

Ridgeline Minerals Reports 38.3 - 58.0 Million Tonne Silver-Gold Exploration Target at the Chinchilla Oxide Deposit, Selena Project

12.02.2026 | [Newsfile](#)

Vancouver, February 12, 2026 - [Ridgeline Minerals Corp.](#) (TSXV: RDG) (OTCQB: RDGMF) (FSE: 0GC0) ("Ridgeline" or the "Company") is pleased to announce a Mineral Exploration Target outlining the silver-gold-lead-zinc exploration potential at the Company's outcropping Chinchilla Oxide Ag-Au-Pb-Zn deposit at the Selena project ("Selena" or "the Project"), Nevada. The Company has completed preliminary 3D modelling at the Chinchilla Oxide deposit that supports an exploration target of 38.3 - 58.0 million tonnes ("MT") of mineralized material grading between 39.8 - 52.0 grams per tonne ("g/t") Ag, 0.12 - 0.15 g/t Au, 0.42% - 0.55% Pb and 0.40% - 0.51% Zn (Figure 1). The quantity and grade of the exploration target are conceptual in nature and there has not been sufficient exploration to define a mineral resource. It is uncertain whether further exploration will result in the exploration target being delineated as a mineral resource.

Figure 1: X-Section C-C' showing the 38.3 - 58.0 MT, Ag-Au Exploration Target at Chinchilla Oxide

To view an enhanced version of this graphic, please visit:

https://images.newsfilecorp.com/files/7298/283678_1d8d753894a80aff_001full.jpg

Chad Peters, Ridgeline's President, CEO & Director, commented, "The Chinchilla Oxide deposit was Ridgeline's original outcropping Ag-Au oxide discovery made by the team in 2020 and we always knew it had the potential to become a deposit of significant scale. Announcing a mineral exploration target helps to further highlight this exciting opportunity and better frame the upside potential across multiple mineralized zones at the Selena project. Chinchilla Oxide remains open along strike and down-dip towards our recent Chinchilla Sulfide discovery with potential to expand the exploration target and upgrade to a maiden mineral resource estimate with additional drilling."

Mr. Peters continues, "The Selena project exhibits over four kilometers of proven mineralized strike between the outcropping Chinchilla Oxide zone and our recent high-grade CRD discovery at Chinchilla Sulfide, which was made in collaboration with our partners at South32. Our strategy in 2026 will be to continue drill testing the Chinchilla Sulfide discovery to better understand the potential scale and grade of the sulfide system, which will help our teams better understand the combined resource potential of the greater mineralized system at Selena as we continue to grow this very exciting polymetallic deposit."

Chinchilla Oxide Mineral Exploration Target

The Company believes the Chinchilla Oxide Zone has the potential to host: 38.3 to 58.0 MT of mineralized material ranging from 39.8 - 52.0 g/t Ag and 0.12 - 0.15 g/t Au (Figure 1 & Figure 2)

- Pb-Zn grades range between 0.42% - 0.55% Pb and 0.40% - 0.51% Zn

The Chinchilla Oxide zone remains open for expansion along strike and down-dip with additional infill drilling required to complete a NI 43-101 compliant maiden resource estimate (Figure 3)

Chinchilla Oxide Highlight Drill Intercepts

- SE22-045: 32.5 m grading 153.42 g/t Ag, 0.09 g/t Au, and 4.1% Pb-Zn
 - Including 6.1 m grading 480.52 g/t Ag, 0.1 g/t Au, and 18.4% Pb-Zn,
 - Including 0.7 m grading 1,347.73 g/t Ag, 0.11 g/t Au and 40.9% Pb-Zn
- SE23-047: 60.7m grading 69.8 g/t Ag, 0.4 g/t Au, and 1.8% Pb-Zn
 - Including 7.7m grading 146.5 g/t Ag, 0.9 g/t Au, and 1.7% Pb-Zn

- SE21-025: 44.2m grading 123.2 g/t Ag, 0.1 g/t Au, and 2.1% Pb-Zn
 - Including 7.6m grading 237.8 g/t Ag, 0.2 g/t Au, and 3.8% Pb-Zn (Figure 1)

For a complete table of Selena assay results click [HERE](#)

