

AGNICO EAGLE MINES LTD
Form 20-F/A
May 20, 2005

[QuickLinks](#) -- Click here to rapidly navigate through this document

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 20-F/A (Amendment No. 2)

- o REGISTRATION STATEMENT PURSUANT TO SECTION 12(b) OR (g)
OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934
OR
- ý ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d)
OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934
For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2003
OR
- o TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d)
OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934
For the transition period from _____ TO _____

Commission file number: 1-13422

AGNICO-EAGLE MINES LIMITED

(Exact name of Registrants Specified in its Charter)

Not Applicable

(Translation of Registrant's Name or Organization)

Ontario, Canada

(Jurisdiction of Incorporation or Organization)

**145 King Street East, Suite 500
Toronto, Ontario, M5C 2Y7**

(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

Securities registered or to be registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

Common Shares without par value
(Title of Class)

**The Toronto Stock Exchange and
the New York Stock Exchange**
(Name of exchange on which registered)

Securities registered or to be registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act

Share Purchase Warrants
(Title of Class)

**The Toronto Stock Exchange and
the Nasdaq National Market**
(Name of exchange on which registered)

Securities for which there is a reporting obligation pursuant to Section 15(d) of the Act

Edgar Filing: AGNICO EAGLE MINES LTD - Form 20-F/A

Convertible Subordinated Debentures due 2012

(Title of Class)

Indicate the number of outstanding shares of each of the issuer's classes of capital or common stock as of the close of the period covered by the annual report.

84,469,804 Common Shares as of December 31, 2003

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports) and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days.

Yes No

Indicate by check mark which financial statement item the registrant has elected to follow:

Item 17 Item 18

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
EXPLANATORY NOTE	1
PRELIMINARY NOTE	1
NOTE TO INVESTORS CONCERNING ESTIMATES OF MINERAL RESOURCES	2
NOTE TO INVESTORS CONCERNING CERTAIN MEASURES OF PERFORMANCE	2
ITEM 3. KEY INFORMATION	3
Selected Financial Data	3
Currency Exchange Rates	5
Risk Factors	5
ITEM 4. INFORMATION ON THE COMPANY	10
History and Development of the Company	10
Business Overview	12
Mining Legislation and Regulation	14
Organizational Structure	14
Property, Plant and Equipment	15
Mineral Reserve and Mineral Resource	23
Legal and Regulatory Proceedings	31
ITEM 5. OPERATING AND FINANCIAL REVIEW AND PROSPECTS	31
Operating Results	31
Liquidity and Capital Resources	31
ITEM 11. QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK	31
Metal Price and Foreign Currency	31
Interest Rate	32
ITEM 18. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS	33
ITEM 19. EXHIBITS	33

*

Omitted pursuant to General Instruction E(b) of Form 20-F.

**

Pursuant to General Instruction E(c) of Form 20-F, the registrant has elected to provide the financial statements and related information specified in Item 18.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This Amendment No. 2 on Form 20-F/A (the "Form 20-F") amends the Annual Report on Form 20-F/A for the year ended December 31, 2003 filed on January 18, 2005 (the "Amended Filing"), which amended and replaced the Annual Report on Form 20-F filed on May 18, 2004 (the "Original Filing"). Agnico-Eagle Mines Limited ("Agnico-Eagle" or the "Company") has filed this Form 20-F in response to comments received from securities regulators regarding the disclosure in the Amended Filing. While the Amended Filing updated the Original Filing to reflect certain 2004 operating data and 2005 budget information, neither the Amended Filing nor this 20-F reflects financial results for the financial year ended December 31, 2004. **This 20-F does not update any results or information from that contained in the Amended Filing.** Accordingly, you should read this Form 20-F together with the Amended Filing and other documents that we have filed with the Canadian securities regulators and the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") subsequent to the date of the Original Filing, including the Company's Annual Report on Form 20-F for the year ended December 31, 2004, which includes the Company's financial results for such period. Information in such reports and documents updates and supersedes certain information contained in this Form 20-F. The filing of this Form 20-F shall not be deemed an admission that the Original Filing or the Amended Filing, when made, included any known, untrue statement of material fact or knowingly omitted to state a material fact necessary to make a statement not misleading.

PRELIMINARY NOTE

Incorporation by Reference: This Form 20-F sets out only those items of and exhibits to the Company's Annual Report on Form 20-F/A for the year ended December 31, 2003 to which amendments have been made and hereby incorporates by reference from the Amended Filing all items and exhibits from the Amended Filing that are not set out herein or attached hereto.

Exhibit 99C: Attached hereto as Exhibit 99C is the Registrant's 2003 Annual Audited Consolidated Financial Statements and Management's Discussion and Analysis (prepared in accordance with US GAAP) containing information incorporated by reference in answer or partial answer to certain items of this Form 20-F including consolidated financial statements as at and for the years ended December 31, 2003 and 2002, and the related notes, together with the auditors' report thereon and the management's discussion and analysis of financial condition and results of operations for the year ended December 31, 2003.

