PARAMOUNT GOLD & SILVER CORP.

Form S-3 February 01, 2012

As filed with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission on February 1, 2012

Registration No. 333-

# UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

#### FORM S-3

#### REGISTRATION STATEMENT UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

Paramount Gold and Silver Corp. (Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization) 20-3690109 (I.R.S. Employer Identification Number)

665 Anderson Street Winnemucca, NV 89445 (775) 625-3600

(Address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code, of registrant's principal executive offices)

Carlo Buffone Chief Financial Officer 665 Anderson Street Winnemucca, NV 89445 (775) 625-3600

(Name, address, including zip code and telephone number, including area code, of agent for service)

With a copy to:
James T. Seery, Esq.

LeClairRyan, A Professional Corporation
One Riverfront Plaza
1037 Raymond Boulevard, Sixteenth Floor
Newark, New Jersey 07102
(973) 491-3600

Approximate date of commencement of proposed sale to the public: From time to time after the effective date of this Registration Statement, as determined by market conditions.

If the only securities being registered on this form are being offered pursuant to dividend or interest reinvestment plans, please check the following box:

If any of the securities being registered on this Form are to be offered on a delayed or continuous basis pursuant to Rule 415 under the Securities Act of 1933, other than securities offered only in connection with dividend or interest reinvestment plans, please check the following box: T

If this Form is filed to register additional securities for an offering pursuant to Rule 462(b) under the Securities Act, check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering.

If this Form is a post-effective amendment filed pursuant to Rule 462(c) under the Securities Act, check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering.

If this Form is a registration statement pursuant to General Instruction I.D. or a post effective amendment thereto that shall become effective upon filing with the Commission pursuant to Rule 462(e) under the Securities Act, check the following box.

If this form is a post-effective amendment to a registration statement filed pursuant to General Instruction I.D. filed to register additional securities or additional classes of securities pursuant to Rule 413(b) under the Securities Act, check the following box.

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, or a smaller reporting company. See the definitions of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer" and "smaller reporting company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

Large accelerated filer Non-accelerated filer	Accelerated filer T Smaller reporting company			

#### CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE

		Proposed	Proposed	
		Maximum	Maximum	
		Offering	Aggregate	Amount of
	Amount to be	Price per	Offering	Registration
Title of Each Class of Securities to be Registered	Registered(1)	Unit(2)	Price(3)	Fee(4)
Common Stock(5), Warrants(5), Units(5)	\$ 90,000,000	N/A	\$ 90,000,000	\$ 10,315
Fee amount applied from Prior Registration Statement				\$ 2,240
Fee due with this filing				\$ 8,075

- (1) There are being registered under this registration statement such indeterminate number of securities of each identified class of the registrant, all at indeterminate prices, as shall have an aggregate initial offering price not to exceed \$90,000,000 or the equivalent amount denominated in one or more foreign currencies. Any securities registered under this registration statement may be sold separately or as units with other securities registered hereunder.
- (2) The proposed maximum offering price per unit is not specified as to each class of securities to be registered, pursuant to General Instruction II.D of Form S-3 under the Securities Act. The proposed maximum offering price per unit will be determined from time to time by the registrant in connection with, and at the time of, the issuance of the securities registered hereunder.
- (3) Estimated solely for the purpose of calculating the registration fee in accordance with Rule 457 under the Securities Act.
- (4) The registration fee has been calculated pursuant to Rule 457(o) under the Securities Act. The Company still has \$57,000,000 of securities registered but remaining unsold under registration statement No. 333-153104 (the "Prior Registration Statement"). Pursuant to Rule 457(p) under the Securities Act, the Company is including in this registration statement \$57,000,000 of the securities remaining unsold under the Prior Registration Statement and for which the registration fee has previously been paid. In connection with the Prior Registration Statement, the Registrant paid an aggregate registration fee of \$3,144, of which \$2,240 applies to such amount of unsold securities. Pursuant to Rule 457(p) under the Securities Act, the Company is applying \$2,240 of such amount to the registration fee for the \$90,000,000 of securities being registered under this Registration Statement.
- (5) Pursuant to Rule 457(i) under the Securities Act, the securities registered hereunder also include such indeterminate number of shares of common stock, warrants and units as may be issued upon exercise, settlement, exchange or conversion of any securities registered hereunder that provide for those issuances. In addition, pursuant to Rule 416 under the Securities Act, the securities registered hereunder include such indeterminate number of securities as may be issuable with respect to the securities being registered hereunder as a result of stock splits, stock dividends or similar transactions.

