



## NEWS RELEASE

### BIG RIDGE GOLD CORP PROVIDES CORPORATE UPDATE

**Toronto, Ontario, January 21, 2026**, Big Ridge Gold Corp. (TSXV: BRAU, OTCQB: ALVLF) (“**Big Ridge**” or the “**Company**”) is pleased to provide an update of ongoing activities and goals for 2026 at the Company’s flagship Hope Brook Gold Project (“**HBGP**”) located on the southwest coast of Newfoundland and Labrador and the Destiny Gold Project, located near Val d’Or, Quebec.

#### 2026 Milestones & Events

- Complete Hope Brook Preliminary Economic Assessment.
- Finalize metallurgical test work and produce concentrate samples for potential offtake partners.
- Destiny project partner, Caprock Mining to release results from Phase I Drill Program.
- Investor Icebreaker: Michael Gentile Mining Showcase January 27, 2026.
- PDAC Conference March 1-4, 2026.

Michael Bandrowski, President and CEO of the Company, commented: “2025 was a significant year for Big Ridge and the Company expects to build on that success by completing significant milestones in 2026. We have been working diligently preparing representative concentrate samples from Hope Brook ore for marketing studies and offtake discussions and the Preliminary Economic Assessment remains on track. We are also anticipating initial assay results from the Destiny gold project in the coming weeks, where our project partner, Caprock Mining is completing its Phase I drill program.”

## **Preliminary Economic Assessment - + 2g/t Au Open Pit**

Big Ridge engaged SGS Geological Services in late 2025 to prepare a Preliminary Economic Assessment on the HBGP. The PEA continues to advance on time with a completion date in the first half of 2026. Historically, Hope Brook produced approximately 750,000 ounces of gold from 1987-1997. A flotation circuit was installed in 1992 that produced a concentrate grading approximately 22% Cu and 34.28 g/t Au that was shipped to the Horne Smelter, located in Rouyn-Noranda, Quebec, Canada.

## **Ongoing Metallurgical Test Work – High Quality Cu-Au Concentrate**

Given the high-quality concentrate historically produced at the HBGP and strong global demand for premium copper and gold concentrates, Big Ridge is currently producing representative concentrate samples for potential off-take and marketing purposes. More recent metallurgical test work completed on Hope Brook ore has produced high-grade Cu-Au concentrates ranging from **26 to 30% Cu with 270 to 539 g/t Au**.

## **Strategically Located on Tidewater**

The Hope Brook project is one of very few brownfield Au-Cu concentrate projects located on tidewater and in a tier-one jurisdiction. With current smelter treatment and refining charges at negative levels, the Company believes its strategic location on the Southwest coast of Newfoundland and Labrador will generate notable interest from potential traders and offtake partners that could support future project financing efforts.

## **Destiny Gold Project – Phase I Drill Program Underway**

Big Ridge currently owns 20.25 million shares of Caprock Mining, the Company's partner on the Destiny Gold Project. Caprock commenced a Phase I exploration drill program in the last quarter of 2025, targeting deep-seated, high-grade mineralization identified in two historical drill holes completed by a previous operator where gold grades as high as 26 g/t Au were intercepted. We expect initial drill results from the program in Q1 2026.

## **Investor Icebreaker: Michael Gentile Mining Showcase**

Big Ridge will be participating in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Investor Icebreaker, Michael Gentile Mining Showcase January 27, 2026. The event will include a full day of one-on-one meetings with Family Offices, Institutional Investors and High-Net-Worth Individuals.

Michael Gentile is one of the most recognized and successful strategic investors in the resource sector. After a distinguished career as a professional money manager at one of Canada's largest asset management firms, Michael transitioned to managing his own capital and taking strategic positions in high-potential mining and exploration companies.

## **Qualified Person**

Paul Robinson, P. Geo., Vice President Exploration for Big Ridge, a Qualified Person within the meaning of NI 43-101, *Standards of Disclosure for Mineral Projects*, has reviewed and approved the technical information contained in this news release.

## **About Hope Brook**

The Hope Brook Gold Project is an advanced stage, high-grade gold project that produced 752,162 ounces of gold from 1987 – 1997. Initial production consisted of an open pit before moving to underground mining. Hope Brook operated using both heap leach (1987 -1990) and conventional cyanidation milling methods (1989-1997) with a later inclusion of flotation concentration to recover copper (1991). Government records indicate that gold recoveries from milling ranged between a low of 78.8% in 1987 and a high of 85.9% in 1989. Government and company annual reports indicate that gold recoveries ranged between a low of 82.1% in 1994 and a high of 89.83% in 1996 following a change of ownership. Copper flotation produced a concentrate at approximately 22% Cu and 34.3 g/t Au for shipment in 1992.