Currencies: The Registrant presents its consolidated financial statements in United States dollars. All dollar amounts in this Form 20-F (and in Exhibit 99C) are stated in United States dollars (US dollars, \$, or US\$), except where otherwise indicated. All dollar amounts in Exhibit 99D are stated in Canadian dollars, except where otherwise indicated. See "Item 3: Key Information Selected Financial Information Currency Exchange Rates" for a history of exchange rates of Canadian dollars into US dollars.

Generally Accepted Accounting Principles: Effective January 1, 2002, the Registrant changed its primary basis of financial reporting from Canadian generally accepted accounting principles ("Canadian GAAP") to United States generally accepted accounting principles ("US GAAP") due to its substantial U.S. shareholder base and to maintain comparability with other gold mining companies. All references to financial results herein are to those calculated under US GAAP. Financial statements and Management's Discussion and Analysis under Canadian GAAP are prepared and distributed to shareholders for statutory reporting purposes.

Forward-Looking Information: Certain statements in this Form 20-F and the documents incorporated herein by reference as Exhibits 99C and 99D constitute "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of the United States Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Such forward-looking statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors which may cause the actual results, performance or achievements of the Registrant or industry results, to be materially different from any future results, performance, or achievements expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. Such factors include, among others, the following: general economic and business conditions, which will, among other things, impact demand for gold and other metals produced by the Registrant; industry capacity; the ability of the Registrant to implement its business strategy; and changes in, or the failure to comply with, government regulations (especially safety and environmental laws and regulations). See also "Item 3: Key Information Risk Factors", under the

subheadings "Recent Losses", "Dependence on the LaRonde Division", "Metal Price Volatility", "Uncertainty of Production Estimates", "Cost of Exploration and Development Programs", "Total Cash Costs of Gold Production at the LaRonde Mine", "Restrictions in the Bank Credit Facility", "Risk of Acquisitions", "Competition for and Scarcity of Mineral Lands", "Uncertainty of Mineral Reserve and Mineral Resource Estimates", "Mining Risks and Insurance", "Laws and Regulations", "Currency Fluctuations", and "Interest Rate Fluctuations".

NOTE TO INVESTORS CONCERNING ESTIMATES OF MINERAL RESOURCES

Cautionary Note to Investors concerning estimates of Measured and Indicated Resources

This document and documents incorporated by reference herein use the terms "measured resources" and "indicated resources". The Company advises investors that while those terms are recognized and required by Canadian regulations, the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission does not recognize them. **Investors are cautioned not to assume that any part or all of mineral deposits in these categories will ever be converted into reserves.**

Cautionary Note to Investors concerning estimates of Inferred Resources

This document and documents incorporated by reference herein use the term "inferred resources". The Company advises investors that while this term is recognized and required by Canadian regulations, the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission does not recognize it. "Inferred resources" have a great amount of uncertainty as to their existence, and great uncertainty as to their economic and legal feasibility. It cannot be assumed that all or any part of an Inferred Mineral Resource will ever be upgraded to a higher category. Under Canadian rules, estimates of Inferred Mineral Resources may not form the basis of feasibility or pre-feasibility studies, except in rare cases. **Investors are cautioned not to assume that part or all of an inferred resource exists, or is economically or legally mineable.**

NOTE TO INVESTORS CONCERNING CERTAIN MEASURES OF PERFORMANCE

This document and documents incorporated by reference herein present certain measures, including "total cash cost per ounce" and "minesite cost per ton", that are not recognized measures under US GAAP. This data may not be comparable to data presented by other gold producers. For a reconciliation of these measures to the closest measures recognized under US GAAP see "Results of Operations - Production Costs" in Exhibit 99C to this Form 20-F. The Company believes that these generally accepted industry measures are realistic indicators of operating performance and useful in allowing year over year comparisons. However, both of these non-GAAP measures should be considered together with other data prepared in accordance with US GAAP, and these measures, taken by themselves, are not necessarily indicative of operating costs or cash flow measures prepared in accordance with US GAAP.

ITEM 3. KEY INFORMATION**Selected Financial Data**

The following selected financial data for each of the years in the five-year period ended December 31, 2003 are derived from the consolidated financial statements of Agnico-Eagle Mines Limited ("Agnico-Eagle" or the "Company") audited by Ernst & Young LLP. The selected financial data should be read in conjunction with management's discussion and analysis of the Company's operations and financial condition, the consolidated financial statements and accompanying notes in Exhibit 99C to this Form 20-F and other financial information included elsewhere in this Form 20-F.