The Registrant hereby amends this Registration Statement on such date or dates as may be necessary to delay its effective date until the Registrant shall file a further amendment which specifically states that this Registration Statement shall thereafter become effective in accordance with section 8(a) of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or until this Registration Statement shall become effective on such date as the Commission, acting pursuant to said Section 8(a), may determine.

The information in this prospectus is not complete and may be changed. We may not sell these securities until the registration statement filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission becomes effective. This prospectus is not an offer to sell these securities and it is not soliciting an offer to buy these securities in any state where the offer or sale is not permitted.

#### SUBJECT TO COMPLETION, DATED FEBRUARY 1, 2012

**PROSPECTUS** 

\$90,000,000

Common Stock Warrants Units

By this prospectus, we may from time to time offer securities to the public. We will provide specific terms of these securities in supplements to this prospectus. You should read this prospectus, each applicable prospectus supplement, and the information incorporated by reference in this prospectus and each applicable prospectus supplement carefully before you invest.

Our common stock, par value \$0.001 per share, trades on the NYSE Amex LLC and the Toronto Stock Exchange under the symbol "PZG."

You should rely only on the information incorporated by reference or provided in this prospectus or any prospectus supplement. We have not authorized anyone else to provide you with different information or to make additional representations. We are not making or soliciting an offer of any securities other than the securities described in this prospectus and any prospectus supplement. We are not making or soliciting an offer of these securities in any state or jurisdiction where the offer is not permitted or in any circumstances in which such offer or solicitation is unlawful. You should not assume that the information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus or any prospectus supplement is accurate as of any date other than the date on the front of those documents.

Investing in these securities involves a high degree of risk. See "Risk Factors" on page 6 of this prospectus, in the applicable prospectus supplement we will deliver with this prospectus and in the documents incorporated herein and therein by reference.

The securities may be sold by us to or through underwriters or dealers, directly to purchasers or through agents designated from time to time, or through a combination of these methods. For additional information on the methods of sale, you should refer to the section entitled "Plan of Distribution" in this prospectus. If any underwriters are involved in the sale of any securities with respect to which this prospectus is being delivered, the names of such underwriters and any applicable discounts or commissions and over-allotment options will be set forth in a prospectus supplement. The price to the public of such securities and the net proceeds we expect to receive from such sale will also be set forth in a prospectus supplement. This prospectus may not be used to sell any securities unless accompanied by a prospectus supplement.

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of these securities, or passed upon the adequacy or accuracy of this prospectus. Any representation to the contrary is a

		-		•	
crir	nın	ลโ	Ot1	er	ise

The date of this prospectus is

, 2012.

#### TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
PROSPECTUS SUMMARY	2
RISK FACTORS	6
SPECIAL NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS	13
USE OF PROCEEDS	13
DESCRIPTION OF COMMON STOCK, WARRANTS AND UNITS	13
PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION	16
WHERE TO FIND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION	18
INCORPORATION OF CERTAIN INFORMATION BY REFERENCE	18
LEGAL MATTERS	19
EXPERTS	19

#### ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS

In this prospectus, "Paramount," "Company," "we," "us," and "our" refer to Paramount Gold and Silver Corp., including unles the context otherwise requires, its subsidiaries.

This prospectus is part of a registration statement on Form S-3 that we filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, or SEC, using a "shelf" registration process. Under this shelf registration process, we may offer shares of our common stock and warrants to purchase shares of our common stock, either individually or in units in one or more offerings, with a total value of up to \$90,000,000. This prospectus provides you with a general description of the securities we may offer. Each time we offer a type of securities under this prospectus, we will provide a prospectus supplement that will contain more specific information about the terms of that offering. We may also add, update or change in a prospectus supplement any of the information contained in this prospectus or in documents we have incorporated by reference into this prospectus. However, no prospectus supplement will fundamentally change the terms that are set forth in this prospectus or offer a security that is not registered and described in this prospectus at the time of its effectiveness. This prospectus, together with the applicable prospectus supplements and the documents incorporated by reference into this prospectus, includes all material information relating to this offering.