Hope Brook hosts an Indicated gold resource totalling 16,190,000 tonnes grading 2.32 grams per tonne gold for 1.2 million ounces and Inferred resources totalling 2,215,000 tonnes grading 3.25 grams per tonne gold for 231,000 ounces based on a 0.4 and 2.0 gram per tonne cut-off grades for open pit and underground resources respectively using a long-term gold price of US\$1,750.

The Hope Brook gold deposit is a high-sulfidation epithermal gold deposit hosted in the Proterozoic aged Whittle Hill Sandstone and is intruded by a Late Proterozoic quartz-feldspar porphyry sill-dike complex of the Roti Intrusive Suite. The deposit is located adjacent to and within an extensive advanced argillic alteration envelope which includes pyrophyllite, kaolinite, andalusite, and alunite. The principal gold mineralization occurs in a buff-colored massive, vuggy silicic alteration with an associated, less developed grey silicic alteration with pyrite, chalcopyrite and lesser bornite accessory minerals. Gold mineralization is also found with pyrite in units of advanced argillic alteration adjacent to or near silicic alteration horizons. The altered and mineralized zone is cut by mafic dykes whose contacts are often mineralized. All the altered and mineralized sequences and the intruded dykes have been folded.

Hope Brook is located 85 kilometers east of Port aux Basques, Newfoundland. The project has well maintained infrastructure on site, including an operational 28-person camp, an 1,100-meter airstrip, ice-free docking facility and importantly, connection to the provincial electrical power grid via an on-site substation.

## **About Big Ridge Gold Corp.**

Big Ridge Gold Corp. is an exploration and development company managed by a disciplined and experienced team of officers and directors. The Company is committed to the development of advanced stage mining projects using industry best practices combined with strong social license from our local communities. Big Ridge owns an 100% interest in its flagship Hope Brook Gold Project, located in Newfoundland and Labrador. Big Ridge also owns 100% in the highly prospective Oxford Gold Project located in Manitoba and the Destiny Gold Project in Quebec.

## **Acknowledgement**

Big Ridge acknowledges and appreciates the Newfoundland and Labrador Ministry of Natural Resources' financial support of the Company's 2023 exploration programs through the Junior Exploration Assistance (JEA) Program.

For more details regarding the Company's projects, please visit our website at [www.bigridgegold.com](http://www.bigridgegold.com)

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD,

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### **Cautionary Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements**

*This news release includes certain "forward-looking information" and "forward-looking statements" (collectively "forward-looking statements") within the meaning of applicable Canadian securities legislation. These forward-looking statements are made as of the date of this news release. Forward-looking statements are frequently, but not always, identified by words such as "expects", "anticipates", "believes", "plans", "projects", "intends", "estimates", "envisages", "potential", "possible", "strategy", "goals", "objectives", or variations thereof or stating that certain actions, events or results "may", "could", "would", "might" or "will" be taken, occur or be achieved, or the negative of any of these terms and similar expressions.*

*Forward-looking statements in this news release relate to future events or future performance and reflect current estimates, predictions, expectations, or beliefs regarding future events, and include, without limitation, statements with respect to Big Ridge's intentions with respect to Caprock's shares. All forward-looking statements are based on Big Ridge's and its employees' current beliefs as well as various assumptions made by them and information currently available to them. There can be no assurance that such statements will prove to be accurate, and actual results and future events could differ materially from those anticipated in such statements. Forward-looking statements reflect the beliefs, opinions, and projections on the date the statements are made and are based upon a number of assumptions and estimates that, while considered reasonable by the respective parties, are inherently subject to significant business, economic, competitive, political, and social uncertainties and contingencies. Many factors, both known and unknown, could cause actual results, performance, or achievements to be materially different from the results, performance or achievements that are or may be expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements and the parties have made assumptions and estimates based on or related to many of these factors. When relying on our forward-looking statements to make decisions with respect to Big Ridge, investors and others should carefully consider the foregoing factors and other uncertainties and potential events. Big Ridge does not undertake to update any forward-looking statement, whether written or oral, that may be made from time to time by the Company or on our behalf, except as required by law.*