	Year ended December 31,				
	2003	2002	2001	2000	1999
	(in thousands of US dollars, US GAAP basis)				
Income Statement Data					
Revenues from mining operations ⁽¹⁾	126,820	108,027	96,043	63,676	23,392
Interest and sundry income	2,775	1,943	5,752	2,145	(5,519)
	<u>129,595</u>	<u>109,970</u>	<u>101,795</u>	<u>65,821</u>	<u>17,873</u>
Production costs ⁽¹⁾	104,990	75,969	67,009	49,997	28,447
Exploration expense	5,975	3,766	6,391	3,213	3,838
Equity loss in junior exploration company ⁽²⁾	1,626				
Amortization	17,504	12,998	12,658	9,220	4,479
General and administrative	7,121	5,530	4,461	4,223	4,044
Provincial capital tax	1,240	829	1,551	1,301	1,192
Interest	9,180	7,341	12,917	5,920	5,583
Foreign exchange (gain) loss	72	(1,074)	(336)	890	1,401
Write down of mining properties and other ⁽³⁾					974
	<u>(18,113)</u>	<u>4,611</u>	<u>(2,856)</u>	<u>(8,943)</u>	<u>(32,085)</u>
Income (loss) before income and mining taxes (recoveries)					
Income and mining taxes (recoveries)	(358)	588	2,862	(3,906)	(13,016)
	<u>(17,755)</u>	<u>4,023</u>	<u>(5,718)</u>	<u>(5,037)</u>	<u>(19,069)</u>
Income before cumulative catch-up adjustment					
Cumulative catch-up adjustment ⁽¹⁾⁽⁵⁾	(1,743)			(1,831)	
	<u>(19,498)</u>	<u>4,023</u>	<u>(5,718)</u>	<u>(6,868)</u>	<u>(19,069)</u>
Net income (loss)					
Net income (loss) before cumulative catch-up adjustment per share basic and diluted	(0.21)	0.06	(0.09)	(0.09)	(0.36)
	<u>(0.23)</u>	<u>0.06</u>	<u>(0.09)</u>	<u>(0.12)</u>	<u>(0.36)</u>
Net income (loss) per share basic and diluted					
Weighted average number of shares outstanding basic	83,889,115	70,821,081	61,333,630	54,446,693	53,331,268
Weighted average number of shares outstanding diluted	83,889,115	71,631,263	61,333,630	54,446,693	53,331,268
Total common shares outstanding	84,469,804	83,636,861	67,722,853	56,139,480	54,216,771
Dividends declared per common share	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.02	0.02

As at December 31,

2003	2002	2001	2000	1999
------	------	------	------	------

As at December 31,

(in thousands of US dollars, US GAAP basis)

Balance Sheet Data (at end of period)					
Mining properties (net)	399,719	353,059	301,221	281,497	221,067
Total assets	637,101	593,807	393,464	364,333	297,015
Long term debt ⁽⁴⁾	143,750	143,750	151,081	186,261	131,458
Reclamation provision and other liabilities ⁽⁵⁾	15,377	5,043	4,055	5,567	5,433
Shareholders' equity ⁽⁶⁾	400,723	397,693	198,426	124,361	128,569
	3				

Edgar Filing: AGNICO EAGLE MINES LTD - Form 20-F/A

Notes:

- (1) Revenues from mining operations consist of gold and byproduct zinc, silver and copper revenues, net of smelting, refining and transportation costs. Effective 2000, the Company changed its accounting policy with respect to revenue recognition. As a result of the change, revenue from concentrates is recognized when legal title passes to custom smelters and is valued on an estimated net realizable value basis. Periodic adjustments on the final settlement of concentrates previously sold to smelters are included in revenue as soon as the amount can be reasonably determined. Revenue from gold and silver in the form of dore bars is recorded when the refined gold and silver are sold and also included in revenues from mining operations. Prior to this change, the Company recognized revenues from concentrates on a production basis. Under this basis of accounting, revenue was recognized once the ore was extracted and processed at the onsite mill facilities. The accounting change was accounted for as a cumulative catch-up adjustment and resulted in a loss of \$1.8 million or \$0.03 per share in 2000.
- (2) As a result of issuances of stock by Contact Diamond Corporation (formerly Sudbury Contact Mines Limited) ("Contact Diamond"), the Company's interest in Contact Diamond was diluted to below 50% during 2003. The Company therefore no longer consolidates the results of Contact Diamond but accounts for its investment using the equity method of accounting. The Company now reports its share of losses in Contact Diamond as a separate line item in the consolidated financial statements. The Company began using the equity method to account for its interest in Contact Diamond on September 1, 2003.
- (3) On August 31, 1999, the Company settled a lawsuit commenced by Noranda Inc. ("Noranda") relating to the acquisition of Dumagami Mines Inc. for \$1.3 million (C\$1.9 million), of which C\$950,000 was paid on signing of settlement documentation and the remaining C\$950,000 was paid in August 2000. The lawsuit was dismissed without costs.
- (4) On February 15, 2002, Agnico-Eagle issued \$143.8 million aggregate principal amount of 4.50% convertible subordinated debentures due February 15, 2012 (the "Convertible Debentures") for net proceeds of \$138.5 million after deducting underwriting commissions of \$4.3 million. Other costs of issuing the debentures totalled \$1.0 million. The debentures bear interest of 4.50% per annum on the principal amount payable in cash semi-annually. The debentures are convertible into common shares of Agnico-Eagle at the option of the holder, at any time on or prior to maturity, at a rate of 71.429 common shares per \$1,000 principal amount. The debentures are redeemable by Agnico-Eagle, in whole or in part, at any time on or after February 15, 2006 at a redemption price equal to par plus accrued and unpaid interest. The Company may redeem the debentures in cash or, at the option of the Company, by delivering freely tradeable common shares.