You should carefully read this prospectus and any supplements, together with any documents incorporated by reference into this prospectus or any prospectus supplement before you decide to invest in our securities. You should rely only on the information we have provided or incorporated by reference in this prospectus or any prospectus supplement. We have not authorized anyone to provide you with information different from that contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus. No dealer, salesperson or other person is authorized to give any information or to represent anything not contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus. This prospectus is an offer to sell only the securities offered hereby, but only under circumstances and in jurisdictions where it is lawful to do so. You should assume that the information in this prospectus or any prospectus supplement is accurate only as of the date on the front of the document and that any information we have incorporated by reference is accurate only as of the date of the document incorporated by reference, regardless of the time of delivery of this prospectus or any sale of a security.

#### **Table of Contents**

#### PROSPECTUS SUMMARY

This summary highlights information contained elsewhere or incorporated by reference into this prospectus. Because it is a summary, it does not contain all of the information that you should consider before investing in our securities. You should read this entire prospectus carefully, including the section entitled "Risk Factors" and the documents that we incorporate by reference into this prospectus, before making an investment decision.

Business of Paramount Gold and Silver Corp.

Paramount is a U.S. based exploration stage mining company with multi-million ounce advanced stage precious metals projects in Nevada (Sleeper) and northern Mexico (San Miguel). We are a Delaware corporation incorporated on March 29, 2005. Our executive office is located at 665 Anderson Street, Winnemucca, Nevada. We also have a field office in Temoris, Chihuahua Mexico.

Our business strategy is to acquire and develop known precious metals deposits in large-scale geological environments in North America. This helps eliminate discovery risks and significantly increases the efficiency and effectiveness of exploration programs. Our projects are located in established mining camps near successful operating mines. This greatly reduces the related costs for infrastructure requirements at the exploration stage and eventually for mine construction and operations.

Inter-corporate Relationships

We currently have three active wholly owned subsidiaries:

Paramount Gold de Mexico S.A. CV operates our business in Mexico and holds our interests in the San Miguel Project and certain other mineral concessions.

Magnetic Resources Ltd., which owns Minera Gama, S.A. de C.V. ("Minera Gama"), holds interests in mineral concessions known as the Temoris project and a royalty interest in mineral concessions known as the Iris project, both located in Mexico.

X-Cal Resources, Ltd., through its wholly owned subsidiaries X-CAL USA Inc., New Sleeper Gold LLC, and Sleeper Mining Co LLC, operates our mining interests in Nevada.

**Properties** 

The San Miguel Project

Our exploratory activities are concentrated within the San Miguel Groupings which comprise the San Miguel Project.

Location

The San Miguel Project is located in southwestern Chihuahua in Northern Mexico, and is approximately 400 km by road from the state capital. The project is about 20 km north of the town of Temoris, adjacent to the village of Guazapares. It is in the Guazapares mining district, which is part of the Sierra Madre Occidental gold-silver belt.

The location of the San Miguel Project is shown in Map 1. The coordinate system used for all maps and sections in this report is the Universal Transverse Mercator system, Zone 12. GPS coordinates are referenced to NAD 27 Mexico.

## **Table of Contents**

Map 1 – San Miguel Project Location

### Land Area

The San Miguel project originally consisted of 17 smaller concessions clustered near Guazapares, Chihuahua with a total area of 427.17 hectares, plus the much larger Andrea, Gissel and Isabel concessions which were staked in 2008, the Elyca concession which was acquired in 2008, and a joint venture agreement that had been signed with Garibaldi Resources Corporation as part of a district wide exploration program.

## **Table of Contents**

Since November 2008, there have been significant additions to the San Miguel project concessions. In March 2009 we acquired from Garibaldi all of their interest in several mining concessions totaling approximately 54,000 hectares. A map of the new Temoris project is set forth below.

### Nevada Exploration Projects

The Company's Nevada exploration projects consist of the Sleeper Gold Project, located in Humboldt County, Nevada; the Mill Creek Property and the Reese River Property both located in Lander County, Nevada; and WR Claims in the Spring Valley Area located in Pershing County, Nevada. Our focus will be the exploration of the Sleeper Gold Project located in Humboldt County, Nevada.

#### **Table of Contents**

#### MAP of Nevada Explorations

### Sleeper Gold Property

The Sleeper Gold Property includes a historic open pit mine operated by AMAX Gold from 1986 until 1996, which produced 1.66 million ounces of gold, and 2.3 million ounces of silver. The property has been the subject of several exploration programs. These programs have produced an extensive database for current exploration targeting and continuing studies.

