

Almaden Infill Drilling on Main Zone, Hits 17.75 Meters of 2.62 g/t Au, 91.1 g/t Ag (4.4 g/t Aueq) at Ixtaca, Mexico

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VANCOUVER, BRITISH COLUMBIA--(Marketwired - Dec 16, 2013) - [Almaden Minerals Ltd.](#) ("**Almaden**" or "**the Company**") (TSX:AMM)(NYSE MKT:AAU) is pleased to announce the results from Almaden's ongoing 2013 Ixtaca Zone drill program at the Company's 100% owned Tuligtic project, Mexico. The infill program has been designed to upgrade resources currently in the inferred category to the higher confidence measured and indicated categories. The holes announced today show the continuity and high grades of the Main and Northern zones defined with previous drilling. Highlights from the holes released today include the following intercepts (a more complete list of intercepts is shown in the table below):

Hole TU-13-375 NORTHERN ZONE SECTION 10+700 NORTH, 330 Az, -60 dip
38.70 meters @ 1.58 g/t gold and 36.6 g/t silver (2.3 g/t gold equivalent)
28.69 meters @ 0.54 g/t gold and 61.0 g/t silver (1.8 g/t gold equivalent)
42.00 meters @ 0.30 g/t gold and 40.1 g/t silver (1.1 g/t gold equivalent)
Including 10.58 meters @ 0.81 g/t gold and 109.8 g/t silver (3.0 g/t gold equivalent)

Hole TU-13-376 MAIN ZONE SECTION 10+625 NORTH, 330 Az, -68 dip
45.39 meters @ 0.58 g/t gold and 14.6 g/t silver (0.9 g/t gold equivalent)
17.75 meters @ 1.22 g/t gold and 67.9 g/t silver (2.6 g/t gold equivalent)
28.70 meters @ 1.37 g/t gold and 81.7 g/t silver (3.0 g/t gold equivalent)
Including 11.50 meters @ 2.45 g/t gold and 185.5 g/t silver (6.2 g/t gold equivalent)

Hole TU-13-379 NORTHERN ZONE SECTION 10+700 NORTH, 330 Az, -35 dip
7.80 meters @ 2.06 g/t gold and 110.0 g/t silver (4.3 g/t gold equivalent)

Hole TU-13-387 MAIN ZONE SECTION 10+450 NORTH, 150 Az, -67 dip
103.00 meters @ 0.97 g/t gold and 40.3 g/t silver (1.8 g/t gold equivalent)
Including 17.75 meters @ 2.62 g/t gold and 91.1 g/t silver (4.4 g/t gold equivalent)

Hole TU-13-392 MAIN ZONE SECTION 10+450 NORTH, 150 Az, -40 dip
121.32 meters @ 0.47 g/t gold and 49.8 g/t silver (1.5 g/t gold equivalent)
Including 15.85 meters @ 1.02 g/t gold and 110.7 g/t silver (3.2 g/t gold equivalent)

J.D. Poliquin, chairman of Almaden stated, "Today's holes once again show the continuity of this part of the Main Zone and highlights the high grades that core it. The infill drilling program underway was designed to upgrade the confidence of our resource base. It also provides an opportunity to remind our shareholders that the Ixtaca zone of veining is cored by several well defined and intensely mineralised high grade gold silver zones that have good continuity along strike."

Below is a plan map and relevant sections which will be posted to the Company's website (www.almadenminerals.com).

<http://media3.marketwire.com/docs/AMM1216.pdf>

About the Ixtaca Drilling Program and the Ixtaca Project

The 100% owned Ixtaca zone is a blind discovery made by the Company in 2010 on claims staked by the Company. On January 31, 2013 the Company announced a maiden resource on the Ixtaca Zone. Since that time drilling has been focused on expanding and infilling the known resource base for a PEA. This program was extended in 2013 in order to report a more robust resource for a PEA to follow. The Company has selected Moose Mountain Technical Services to lead a PEA on the Ixtaca deposit. Knight Piesold Ltd. will provide certain engineering and environmental design inputs for the PEA and have been retained to help the Company with long lead item studies concerning environmental monitoring, assessment and permitting matters. Apart from drilling, work underway currently includes additional metallurgical studies, environmental

baseline monitoring such as flora and fauna studies, climate monitoring, water quality sampling and surface water hydrology monitoring, a geochemistry program, and scoping level engineering studies. Once the results from this year's drill program have been received in early 2014, a new geologic model and resource will be reported. This anticipated updated resource will form the basis of a PEA to follow. In 2014 the Company anticipates redirecting drilling efforts to the exploration of high priority epithermal targets outside of the Ixtaca zone but within the project boundaries.

