westward since its inception as a private company prior to the pandemic, knowing the passion Colin and Andrew bring to business, company development, and successful Nevada mineral exploration. I am impressed at their growth from an upstart gold explorer with a small land position, to one with a district-scale property on the Cortez Trend capable of enticing major company suitors. Westward has attracted a top-notch team of proven Carlin-type mine-finders and have been refining exciting new drill targets through persistence, self-funding, and a dedication to sound exploration science. I've been waiting on the sidelines but am now delighted at the opportunity to officially contribute to their pursuit of a significant new gold discovery in Nevada."

Dr. Staude is a Ph.D. Economic Geologist with over 30 years of experience in mineral exploration, project finance, and capital markets. His career began in Nevada along the Carlin and Cortez trends, focusing on gold exploration and resource development. Leveraging his technical and financial expertise, he founded [Riverside Resources Inc.](#) (TSX-V: RRI), a Vancouver-based mineral exploration company that generates and finances high-value projects in Mexico, the United States, and Canada, where he continues to serve as CEO and Director.

Dr. Staude is also Chairman of [Capitan Silver Corp.](#) (TSX-V: CAPT) and a Technical Advisor to [Arras Minerals Corp.](#) (TSX-V: ARK), specializing in financing and strategic development for precious metals discoveries. With a proven track record in raising capital, structuring deals, and executing successful mineral project transactions, he has helped drive shareholder returns and advance key mining assets through innovative funding strategies and partnerships.

Andrew Nelson, Chief Financial Officer, added: "We continue to attract the attention of seasoned mining professionals who have seen decades-worth of projects and companies come and go, and John-Mark's appointment speaks to the quality of what we're building at Westward. I've been fortunate to count him as a friend and mentor over the years, and I believe he will open several new doors for us, especially as it relates to attracting investors and developing corporate partnerships."

Corporate Update

Westward is also pleased to announce the engagement of Hillside Consulting and Media Inc. ("Hillside"), a British Columbia-based firm, to assist in the Company's ongoing marketing and investor relations efforts. Hillside will provide a comprehensive suite of services to enhance the Company's public presence and drive investor engagement. Hillside will provide a digital outreach program to update the market on the Company's gold properties, exploration activities, and overall value proposition. The initial engagement will commence immediately and remain in effect for up to two weeks. The Company will pay Hillside a total of forty-five thousand dollars (Canadian), plus applicable GST for these services. Westward continues to pursue all available avenues to grow its investor base and execute on its business growth plans and long-term exploration strategies.

About Westward Gold

Westward Gold is a mineral exploration company focused on developing the Toiyabe Hills Project located in

the Cortez Hills area of Lander County, Nevada, and the Coyote and Rossi Projects located along the Carlin Trend in Elko County, Nevada. From time to time, the Company may also evaluate the acquisition of other mineral exploration assets and opportunities.

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Forward-looking statements or information are subject to a variety of known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that could cause actual events or results to differ from those reflected in the forward-looking statements or information, including, without limitation, the need for additional capital by the Company through financings, and the risk that such funds may not be raised; the speculative nature of exploration and the stages of the Company's properties; the effect of changes in commodity prices; regulatory risks that development of the Company's material properties will not be acceptable for social, environmental or other reasons, availability of equipment (including drills) and personnel to carry out work programs, that each stage of work will be completed within expected time frames, that current geological models and interpretations prove correct, the results of ongoing work programs may lead to a change of exploration priorities, and the efforts and abilities of the senior management team. This list is not exhaustive of the factors that may affect any of the Company's forward-looking statements or information. These and other factors may cause the Company to change its exploration and work programs, not proceed with work programs, or change the timing or order of planned work programs. Additional risk factors and details with respect to risk factors that may affect the Company's ability to achieve the expectations set forth in the forward-looking statements contained in this news release are set out in the Company's latest management discussion and analysis under "Risks and Uncertainties", which is available under the Company's SEDAR+ profile at www.sedarplus.ca. Although the Company has attempted to identify important factors that could cause actual results to differ materially, there may be other factors that cause results not to be as anticipated, estimated, described or intended. Accordingly, readers should not place undue reliance on forward-looking statements or information. The Company's forward-looking statements and information are based on the assumptions, beliefs, expectations, and opinions of management as of the date of this press release, and other than as required by applicable securities laws, the Company does not assume any obligation to update forward-looking statements and information if circumstances or management's assumptions, beliefs, expectations or opinions should change, or changes in any other events affecting such statements or information.

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