The Sleeper Gold Project is well prepared for a substantial exploration and development program. Historically, multi-million ounce gold deposits occur in multiples. The objectives of our drill program will be to: (A) explore for new bonanza grade deposits near the historic Sleeper Mine, (B) develop and delineate known areas of mineralization and (C) to combine the results with current potential metal inventory in the waste dumps, mill tailings and heap leach pads.

Exploration priorities for the Sleeper Gold Property will focus on five priority mine scale targets located near the Sleeper Mine. All five of the priority targets occur along three structural corridors parallel to the Sleeper Mine historic mineralization. None of the five targets have been sufficiently tested in prior drill programs. Current and ongoing three-dimensional modeling of geochemical data, additional geophysical interpretations and refinements and detailed compilation on Gemcom and Gocad will help set drilling priorities. However, the targets are well defined at present. Drill testing is to involve angled drill hole fences with overlap at bedrock depths. Drill orientation of these current targets is to be east-west to optimize crossing of key structural trends. Each target should have 2 to 4 drill fences to test the target concepts.

#### **Table of Contents**

The exploration program has three main objectives: (1) definition drilling to up-grade resources at the West Wood deposit and prepare it for a Preliminary Assessment ("PA") of its economic potential, (2) delineation drilling to expand and evaluate resources at the Facilities deposit for possible inclusion in the PA and (3) drill evaluation of up to six new priority targets on the property identified by our geological team. The exploration program will focus on expanding and upgrading in-situ resources on two known gold deposits using core and reverse circulation drilling. We will also begin the process of evaluating less explored targets.

#### RISK FACTORS

Investing in our securities involves risks. Our business is influenced by many factors that are difficult to predict and beyond our control and that involve uncertainties that may materially affect our results of operations, financial condition or cash flows, or the value of these securities. These risks and uncertainties are described below and in the risk factors section of the documents that are incorporated by reference in this prospectus. Subsequent prospectus supplements may contain a discussion of additional risks applicable to an investment in us and the particular type of securities we are offering under the prospectus supplements. You should carefully consider all of the information contained in or incorporated by reference in this prospectus and in the applicable prospectus supplement before you invest in our securities.

### Risks Related to our Business Operations

It is possible investors may lose their entire investment in Paramount.

Prospective investors should be aware that if we are not successful in our endeavors, your entire investment in the Company could become worthless. Even if we are successful in identifying mineral reserves that can be commercially developed, there can be no assurances that we will generate any revenues and therefore our losses will continue.

We have not generated any revenues from operations. We have a history of losses and losses are likely to continue in the future.

We have not generated any revenues from operations. Our net loss for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2011 totaled \$27,989,076. Cumulative losses since inception totaled \$89,619,848. We have incurred significant losses in the past and we will likely continue to incur losses in the future unless our drilling program proves successful. Even if our drilling program identifies gold, silver or other mineral reserves, there can be no assurance that we will be able to commercially exploit these resources, generate any revenues or generate sufficient revenues to operate profitably.

We will require significant additional capital to continue our exploration activities, and, if warranted, to develop mining operations.

Substantial expenditures will be required to determine if proven and probable mineral reserves exist at any of our properties, to develop metallurgical processes to extract metal, to develop the mining and processing facilities and infrastructure at any of our properties or mine sites and, in certain circumstances, to acquire additional property rights. We have spent and will be required to continue to expend significant amounts of capital for drilling, geological and geochemical analysis, assaying, and, when warranted, feasibility studies with regard to the results of our exploration. We may not benefit from these investments if we are unable to identify commercially exploitable mineralized material. If we decide to put one or more of our properties into production, we will require significant amounts of capital to develop and construct the mining and processing facilities and infrastructure required for mining operations. Our ability to obtain necessary funding for these purposes, in turn, depends upon a number of factors, including the status of the national and worldwide economy and the price of gold, silver and other precious metals. We may not be successful in obtaining the required financing, or if we can obtain such financing, such financing may not be on terms

that are favorable to us. Failure to obtain such additional financing could result in delay or indefinite postponement of further exploration or development and the possible, partial or total loss of our potential interest in certain properties. Any such delay could have a material adverse effect on our results of operations or financial condition.

We may acquire additional exploration stage properties and we may face negative reactions if reserves are not located on acquired properties.