Hole #	From (m)	To (m)	Interval (m)	Au (g/t)	Ag (g/t)	AuEq (g/t)	AgEq (g/t)	SECTION	
TU-13-375	35.50	74.20	38.70	1.58	36.6	2.3	115	10700E	
including	41.00	63.00	22.00	2.00	36.3	2.7	136		
including	52.00	54.50	2.50	2.62	31.7	3.3	163		
including	58.00	62.50	4.50	4.64	82.8	6.3	315		
including	67.60	73.00	5.40	1.82	67.8	3.2	159		
TU-13-375	117.00	145.69	28.69	0.54	61.0	1.8	88		
including	117.00	119.50	2.50	0.66	70.8	2.1	104		
including	125.00	127.00	2.00	2.17	395.8	10.1	504		
including	132.50	138.00	5.50	1.02	83.8	2.7	135		
TU-13-375	158.00	200.00	42.00	0.30	40.1	1.1	55		
including	159.50	170.08	10.58	0.81	109.8	3.0	150		
TU-13-375	228.00	244.50	16.50	0.72	54.8	1.8	91		
including	228.00	229.00	1.00	8.69	830.5	25.3	1265		
TU-13-376	157.65	168.00	10.35	0.26	3.0	0.3	16		10625E
TU-13-376	178.50	223.89	45.39	0.58	14.6	0.9	44		
including	192.00	207.50	15.50	0.97	21.4	1.4	70		
TU-13-376	272.75	276.50	3.75	0.34	52.7	1.4	70		
TU-13-376	311.00	359.25	48.25	0.22	15.4	0.5	26		
including	342.50	345.25	2.75	1.13	73.6	2.6	130		
TU-13-376	381.50	399.25	17.75	1.22	67.9	2.6	129		
including	381.50	388.40	6.90	2.55	127.4	5.1	255		
TU-13-376	408.25	436.95	28.70	1.37	81.7	3.0	150		
including	409.80	421.30	11.50	2.45	185.5	6.2	308		
TU-13-376	443.40	447.45	4.05	0.54	4.7	0.6	32		
TU-13-379	78.00	79.50	1.50	0.10	11.0	0.3	16	10700E	
TU-13-379	87.00	150.50	63.50	0.37	27.2	0.9	46		
including	116.20	124.00	7.80	2.06	110.0	4.3	213		
including	116.20	120.50	4.30	3.28	138.9	6.1	303		
including	147.50	150.50	3.00	0.72	98.6	2.7	135		
TU-13-387	27.50	30.50	3.00	0.11	25.7	0.6	31	10450E	
TU-13-387	38.25	70.00	31.75	0.38	34.5	1.1	54		
including	46.00	51.50	5.50	1.56	125.7	4.1	204		
TU-13-387	83.50	101.00	17.50	0.28	32.6	0.9	47		
including	85.00	92.50	7.50	0.49	60.2	1.7	85		
TU-13-387	116.00	219.00	103.00	0.97	40.3	1.8	89		
including	125.00	126.00	1.00	4.15	558.5	15.3	766		
including	130.25	134.00	3.75	5.37	153.8	8.4	422		
including	148.00	165.75	17.75	2.62	91.1	4.4	222		
including	193.85	204.65	10.80	0.92	34.5	1.6	81		
TU-13-392	30.48	151.80	121.32	0.47	49.8	1.5	73		10450E
including	33.15	40.00	6.85	0.54	56.1	1.7	83		
including	47.00	76.00	29.00	0.62	64.4	1.9	95		
including	53.00	56.50	3.50	1.46	146.8	4.4	220		
including	68.50	75.50	7.00	0.93	103.3	3.0	150		
including	84.00	87.50	3.50	0.88	68.3	2.2	112		
including	102.65	118.50	15.85	1.02	110.7	3.2	162		
including	102.65	109.00	6.35	1.33	170.0	4.7	236		
including	115.60	117.50	1.90	1.66	163.8	4.9	247		
including	130.50	137.00	6.50	1.19	144.3	4.1	204		
TU-13-392	168.50	180.50	12.00	0.27	45.1	1.2	59		
including	175.50	178.10	2.60	0.64	149.3	3.6	181		

