## Defense Metals Appoints Ali Mahdavi as SVP Corporate Development, and grants incentive stock options

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<u>Defense Metals Corp.</u> (TSXV: DEFN) ("Defense Metals" or the "Company"), is pleased to announce the appointment of as Senior Vice President, Corporate Development and the granting of incentive stock options to employees and director recently joined Defense Metals.

"As we continue to advance our Wicheeda critical minerals project, we are delighted with the addition of Ali to the Defermanagement team." said President and CEO, Mark Tory. "Ali's role will focus on maximising our exposure to investors analysts, and identifying, evaluating and executing corporate opportunities for Defense. Ali has an unparalleled depth of throughout the entire rare earth element value chain and will be a key addition for Defense Metals as we move forward

"I am thrilled to join Defense at a point in time when Critical Minerals and Rare Earth Element projects are taking centre the political and economic agendas of countries across the globe." said Mr. Mahdavi. "The development of Wicheeda is advanced, with a growing team and a strong Preliminary Feasibility Study completed. This places Defense Metals in an position at a time when Canada and the U.S. are accelerating their plans to secure the domestic supply of these critical am looking forward to helping Defense find the right markets, and the right partners, to advance Wicheeda. I look forward engaging with our shareholders and the broader capital markets, and communicating our plans and strategies as we contain the value of Defense Metals Corp."

Mr, Mahdavi has over 30 years of experience in the capital markets focusing on the rare earth industry. Mr. Mahdavi is and Managing Director of Spinnaker Capital Markets Inc., a Toronto based capital markets advisory firm with a 20-year in charting long term success for private and public companies in a variety of sectors specializing in finding growth capitant acquisitions, and investor relations. Prior to joining the Defense Metals team, Mr. Mahdavi was SVP, Corporate Defended Capital Markets at Neo Performance Materials, where he spent more than 20 years working closely with the board management team to successfully access capital and identify funding solutions to grow the business, and advising on Materials. Mr. Mahdavi attended York University where he studied Economics and Business and started his career at the Nova Scotia and the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce.

## **Granting of Incentive Stock Options**

The Company is granting 2,675,000 incentive stock options ("Options") to directors, officers and consultants of the Consubject to TSX Venture Exchange approval. Each Option allows the holder to purchase one common share of Defense five years at a price of C\$0.30 per common share, in accordance with the terms of the Company's stock option plan an certain vesting provisions.

Guy de Selliers, Executive Chairman of the Company, stated: "As we continue to accelerate the development of Wiche essential that we also recognise and incentivise our growing management team at Defense. Following the appointment Tory as CEO in January 2024, we have been able to support him with the addition of high calibre staff in the areas of fi sustainability, governance, and corporate development along with strengthening our Board with the appointment of Ma Crichton."

## **About Defense Metals**

Defense Metals Corp. is focused on the development of its 100% owned, 11,800-hectare (~29,158-acre) Wicheeda Ra Element (REE) deposit that is located on the traditional territory of the McLeod Lake Indian Band in British Columbia, C

The Wicheeda Project, approximately 80 kilometres (~50 miles) northeast of the city of Prince George, is readily acces

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paved highway and all-weather gravel roads and is close to infrastructure, including hydro power transmission lines and pipelines. The nearby Canadian National Railway and major highways allow easy access to the port facilities at Prince closest major North American port to Asia. The Company recently completed a Preliminary Feasibility Study (PFS) that demonstrated the robust economics of the project.

For further information, please visit www.defensemetals.com or contact:

Mark Tory President and CEO Tel: +1 604-445-8179

Email: mark@defensemetals.com

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