We may acquire additional exploration stage properties. There can be no assurance that we will be able to identify and complete the acquisition of such properties at reasonable prices or on favorable terms and that reserves will be identified on any properties that we acquire. We may also experience negative reactions from the financial markets if we are unable to successfully complete acquisitions of additional properties or if reserves are not located on acquired properties. These factors may adversely affect the trading price of our common stock or our financial condition or results of operations.

#### **Table of Contents**

Our industry is highly competitive, attractive mineral lands are scarce, and we may not be able to obtain quality properties.

We compete with many companies in the mining industry, including large, established mining companies with substantial capabilities, personnel and financial resources. There is a limited supply of desirable mineral lands available for claim staking, lease or acquisition in the U.S., Mexico, and other areas where we may conduct exploration activities. We may be at a competitive disadvantage in acquiring mineral properties, since we compete with these individuals and companies, many of which have greater financial resources and larger technical staffs than we do.

Title to mineral properties can be uncertain, and we are at risk of loss of ownership of one or more of our properties. Our ability to explore and operate our properties depends on the validity of our title to that property. Our U.S. mineral properties consist of leases of unpatented mining claims, as which we control directly. Unpatented mining claims provide only possessory title and their validity is often subject to contest by third parties or the federal government, which makes the validity of unpatented mining claims uncertain and generally more risky. These uncertainties relate to such things as the sufficiency of mineral discovery, proper posting and marking of boundaries, assessment work and possible conflicts with other claims not determinable from public record. Since a substantial portion of all mineral exploration, development and mining in the United States now occurs on unpatented mining claims, this uncertainty is inherent in the mining industry. We have not obtained title opinions covering our entire property, with the attendant risk that title to some claims, particularly title to undeveloped property, may be defective. There may be valid challenges to the title to our property which, if successful, could impair development and/or operations.

There are no confirmed mineral deposits on any properties from which we may derive any financial benefit.

Neither the Company nor any independent geologist has confirmed commercially mineable ore deposits. In order to carry out additional exploration programs of any potential ore body and to place it into commercial production, we will require substantial additional funding.

We have no mining operations and no history as a mining company.

We are an exploration stage mining company and have no ongoing mining operations of any kind. We have interests in mining concessions which may or may not lead to production.

We have no history of earnings or cash flow from mining operations. If we are able to proceed to production, commercial viability will be affected by factors that are beyond our control such as the particular attributes of the deposit, the fluctuation in metal prices, the cost of construction and operating a mine, prices and refining facilities, the availability of economic sources for energy, government regulations including regulations relating to prices, royalties, restrictions on production, quotas on exploration of minerals, as well as the costs of protection of the environment.

If our exploration costs are higher than anticipated, then our profitability will be adversely affected.

We are currently proceeding with exploration of our mineral properties on the basis of estimated exploration costs. This exploration program includes drilling programs at various locations within Mexico and the United States. If our exploration costs are greater than anticipated, then we will have less funds for other expenses or projects. If higher exploration costs reduce the amount of funds available for the extraction of gold or silver through mining and development activities, then our ability to generate revenues will be adversely affected. Factors that could cause exploration costs to increase are: adverse weather conditions, difficult terrain, increased government regulation and shortages of qualified personnel.

During the next twelve months, and assuming no adverse developments outside of the ordinary course of business we have budgeted approximately \$12.6 million for exploratory activities of which \$6.3 million will be allocated to our Mexican operations and \$6.3 million will be allocated to our exploration in Nevada. Exploration will be funded by our available cash reserves and future issuances of common stock, warrants or units. Our drilling program may vary significantly from what we have budgeted depending upon drilling results. Even if we identify mineral reserves which have the potential to be commercially developed, we will not generate revenues until such time as we undertake mining operations. Mining operations will involve a significant capital infusion. Mining costs are speculative and dependent on a number of factors including mining depth, terrain and necessary equipment. We do not believe that we will have sufficient funds to implement mining operations without a joint venture partner, of which there can be no assurance.

#### **Table of Contents**

Our continuing reclamation obligations at the Sleeper Gold Project could require significant additional expenditures.