The Ixtaca deposit and any potential mining operation would be located in an area previously logged or

cleared with negligible to no current land usage. The Company currently employs roughly 70 people in its drilling program who live local to the Ixtaca deposit. Local employees make up virtually all the drilling staff, who have been trained on the job to operate the Company's wholly owned drills. The Company has implemented a comprehensive science based and objective community relations and education program for employees and all local stakeholders to transparently explain the exploration program underway as well as the potential impacts and benefits of any possible future mining operation at Ixtaca. The Company regards the local inhabitants to be major stakeholders in the Ixtaca deposit's future along with the Company's shareholders. Every effort is being made to create an open and clear dialogue with our stakeholders to ensure that any possible development scenarios that could evolve from the anticipated PEA are properly understood and communicated throughout the course of the Company's exploration and development program. The Company invites all interested parties to visit www.almadenminerals.com to find out more about our community development, education and outreach programs.

Technical Details of the Ixtaca Drilling Program

The Main Ixtaca and Ixtaca North Zones of veining are interpreted to have a north-easterly trend. Holes to date suggest that the Main Ixtaca and Ixtaca North Zones are sub vertical with local variations. This interpretation suggests that true widths range from approximately 35% of intersected widths for a -70 degree hole to 94% of intersected widths for a -20 degree hole. The drilling completed to date has traced mineralisation over 1,000 meters along this northeast trend. The Chemalaco (Northeast Extension) Zone strikes roughly north-south (340 azimuth) and dips at 55 degrees to the west. This interpretation suggests that true widths range from approximately 82% of intersected widths for a -70 degree hole to 99% of intersected widths for a -40 degree hole.

Mr. Norm Dircks, P.Geo., a qualified person ("QP") under the meaning of NI 43-101, is the QP and project manager of Almaden's Ixtaca program and reviewed the technical information in this news release. The analyses reported were carried out at ALS Chemex Laboratories of North Vancouver using industry standard analytical techniques. For gold, samples are first analysed by fire assay and atomic absorption spectroscopy ("AAS"). Samples that return values greater than 10 g/t gold using this technique are then re-analysed by fire assay but with a gravimetric finish. Silver is first analysed by Inductively Coupled Plasma - Atomic Emission Spectroscopy ("ICP-AES"). Samples that return values greater than 100 g/t silver by ICP-AES are then re-analysed by HF-HNO₃-HClO₄ digestion with HCL leach and ICP-AES finish. Of these samples those that return silver values greater than 1,500 g/t are further analysed by fire assay with a gravimetric finish.

Blanks, field duplicates and certified standards were inserted into the sample stream as part of Almaden's quality assurance and control program which complies with National Instrument 43-101 requirements. Gold equivalent ("AuEq" or "Gold Eq.") and silver equivalent ("AgEq" or "Silver Eq.") values were calculated using silver to gold ratios of 50 to 1. The ratio of 50 to 1 was used for the sake of consistency with past news releases. Intervals that returned assays below detection were assigned zero values. Metallurgical recoveries and net smelter returns are assumed to be 100% for these calculations.

About Almaden

Almaden is a well-financed mineral exploration company working in North America. The company has assembled mineral exploration projects, including the Ixtaca Zone and the Tuligtic project, through its grass roots exploration efforts. While the properties are largely at early stages of development they represent exciting opportunities for the discovery of significant gold, silver and copper deposits as evidenced at Ixtaca. Almaden's business model is to find and acquire mineral properties and develop them by seeking option agreements with others who can acquire an interest in a project by making payments and exploration expenditures. Through this means the company has been able to expose its shareholders to discovery and capital gain without the funding and consequent share dilution that would be required if the company were to have developed these projects without a partner. The company intends to expand this business model, described by some as prospect generation, by more aggressively exploring several of its projects including the Ixtaca Zone.

On Behalf of the Board of Directors

Morgan J. Poliquin, Ph.D., P.Eng., President, CEO and Director

[Almaden Minerals Ltd.](http://www.almadenminerals.com)

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