

New Discovery Yields 9,000 Ounces Of High Grade Coarse Gold From Single Cut At Beta Hunt Mine

New discovery includes 95kg specimen stone containing an estimated 2,440 ounces of gold and a 63kg specimen stone containing an estimated 1,620 ounces of gold

TORONTO, Sept. 9, 2018 /CNW/ - RNC Minerals (TSX: RNX) ("RNC"), is pleased to announce a new high-grade gold discovery at its Beta Hunt Mine. Over the past week, approximately 9,250 ounces of high grade gold was produced from a 44 m³ cut (130 tonnes) on 15 level at the Beta Hunt Mine (equal to over 70 ounces/tonne or 2,200 grams/tonne). The high grade gold (coarse gold and large gold-containing specimen stones) includes approximately 190 kg of specimen stone, the largest of which is 95 kg with an estimated gold content of 2,440 ounces and a second large specimen stone of 63kg with an estimated gold content of 1,620 ounces. Final ounces will be determined once the coarse gold is processed and/or sold over the next week which is expected to yield approximately \$C15 million in cash. All of the high grade coarse gold is hand picked, direct ship ore and immediately sent from site directly to the Perth Mint.

"Recovering 9,250 ounces of high grade coarse gold from a single cut on the 15 level at our Beta Hunt mine, including specimens which could rank among the largest ever discovered, underlines the importance of this discovery. Just 8 weeks earlier, at the end of June 2018, 1,500 ounces of high grade gold were recovered from other sediment structures on the 14 and 15 levels. These discoveries highlight the high-grade gold potential of Beta Hunt." said Mark Selby, President and CEO of RNC.

RNC is the first owner of the Beta Hunt Mine to focus on drilling deeper in the Lunnon Basalt in its search for gold, and therefore the first owner to discover and mine gold from newly discovered coarse gold located entirely within the Lunnon Basalt. Previous bonanza grade specimen stone occurrences at Beta Hunt were associated with the nickel-sulphide bearing contact between the Lunnon Basalt and the overlying Kambalda Komatiite where nickel mining has been focused by RNC and previous operators.

Based on diamond drilling and underground mapping, there are two or more Lunnon sediment bands which are a zone of narrow (0.3m), strongly pyritic black shale horizons positioned approximately 150m stratigraphically below the Lunnon Basalt/Kambalda Komatiite nickel contact (see Figure 2 below). This sediment horizon is well documented in published literature and is recognized as a marker unit in differentiating the Upper and Lower Lunnon Basalt. The sediment horizon is now also interpreted by geologists at the Beta Hunt Mine as a zone of chemical interaction between the gold bearing fluids and pyritic sulfides, which under the right conditions, allow large gold crystal growth and extremely high-grade gold deposition. This interpretation is based on geological mapping and interpretation of structures on 14 and 15 Levels, where 1,500 oz of specimen gold was discovered and mined in the second and third quarter. The structure found last week is located in a dilation zone which contains sheared pyritic sediments, porphyry and Lunnon basalt and large amount of coarse gold and specimen stone.

Understanding the depositional model for this new gold mineralization provides potential for future exploration and discovery of high grade gold material at the sediment marker layer, which runs along all known shear structures located at Beta Hunt Mine.

Beta Hunt Sale Process Update

Given the significance of this discovery to the exploration potential and value of Beta Hunt, RNC has decided to consider all alternatives, including a sale, to maximize the value of Beta Hunt for RNC shareholders. As a result of the discovery and related developments, RNC is no longer in exclusive discussions with a preferred bidder for Beta Hunt.

The strategic process regarding RNC's 100% owned Beta Hunt Mine (announced March 22, 2018), is being led by financial advisors PCF Capital Group and Haywood Securities Inc.

Please note that although there can be no assurance as to the final result of this process, RNC believes that this direction is in the best interests of the corporation and its shareholders.

Qualified Person

The disclosure of scientific and technical information contained in this news release has been approved by Kevin Small, Vice-President, Project Development of RNC, a Qualified Person under NI 43-101.

Conference Call / Webcast

RNC will host a call/webcast on Tuesday, September 11 at 10:00 a.m. (Eastern Time) to discuss the discovery. North American callers please dial: 1-888-231-8191, international callers please dial: (+1) 647-427-7450. For the webcast of this event click [\[here\]](#) (replay access information

below).

Live Conference Call and Webcast Access Information:

North American callers please dial: 1-888-231-8191

Local and international callers please dial: 647-427-7450

A live webcast of the call will be available through Cision's website at www.newswire.ca/en/webcast/index.cgi

A recording of the conference call will be available for replay for a one week period beginning at approximately 1:00 p.m. (Eastern Time) on September 12, 2018, and can be accessed as follows:

North American callers please dial: 1-855-859-2056; Pass Code: 2586118

Local and international callers please dial: 416-849-0833; Pass Code: 2586118

About RNC Minerals

RNC is a multi-asset mineral resource company with a portfolio of nickel, cobalt, and gold production and exploration properties. RNC has a 28% interest in a nickel joint venture with Waterton that owns the Dumont Nickel-Cobalt Project located in the Abitibi region of Quebec which contains the second largest nickel reserve and eighth largest cobalt reserve (the largest undeveloped nickel reserve and second largest undeveloped cobalt reserve in the world). RNC has a 100% interest in the producing Beta Hunt gold and nickel mine located in Western Australia and a 35% interest in Orford Mining Corporation, a mineral explorer focused on highly prospective and underexplored areas of Northern Quebec and the Carolina Gold Belt in the United States. RNC also has a 27% stake in the Reed Mine in Manitoba. RNC has a strong management team and Board with over 100 years of mining experience at Inco and Falconbridge. RNC's common shares trade on the TSX under the symbol RNX. RNC shares also trade on the OTCQX market under the symbol RNKLF.

Cautionary Statement Concerning Forward-Looking Statements

This news release contains "forward-looking information" including without limitation statements relating to the liquidity and capital resources of RNC, production guidance and the potential of the Beta Hunt and Reed mines as well as the and the potential of the Dumont development project and Orford Mining's Qiqavik, West Raglan, Jones-Keystone Loflin and Landrum-Faulkner exploration properties.

Forward-looking statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors which may cause the actual results, performance or achievements of RNC to be materially different from any future results, performance or achievements expressed or implied by the forward-looking statements. Factors that could affect the outcome include, among others: future prices and the supply of metals; the results of drilling; inability to raise the money necessary to incur the expenditures required to retain and advance the properties; environmental liabilities (known and unknown); general business, economic, competitive, political and social uncertainties; accidents, labour disputes and other risks of the mining industry; political instability, terrorism, insurrection or war; or delays in obtaining governmental approvals, projected cash operating costs, failure to obtain regulatory or shareholder approvals. For a more detailed discussion of such risks and other factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements, refer to RNC's filings with Canadian securities regulators, including the most recent Annual Information Form, available on SEDAR at www.sedar.com.

Although RNC has attempted to identify important factors that could cause actual actions, events or results to differ materially from those described in forward-looking statements, there may be other factors that cause actions, events or results to differ from those anticipated, estimated or intended. Forward-looking statements contained herein are made as of the date of this news release and RNC disclaims any obligation to update any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or results or otherwise, except as required by applicable securities laws.

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For further information: Rob Buchanan, Director, Investor Relations, T: (416) 363-0649, www.rncminerals.com

Additional assets available online:  [Photos \(3\)](#)