We are responsible for the reclamation obligations related to disturbances located on all of our properties, including the Sleeper Gold Project. We have posted a bond in the amount of the estimated reclamation obligation at the Sleeper Gold Project. Every three years, we are required to submit a mine closure plan to the Bureau of Land Management ("BLM") for the Sleeper Gold Project Based on a review by the BLM of our mine closure that we submitted in June 2010, BLM determined that our existing bond was sufficient. There is a risk that any cash bond, even if increased based on the analysis and work performed to update the reclamation obligations, could be inadequate to cover the actual costs of reclamation when carried out. The satisfaction of bonding requirements and continuing reclamation obligations will require a significant amount of capital. There is a risk that we will be unable to fund these additional bonding requirements, and further, that the regulatory authorities may increase reclamation and bonding requirements to such a degree that it would not be commercially reasonable to continue exploration activities, which may adversely affect our results of operations, financial performance and cash flows.

Mining operations are hazardous, raise environmental concerns and raise insurance risks.

The development and operation of a mine or mineral property involves many risks, which even a combination of experience, knowledge and careful evaluation may not be able to overcome. These risks include, among other things, ground fall, flooding, environmental hazards and the discharge of toxic chemicals, explosions and other accidents. Such occurrences may result in work stoppages, delays in production, increased production costs, damage to or destruction of mines and other producing facilities, injury or loss of life, damage to property, environmental damage and possible legal liability for such damages as well. Although the Company maintains liability coverage in an amount which it considers adequate for its operations, such occurrences, against which the Company may not be able, or may elect not to insure, may result in a material adverse change in the Company's financial position. The nature of these risks is such that liabilities may exceed policy limits, in which event the Company would incur substantial uninsured losses.

There may be insufficient mineral reserves to develop any of our properties and our estimates may be inaccurate.

There is no certainty that any expenditures made in the exploration of any properties will result in discoveries of commercially recoverable quantities of ore. Most exploration projects do not result in the discovery of commercially mineable deposits of ore and no assurance can be given that any particular level of recovery of gold from discovered mineralization will in fact be realized or that any identified mineral deposit will ever qualify as a commercially mineable ore body which can be legally and economically exploited. Estimates of reserves, mineral deposits and production costs can also be affected by such factors as environmental regulations and requirements, weather, environmental factors, unforeseen technical difficulties, unusual or unexpected geological formations and work interruptions. In addition, the grade of ore ultimately mined may differ from that indicated by drilling results.

Short term factors relating to reserves, such as the need for orderly development of ore bodies or the processing of new or different grades, may also have an adverse effect on mining operations and on the results of operations. There can be no assurance that gold recovered in small scale laboratory tests will be duplicated in large scale tests under on-site production conditions. Material changes in estimated reserves, grades, stripping ratios or recovery rates may affect the economic viability of any project.

We have no proven reserves.

All of our properties are in the exploration stages only and are without known bodies of commercial ore. Development of these properties will follow only upon obtaining satisfactory exploration results. The long-term profitability of the Company's operations will be in part directly related to the cost and success of its exploration and development

programs. Mineral exploration and development are highly speculative businesses, involving a high degree of risk. Few properties which are explored are ultimately developed into producing mines. There is no assurance that our mineral exploration and development activities will result in any discoveries of commercial quantities of ore. There is also no assurance that, even if commercial quantities of ore are discovered, a mineral property will be brought into commercial production. Discovery of mineral deposits is dependent upon a number of factors, not the least of which is the technical skill of the exploration personnel involved. The commercial viability of a mineral deposit once discovered is also dependent upon a number of factors, many of which are beyond the Company's control, such as the particular attributes of the deposit (such as size, grade and proximity to infrastructure), metal prices and government regulations, including regulations relating to royalties, allowable production, importing and exporting of minerals, and environmental protection.

In the course of exploration, development, and mining of mineral properties, certain unanticipated conditions may arise or unexpected or unusual events may occur, including rock bursts, cave-ins, fires, floods, or earthquakes. It is not always possible to fully insure against such risks and we may decide not to take out insurance against such risks as a result of high premiums or for other reasons. Should such liabilities arise, they may reduce or eliminate any future profitability and may result in a decline in the value of the securities of the Company.

#### **Table of Contents**

We face fluctuating gold and mineral prices and currency volatility.

The price of gold and silver as well as other precious base metals has experienced volatile and significant price movements over short periods of time and is affected by numerous factors beyond our control, including international economic and political trends, expectations of inflation, currency exchange fluctuations (including, the U.S. dollar relative to other currencies) interest rates, global or regional consumption patterns, speculative activities and increases in production due to improved mining and production methods. The supply of and demand for gold, other precious and base metals are affected by various factors, including political events, economic conditions and production costs in major mineral producing regions.

