



TSX Venture Exchange: AST
 Frankfurt Stock Exchange: A7D WKN# A0JDX3
 Pink Sheets: ASMGF

TSX Venture Exchange: KTN

NEWS RELEASE – June 9th 2008

Astral Shares Outstanding – 21,999,109
 Kootenay Shares Outstanding – 28,266,975

Astral and Kootenay Drill 7.5m at 10.05 g/t gold on the Jumping Josephine Gold Project

Vancouver, BC - Astral Mining Corporation (TSX-V AST) (“Astral” or “the Company”) and joint venture partners Kootenay Gold Inc. (TSX-V KTN) are pleased to announce the the first three HQ drill holes of a 30 hole, 5,000m diamond drilling program at the Jumping Josephine gold property in south-eastern British Columbia.

Results include **10.05 g/t gold over 7.5 metres** from hole 08JD070 and **13.23 g/t gold over 4 metres** from hole 08JD072. Detailed results are provided below in Table 1.

The three holes were drilled on a section 20m north of the section containing holes 07JD001-4 and 07JD014 and the lowest (08JD072) cut the zone at approximately 30m below surface. True width of the stockwork zone in 08JD070 and 071 is approximately 6m and in 08JD072 is approximately 3.2m.

Table 1: Significant Intervals from HQ Diamond Drill Holes on JJ Main Gold Zone

HOLE ID	UTM E [^]	UTM N [^]	DIP	AZI (utm)	FROM (m)	TO (m)	WIDTH (m)	Au (g/t)	WIDTH (ft)	Au (opt)*
08JD070	429799	5456799	-45	315	5.38	12.88	7.5	10.05	24.61	0.293
(including)					5.38	7.38	2.0	34.10	6.56	0.996
08JD071	429799	5456799	-65	315	7.26	14.26	7.0	3.93	22.97	0.115
(including)					7.26	8.26	1.0	10.15	3.28	0.296
08JD072	429827	5456770	-60	315	28.8	32.8	4.0	13.23	13.12	0.386
(including)					30.8	32.8	2.0	23.81	6.56	0.695

* troy ounce per short ton

[^]drill collars spotted with compass and chain – not yet surveyed

These infill holes are designed to block-out near surface mineralization on the JJ Main discovery zone.

During 2007 Astral carried out preliminary drill-testing of the structurally-controlled gold-bearing quartz stockwork veining at the Jumping Josephine Main Zone. Significant gold mineralization was intersected over a strike length of 700m and to vertical depths of up to 225m below surface on 15 section lines. Based on these encouraging results, an aggressive exploration program including significant infill and step out drilling and a 40 line kilometre 3D-Induced Polarization (IP) geophysical survey are currently underway.

Infill aeromagnetics, geological mapping and surface geochemistry suggest that the host structure for the mineralized stockwork at JJ Main may extend for over three kilometres. Current information indicates the JJ Main Gold Zone has an estimated true width of up to 12.6m (41.32 feet) as evidenced by previously reported hole 07JD013 (see July 12, 2007 News Release). The JJ Main Discovery Zone is centred over a circular feature seen in aeromagnetic data to be approximately 2km in diameter. The 40 line km 3D-IP survey covering this feature is nearing completion and a preliminary inversion on early data is now in progress. The results of this survey will augment currently available geochemical,

geological and aeromagnetic data in identifying new JJ Main-style gold zones,, assessing the potential for porphyry-style mineralization associated with the circular magnetic feature at depth and extending the 700 meter strike length of the JJ Main.

A map showing 2007 drillhole locations and a longitudinal section are provided on Astral's website at the following links: http://www.astralmining.com/i/pdf/2007-11-29_JJDP.pdf and http://www.astralmining.com/i/pdf/2007-11-29_JJDP.pdf

Technical Details

All samples reported were taken from HQ diameter core halved by diamond saw. Visible gold was observed within quartz veins comprising the stockwork zone in each of the three reported holes. As with previous work at the JJ Main prospect, samples from the stockwork zone were assumed to contain coarse gold and were analyzed by the screen fire assay method. This method aims to report the total contained gold for a 1,000g sub-sample of each pulverized sample received and is considered more accurate than the routine 30g fire assay analysis when coarse gold is present. All analyses were reported by ALS Chemex in North Vancouver B.C. ALS-Chemex is an internationally-recognized analytical service provider. In addition to laboratory standards Astral has included its own blanks and independently-prepared standards into the sample sequence to assure proper quality assurance/quality control (QA/QC). Samples adjacent to the mineralized stockwork zone do not host obvious quartz veining or sulphide mineralization and are sent for 30gm fire assay analysis for gold. At the time of writing, the fringing assays from the reported intervals were still outstanding.

Exploration work reported in this release was completed under the supervision of Astral's Project Geologist Dale Brittliffe, P.Geo. Technical information contained in this release has been reviewed by Dr. David A. Terry, P.Geo., Director and Vice President of Exploration for Astral Mining Corporation, and a Qualified Person as defined in National Instrument 43-101.

Astral has earned a 60% interest in the JJ Project from Kootenay (see May, 2008 news release).

Astral Mining Corporation, is a Canadian-based company engaged in the exploration and development of precious metal properties in North America. By focusing on exploration in mining-friendly districts, the Company minimizes the political and social risks encountered in many other parts of the world. With a new gold discovery at the Company's Jumping Josephine Gold Project in Southern British Columbia and an experienced technical team and seasoned management, Astral is poised to leverage this expertise into early exploration success. Further details on Astral Mining Corporation and its high-quality portfolio of exploration projects can be found at www.astralmining.com.

Kootenay is an emerging exploration Company actively developing mineral projects in British Columbia, Canada and the Sierra Madre Region of Mexico. The Company's top priority remains the ongoing development of its 100% owned Promontorio Silver project, which encompasses the former producing Promontorio Silver Mine in Northwest Mexico. Further information can be found at: www.kootenaygold.ca

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD

"Manfred Kurschner"

Mr. Manfred Kurschner, President & CEO
Astral Mining Corporation

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD

"James M. McDonald"

Mr. James M. McDonald, CEO
Kootenay Gold Inc.

For further information on Astral please contact Manfred Kurschner, President & CEO, at or 604-641-1315, or by email info@astralmining.com, or visit the Company's web site at <http://www.astralmining.com>.

For further information on Kootenay Gold, James McDonald, CEO at 403- 238-6986 or Ken Berry, President at 604-601-5655; 1-888-601-5650; www.kootenaygold.ca

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