



**NEWS RELEASE** 

# Orea Receives Government Approvals and Signs Definitive Agreement to Close Acquisition of 100% of 5 million Ounce Montagne d'Or Gold Deposit

Vancouver, BC, Canada, January 4, 2023, Orea Mining Corp. ("Orea") (OREA: TSX) (OREAF: OTCQB) (3CG: FSE) is pleased to announce that it has signed a Definitive Agreement to acquire Nordgold's 55.01% interest (for a total of 100%) in the Montagne d'Or joint-venture company ("HoldingCo") in French Guiana, France. HoldingCo holds 100% of the Montagne d'Or permitting stage, 5-million-ounce open pit gold mine development project\*. Montagne d'Or has good grade, excellent metallurgy, and there is considerable potential to increase ounces by infill and expansion drilling.\*

Orea has appointed its own President to operate HoldingCo, and has dissolved HoldingCo's board of directors which previously included representatives from Nordgold. The final regulatory and administrative steps to close by transferring Nordgold's shares of HoldingCo to Orea are underway, and must be completed by February 28, 2023.

Under the Definitive Agreement, HoldingCo has settled 24.6 million Euro (~CAN\$35.6 million) that was owed to Nordgold with no cash outlays by Orea. In addition, consideration is entirely at the back-end, whereby Orea will only be obligated to pay Nordgold CAN\$100 million when Orea receives all permits and authorizations necessary for the construction, operation, production and related sales of a mine that produces a minimum of 100,000 ounces of gold per year. If Nordgold's shareholders are still under sanctions at the time of the CAN\$100 million payment, then the funds will only be processed in compliance with applicable sanction regulations, including being paid to a blocked bank account.

The Definitive Agreement was signed with the approval of the French treasury (DG Trésor) which is responsible for overseeing matters related to Russian sanctions. Comfort related to sanctions was also obtained from the UK treasury (OFSI), and the US Treasury (OFAC) has been kept informed of all developments, following the signing of the initial letter agreement with Nordgold which was executed under a General Licence that was granted by OFAC in June 2022.

In addition, further to the press release of December 6, 2022, announcing the bolstering of its management team to focus on permitting of the Montagne d'Or Project, Orea announces that Andrew Yau has agreed to resign as Executive Vice President & CFO, but will remain with Orea until March 15, 2023, so that Orea may locate a native French speaker to succeed him. Orea is committed to assembling a strong permitting team and believes that a French speaking CFO is essential to the permitting process. Orea would like to thank Mr. Yau for his vital contributions and exceptional commitment to Orea over the past ten years and wishes him great success in his future endeavours.

# \*About Montagne d'Or

Orea is awaiting a decision by the Supreme Court of France regarding the renewal of the Montagne d'Or mining titles (see press release of May 10, 2022). Montagne d'Or is an open pit gold mine development project that hosts Measured Mineral Resources of 10.3 Mt at 1.804 g/t gold (600,000 oz), Indicated Mineral Resources of 74.8 Mt at 1.350 g/t gold (3.25 Moz) and additional Inferred Mineral Resources of 20.2 Mt at 1.48 g/t gold (960,000 oz), prepared in accordance with the requirements of National Instrument 43-101 - Standards of Disclosure for Mineral Projects ("NI 43-101"). The Mineral Resources are confined within a pit shell defined by a gold price of US\$1,300/oz and a cut-off grade of 0.4 g/t gold. Mineral Reserves have also been defined with Proven Mineral Reserves of 8.25 Mt at 1.99 g/t gold (530,000 oz) and Probable Mineral Reserves of 45.87 Mt at 1.50 g/t gold (2.2 M oz). The Proven and Probable Mineral Reserves were estimated using a gold price of US\$1,200 per ounce at varied cut-off grades from 0.552 to 0.665 g/t gold, dependent on lithological rock types, economics and estimated metallurgical recovery. Montagne d'Or ore can be readily processed to recover the contained gold and silver values using unit operations considered standard to the industry.

## **Qualified Person**

Rock Lefrançois, a Qualified Person under National Instrument 43-101, has reviewed this news release and is responsible for the technical information reported herein, including verification of the data disclosed.

# **About Orea Mining Corp.**

Orea is a leading gold exploration and development company operating in a prospective and underexplored segment of the Guiana Shield, South America. Its mission is to develop gold deposits with a reduced environmental footprint using innovative technologies, upholding the highest international standards for responsible mining. In French Guiana, Orea holds a 100% interest in the world-class Montagne d'Or mine development project.

For more about Orea visit the company's website at www.oreamining.com

Robert F. Giustra Chairman

For more information contact:

(604) 418 6560 ir@oreamining.com

### Forward-Looking Statements

Certain statements made herein, including statements relating to matters that are not historical facts and statements of the Company's beliefs, intentions and expectations about developments, results and events which will or may occur in the future, constitute "forward looking information" within the meaning of applicable Canadian securities legislation ("forward-looking statements"). Forward-looking statements relate to future events or future performance, reflect current expectations or beliefs regarding future events and are typically identified by words such as "anticipate", "could", "should", "expect", "seek", "may", "intend", "likely", "budget", "plan", "estimate", continue", "forecast", "believe",