Our estimates of resources are subject to uncertainty.

Estimates of resources are subject to considerable uncertainty. Such estimates are arrived at using standard acceptable geological techniques, and are based on the interpretations of geological data obtained from drill holes and other sampling techniques. Engineers use feasibility studies to derive estimates of cash operating costs based on anticipated tonnage and grades of ore to be mined and processed, the predicted configuration of the ore bodies, expected recovery rates of metal from ore, comparable facility and operating costs and other factors. Actual cash operating costs and economic returns on projects may differ significantly from the original estimates, primarily due to fluctuations in the current prices of metal commodities extracted from the deposits, changes in fuel costs, labor rates, changes in permit requirements, and unforeseen variations in the characteristics of the ore body. Due to the presence of these factors, there is no assurance that any geological reports will accurately reflect actual quantities of gold, silver or other metals that can be economically processed and mined by us.

If we are unable to obtain all of our required governmental permits, our operations could be negatively impacted.

Our future operations, including exploration and development activities, required permits from various governmental authorities. Such operations are and will be governed by laws and regulations governing prospecting, development, mining, production, exports, taxes, labor standards, occupational health, waste disposal, toxic substances, land use, environmental protection, mine safety and other matters. There can be no assurance that we will be able to acquire all required licenses or permits or to maintain continued operations at our properties.

We are subject to numerous environmental and other regulatory requirements.

All phases of mining and exploration operations are subject to governmental regulation including environmental regulation. Environmental legislation is becoming stricter, with increased fines and penalties for non-compliance, more stringent environmental assessments of proposed projects and heightened responsibility for companies and their officers, directors and employees. There can be no assurance that possible future changes in environmental regulation will not adversely affect our operations. As well, environmental hazards may exist on a property in which we hold an interest that was caused by previous or existing owners or operators of the properties and of which the Company is not aware at present.

Government approvals and permits are required to be maintained in connection with our mining and exploration activities. Although we currently have all required permits for our operations as currently conducted, there is no assurance that delays will not occur in connection with obtaining all necessary renewals of such permits for the existing operations or additional permits for any possible future changes to the Company's operations, including any proposed capital improvement programs. Failure to comply with applicable laws, regulations and permitting requirements may result in enforcement actions there under, including orders issued by regulatory or judicial authorities causing operations to cease or be curtailed, and may include corrective measures requiring capital expenditures, installation of additional equipment, or remedial actions. Parties engaged in mining operations may be

required to compensate those suffering loss or damage by reason of the mining activities and may be liable for civil or criminal fines or penalties imposed for violations of applicable laws or regulations. Amendments to current laws, regulations and permitting requirements, or more stringent application of existing laws, may have a material adverse impact on the Company resulting in increased capital expenditures or production costs, reduced levels of production at producing properties or abandonment or delays in development of properties.

#### **Table of Contents**

There is no assurance that there will not be title or boundary disputes.

Although we have investigated the right to explore and exploit our properties and obtained records from government offices with respect to all of the mineral claims comprising our properties, this should not be construed as a guarantee of title. Other parties may dispute the title to any of our properties or that any property may be subject to prior unregistered agreements and transfers or land claims by aboriginal, native, or indigenous peoples. The title may be affected by undetected encumbrances or defects or governmental actions.

Local infrastructure may impact our exploration activities and results of operations.

Mining, processing, development and exploration activities depend, to one degree or another, on adequate infrastructure. Reliable roads, bridges and power and water supplies are important determinants that affect capital and operating costs. Unusual or infrequent weather phenomena, sabotage or government or other interference in the maintenance or provision of such infrastructure could adversely affect the activities and profitability of the Company.

Our financial position and results are subject to fluctuations in foreign currency values.

Any mining operations we undertake outside of the United States will be subject to currency fluctuations. Fluctuations in the exchange rate between the U.S. dollar and any foreign currency may adversely impact our operations. We do not anticipate that we will enter into any type of hedging transactions to offset this risk. In addition, with respect to commercial operations in Mexico or other countries, it is possible that material transactions incurred in local currency, such as engagement of local contractors for major projects, will be settled at a U.S. dollar value that is different from the U.S. dollar value of the transaction at the time it was incurred. This could have the effect of undermining revenues from operations in that country.

