



NEWS RELEASE

BIG RIDGE GOLD CORP ANNOUNCES STRENGTHENING OF MANAGEMENT TEAM, AWARD OF OPTIONS AND EARLY EXERCISE OF WARRANTS

Toronto, Ontario, March 25, 2026, Big Ridge Gold Corp. (TSXV: BRAU, OTCQB: ALVLF) (“**Big Ridge**” or the “**Company**”) is pleased to announce an addition to the Company’s management team and to report on recent exercises of warrants by the Company’s shareholders.

Management Update

Big Ridge Gold Corp. is pleased to announce the appointment of James Powell as Chief Operating Officer, effective March 23, 2026. James will be responsible for the overall operation of the Hope Brook gold project and for all aspects of permitting and stakeholder engagement and management as the project progresses.

James holds a Bachelor of Engineering (Civil) from the University of New Brunswick and a Master of Engineering (Mining) from McGill University. He is a professional engineer with over 25 years of technical and project management experience in mining, civil, geotechnical, and environmental disciplines. James has over 18 years of increasing responsibility in senior leadership, in both consulting and mining team roles, with significant project permitting, engineering and overall development experience primarily in gold and copper on the Island of Newfoundland, and iron ore in Labrador. He most recently held the role of Vice President, Regulatory and Government Affairs for the Valentine Gold Mine where he led the environmental and social components and provided strategic support to engineering and overall management, from advanced exploration through the development of the project. James has deep roots in the mining community in NL, having served numerous years on the executive of the NL Branch of CIM, including as president, and on the Board of Mining Industry NL, where he is currently Chair of the Board.

In connection with the appointment of Mr. Powell, on March 24, 2026, the Company awarded a total of 300,000 options exercisable at a price of \$0.32 per share in three equal tranches on March 24, 2026; March 24, 2027; and March 24, 2028.

Proceeds from Exercises of Unit Warrants

The Company is pleased to report that shareholders of the Company who participated in Big Ridge's most recent financing in July 2025 have exercised a total of 13,160,000-unit warrants, representing 63% of the warrants issued and aggregate proceeds of \$2.6 million. Michael Bandrowski, President and CEO of the Company, commented: "I would like to sincerely thank our strong shareholder base for their continued support. The proceeds further strengthen our balance sheet and will support the continued advancement of the HBGP."

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

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD,

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President & CEO

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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.