"predict", "potential", "target", "would", "might", "will", and similar words, expressions or phrases (including negative variations) suggesting future outcomes or statements regarding an outlook. These include, but are not limited to, statements and information regarding: the Company's plans to construct and develop the Montagne d'Or project, including anticipated timing thereof; the timing, processes, outcome and other matters related to the renewal of the Montagne d'Or concessions, including the appeal from the French Government; action plans in response to the sanctions imposed on Nord Gold plc, results of any discussions or negotiations with Nord Gold plc regarding the acquisition of Montagne d'Or, directly or indirectly, including obtaining necessary approvals from regulatory and sanctions authorities; completion of the acquisition of the remaining 55.01% s interest of Montagne d'Or; plans to carry-out updated economic studies for Montagne d'Or project, including the possibility of resulting in a higher NPV; the impact from rulings by the French Constitutional Court regarding the French Mining Code; the satisfaction of regulatory requirements in respect of the permitting, construction and operation of the Montagne d'Or project, including but not limited to, the submission and processing of mine permit applications, the timing thereof and the timing of completion of environmental and engineering studies; the Company's ability to renew the concessions for the Montagne d'Or project and to comply with the conditions thereof; economic analysis for the Montagne d'Or project and related exploration objectives and plans; the conversion of mineral resources into mineral reserves and the conversion of inferred mineral resources into higher resource classification categories; the Company's objective of become an emerging gold producer; the acquisition of exploration projects including terms of acquisition, exploration or development plans, intentions to acquire additional exploration or development interests and the implications thereof; the elimination or reduction of costs; the production capacity and potential of future plant and equipment; future exploration and mine plans, objectives and expectations and corporate planning of the Company, future studies and environmental impact statements and the timetable for completion and content thereof; impacts of government sanctions against the Company's joint venture partner; and statements as to management's expectations with respect to, among other things, the matters and activities contemplated in this news release.

Forward-looking statements are made based upon certain assumptions and other important factors that, if untrue, could cause the actual results, performance or achievements of the Company to be materially different from future results, performance or achievements expressed or implied by such statements. Such assumptions and analyses are made by the Company's management in light of their experience and perception of historical trends, current conditions and expected future developments, as well as other factors management believes are reasonable and appropriate in the circumstances. All assumptions and analyses are those of the Company's. There can be no assurance that such statements will prove to be accurate. Forward-looking statements are based on numerous assumptions regarding present and future business strategies, local and global economic conditions, and the environment in which the Company will operate in the future, including compliance by the Company with regulatory and permitting requirements applicable in French Guiana, the sufficiency of Company's working capital; the Company's ability to secure additional funding for the continued exploration and development of its properties; the price of gold and other metals; and the Company's ability to retain key personnel. You are hence cautioned not to place undue reliance on forward-looking statements.

Certain important factors that could cause actual results, performance or achievements to differ materially from those in the forward-looking statements include, among others, political and economic risks in France, political and economic risks in French Guiana, risks related to the renewal applications for the Concessions and the possible outcomes thereof; possible negative outcomes of any appeals from the decision of the Administrative Court of Cayenne in French Guiana; possible negative impacts from rulings by the French Constitutional Court regarding the French Mining Code; regulatory risk including but not limited to unforeseen changes in regulatory requirements, the Company's ability to enforce its contractual and other legal rights to explore and exploit its properties, risks related to exploration and development, permitting and licensing risk, the estimation of mineral resources and mineral reserves and related interpretations and assumptions, future profitability of the Company, the  $ability\ to\ obtain\ additional\ financing\ on\ a\ timely\ basis,\ the\ price\ of\ gold\ and\ marketability\ thereof,\ government\ regulations\ including\ with\ respect$ to taxes, royalties, land tenure and land use, title to the Company's properties, currency exchange rates and fluctuations, environmental risks, dilution resulting from the issuance of additional securities of the Company, joint venture risks, reliance on Nord Gold plc as operator of the Montagne d'Or project, the availability of equipment, conflicts of interest, competition in the mining industry, uninsured risks, market fluctuations, global financial conditions, credit risk and risks arising from pandemics and epidemics such as the COVID-19 pandemic. Although the Company has attempted to identify important factors that could cause actual actions, events or results to differ materially from those described in forwardlooking statements, there may be other factors that cause actions, events or results not to be as anticipated, estimated or intended. These statements, however, are subject to a variety of risks and uncertainties and other factors that could cause actual events or results to differ materially from those projected in the forward-looking statements.

Readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on forward-looking statements. By their nature, forward-looking statements involve numerous assumptions, inherent risks and uncertainties, both general and specific, which contribute to the possibility that the predicted outcomes will not occur. Events or circumstances could cause the Company's actual results to differ materially from those estimated or projected and expressed in, or implied by, these forward-looking statements. Important factors that could cause actual results to differ from these forward-looking statements are included in the "Risk Factors" section in Company's annual information form dated December 15, 2021, for the year ended September 30, 2021 ("AIF").

Readers are further cautioned that the list of factors enumerated in the "Risk Factors" section of the AIF that may affect future results is not exhaustive. When relying on the Company's forward-looking statements and information to make decisions with respect to the Company, investors and others should carefully consider the foregoing factors and other uncertainties and potential events. Furthermore, the forward-looking statements and information contained herein are made as of the date of this document and the Company does not undertake any obligation to update or to revise any of the included forward-looking statements or information, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise, except as required by applicable law. The forward-looking statements and information contained herein are expressly qualified by this cautionary statement.