Our property interests in Mexico are subject to risks from instability in that country.

We have property interests in Mexico which may be affected by risks associated with political or economic instability in that country. The risks with respect to Mexico or other developing countries include, but are not limited to: fluctuations in currency exchange rates, criminal activity, lack of personal safety or ability to safeguard property, labor instability or militancy, mineral title irregularities and high rates of inflation. In addition, changes in mining or investment policies or shifts in political attitude in Mexico or the United States may adversely affect our business. We may be affected in varying degrees by government regulation with respect to restrictions on production, price controls, export controls, income taxes, expropriation of property, maintenance of claims, environmental legislation, land use, land claims of local people, water use and mine safety. The effect of these factors cannot be accurately predicted but may adversely impact our proposed operations in any foreign jurisdiction.

Increasing violence between the Mexican government and drug cartels may result in additional costs of doing business in Mexico.

To date, we have not incurred additional costs as a result of increasing violence between the Mexican government and drug cartels. The state of Chihuahua where the San Miguel property is located has experienced over 2,500 deaths attributable to the drug wars. To date, this violence has had no impact on our business operations. Management remains cognizant that the drug cartels may expand their operations or violence in areas in close proximity to our operations. Should this occur, we will be required to hire additional security personnel. We have not budgeted for increased security. However, if drug violence becomes a problem or, any other violence impacts our operations, the costs to protect our personnel and property will adversely impact our operations.

There may be challenges to our title in our mining properties.

While we intend to conduct our own due diligence prior to committing significant funds to any project, mining properties may be subject to prior unregistered agreements, transfers or claims and title may be affected by undetected defects. Should this occur, we face significant delays, costs and the possible loss of any investments or commitment of capital.

Because of the speculative nature of exploration for gold and silver properties, there is substantial risk that our business will fail.

The search for precious metals as a business is extremely risky. We cannot provide any assurances that the gold or silver mining interests that we acquired will contain commercially exploitable reserves of gold or silver. Exploration for minerals is a speculative venture necessarily involving substantial risk. Any expenditure that we make may not result in the discovery of commercially exploitable reserves of gold.

#### **Table of Contents**

The precious metals markets are volatile markets. This will have a direct impact on the Company's revenues (if any) and profits (if any) and will probably have an adverse affect on our ongoing operations.

The price of both gold and silver has increased over the past few years. This has contributed to the renewed interest in gold and silver mining and companies engaged in that business, including the exploration for both gold and silver. However, in the event that the price of these metals fall, the interest in the gold and silver mining industry may decline and the value of the Company's business could be adversely affected. Further, although it is anticipated that mining costs outside of the United States and Canada will be appreciably lower, no assurances can be given that the situation will remain, or that gold or silver will remain at a price that will enable us to generate revenues from our mining operations. Even if we are able to generate revenues, there can be no assurance that any of our operations will prove to be profitable. Finally, in recent decades, there have been periods of both overproduction and underproduction of both gold and silver resources. Such conditions have resulted in periods of excess supply of and reduced demand on a worldwide basis and on a domestic basis. These periods have been followed by periods of short supply of and increased demand for both gold and silver. The excess or short supply of gold has placed pressure on prices and has resulted in dramatic price fluctuations even during relatively short periods of seasonal market demand. We cannot predict what the market for gold or silver will be in the future.

Government regulation or changes in such regulation may adversely affect the Company's business.

The Company has and will, in the future, engage experts to assist it with respect to its operations. The Company deals with various regulatory and governmental agencies and the rules and regulations of such agencies. No assurances can be given that it will be successful in its efforts or dealings with these agencies. Further, in order for the Company to operate and grow its business, it needs to continually conform to the laws, rules and regulations of such jurisdiction. It is possible that the legal and regulatory environment pertaining to the exploration and development of gold mining properties will change. Uncertainty and new regulations and rules could increase the Company's cost of doing business or prevent it from conducting its business.

We are in competition with companies that are larger, more established and better capitalized than we are.

Many of our potential competitors have:

- greater financial and technical resources;
- longer operating histories and greater experience in mining;
- greater awareness of the political, economic and governmental risks in operating in Mexico.

Exploration for economic deposits of minerals is speculative.

The business of mineral exploration is very speculative, since there is generally no way to recover any o