Mineral Exploration Target Database

- The exploration target assay database is comprised of:
 - Thirty-three (33) RC and Core drillholes totaling 8,250.3m and 5,650 assay samples
 - Five (5) surface trenches totaling 180.4m and 122 assay samples
- Select bottle roll metallurgical testing on Chinchilla Oxide RC composites in 2021 averaged 31.5% - 50.0% Ag and 76.7% - 83.3% Au cyanide solubility suggesting the deposit may be amenable to heap leach processing methods
 - The Company's metallurgical consultant has indicated that additional metallurgical testing on drill core samples (vs. original RC samples) is required and may materially improve bottle roll cyanide solubility results for silver
 - Core drilling at Selena (2023-2025) has confirmed that RC drilling methods were "washing" out the Ag-rich clays in the oxide zone, diluting grades and effectively reducing overall cyanide solubility
 - Neither Pb nor Zn were analyzed during the 2021 bottle roll program with additional testing required to define potential cyanide solubility ranges of either metal
- The metallurgical recoveries at Chinchilla Oxide do not apply to the potential metallurgical recoveries at the Chinchilla Sulfide discovery, which is sulfide mineralization that would require a different milling process

The Chinchilla Oxide exploration target has been prepared under NI 43-101 guidelines for Mineral Exploration Target reporting and utilized a 3rd party qualified person ("QP") for all grade shell models and interpolations. Grade interpolations utilized a low-grade cutoff of 15.0 g/t Ag with three-meter composites and a radial basis function ("RBF") numeric model. The quantity and grade of the exploration target are conceptual in nature and there has not been sufficient exploration to define a mineral resource. It is uncertain whether further exploration will result in the exploration target being delineated as a mineral resource. The exploration target model has not been evaluated for reasonable prospects of potential economic extraction.

Figure 2: Long Section A-A' showing the Company's Mineral Exploration Target at the Chinchilla Oxide deposit and the new CRD discovery (red star) at the Chinchilla Sulfide zone ~2.5km downdip to the west

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Figure 3: Plan view map showing the Mineral Exploration Target at Chinchilla Oxide, future shallow oxide exploration targets at Juniper, and the 2025 Chinchilla Sulfide CRD discovery in hole SE25-053

To view an enhanced version of this graphic, please visit:

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Table 1: Summary of potential tonnes and grade ranges for the Au-Ag-Pb-Zn zone at Chinchilla Oxide

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The Project is currently operated by Ridgeline under Phase 1 of an earn-in agreement with a wholly owned subsidiary of [South32 Ltd.](#) ("South32"), where South32 may earn up to an 80% interest in the Project by satisfying all commitments under the earn-in agreement (see August 22, 2024 news release [HERE](#)).

QA/QC Procedures

HQ and NQ core samples are split in ½ with samples submitted to American Assay Laboratories (AAL) of

Sparks, Nevada, which is a certified and accredited laboratory, independent of the Company. Independent check samples are sent to Paragon Geochemical Labs (PAL) of Sparks, Nevada. Samples are prepared using industry-standard prep methods and analysed using FA-PB30-ICP (Au; 30g fire assay) and ICP-5AM48 (48 element Suite; 0.5g 5-acid digestion/ICP-MS) methods. AAL also undertakes its own internal coarse and pulp duplicate analysis to ensure proper sample preparation and equipment calibration. Ridgeline's QA/QC program includes regular insertion of CRM standards, duplicates, and blanks into the sample stream with a stringent review of all results completed by the Company's Qualified Person, Michael T. Harp, Vice President, Exploration.

The technical information contained in this news release has been prepared under the supervision of, and approved by Michael T. Harp, CPG, the Company's Vice President, Exploration. Mr. Harp is a "qualified person" as defined under National Instrument 43-101 - Standards of Disclosure for Mineral Projects.

Selena Project

Selena is located in White Pine County, Nevada, approximately 64 kilometers ("km") north of the town of Ely, NV. The Project is currently being operated by Ridgeline under Phase 1 of an earn-in agreement South32 and shares a property boundary with the Butte Valley project, a \$33M earn-in agreement between Freeport-McMoRan and the underlying owner, Falcon Butte Minerals. The Project is comprised of 39 square kilometers of highly prospective exploration ground including Ridgeline's shallow-oxide Ag-Au \pm Pb-Zn Chinchilla Oxide and deeper Chinchilla Sulfide discoveries. Subsequent drilling has continued to highlight the potential for high-grade CRD type mineralization (Ag-Zn-Pb-Au \pm Cu-Sb-W) between Chinchilla Oxide and Freeport-McMoRan's Butte Valley Cu-Au-Ag-Zn porphyry located directly west of the property. For additional information regarding the South32 earn-in agreement terms view the August 22, 2024 news release [HERE](#).

About Ridgeline Minerals Corp.

Ridgeline Minerals is a discovery focused precious and base metal explorer with a proven management team and a 200 km² exploration portfolio across seven projects in Nevada, USA. The Company is a hybrid explorer with a mix of 100%-owned exploration assets (Big Blue, Atlas, Bell Creek & Coyote) as well as two earn-in exploration agreements with Nevada Gold Mines at its Swift and Black Ridge projects and a third earn-in with South32 at its Selena project. More information about Ridgeline can be found at www.ridgelineminerals.com.

On behalf of the Board
"Chad Peters"
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