On February 15, 2002, the entire amount of the Company's senior convertible notes due January 27, 2004 (the "Senior Notes") was called for redemption.

For the year ended December 31, 2003, interest expense was \$9.2 million (2002 \$7.3 million; 2001 \$12.9 million; 2000 \$5.9 million; 1999 \$5.6 million) and cash interest payments were \$8.0 million (2002 \$24.4 million; 2001 \$10.4 million; 2000 \$4.4 million; 1999 \$5.6 million). Approximately \$19 million of the cash interest payments in 2002 were in connection with the redemption of the Senior Notes. See Note 4(b) to the consolidated financial statements on page 35 of Exhibit 99C to this Form 20-F.
- (5) Effective January 1, 2003, the Company adopted the provisions of FASB Statement No. 143 ("FAS 143") related to asset retirement obligations. FAS 143 applies to legal obligations resulting from the construction, development and operation of long-lived assets, such as mining assets. This standard requires companies to recognize the present value of reclamation costs as a liability in the period the legal obligation is incurred. The Company estimated the final reclamation provision taking into account current circumstances such as projected mine life at the end of 2003 and current throughput. Subsequent revisions to the final reclamation estimate could result from legislative changes or changes in the underlying assumptions such as life-of-mine.

For periods prior to January 1, 2003, estimated future reclamation costs were based primarily on legal, environmental and regulatory requirements. Future reclamation costs for the Company's inactive mines were accrued based on management's best estimate of the costs at the end of each period, comprising costs expected to be incurred at a site, on an undiscounted basis. Such cost estimates included, where applicable, ongoing care and maintenance and monitoring costs. Changes in estimates were reflected in income in the period an estimate was revised.
- (6) For each period ending December 31, 2000 or earlier, these amounts are net of the common shares of the Company held by Mentor Exploration and Development Co., Limited ("Mentor"), a former associate of the Company, which for accounting purposes, was treated as a subsidiary and was consolidated into the Company's financial statements. In October 2001, pursuant to a plan of arrangement, the Company amalgamated with Mentor and issued 369,948 common shares pursuant to that plan.

In 2002, the Company completed a public offering of 13,800,000 units, each unit consisting of one common share and one-half warrant, at \$13.90 per unit for net proceeds of \$182.9 million, after deducting issue costs of \$9.1 million. Each whole share purchase warrant ("Share Purchase Warrant")

Edgar Filing: AGNICO EAGLE MINES LTD - Form 20-F/A

entitles the holder to acquire one common share for a price of \$19 at any time on or prior to November 14, 2007. If all outstanding Share Purchase Warrants are exercised, the Company would be required to issue an additional 6,900,000 common shares. See Note 6(c) to the consolidated financial statements on page 39 of Exhibit 99C to this Form 20-F. In 2001, the Company completed a public offering of 10,350,000 common shares at \$7.90 per common share for net proceeds of \$76.2 million. See Note 6(c) to the consolidated financial statements on page 39 of Exhibit 99C to this Form 20-F.

In 2003, the Company issued 255,768 common shares (2002 40,161; 2001 200,000; 2000 475,000) under a flow-through share private placement for proceeds of \$3.6 million (2002 \$0.6 million; 2001 \$2.5 million; 2000 \$3.6 million) net of share issue costs. See Note 6(b) to the consolidated financial statements on page 39 of Exhibit 99C to this Form 20-F.

Currency Exchange Rates

All dollar amounts in this Form 20-F are in United States dollars, except where otherwise indicated. The following tables present, in Canadian dollars, the exchange rates for the US dollar, based on the noon buying rate in New York City for cable transfers in Canadian dollars as certified for customs purposes by the Federal Reserve Bank of New York (the "Noon Buying Rate"). On January 13, 2005, the Noon Buying Rate was US\$1.00 equals C\$1.2005.

	Year Ended December 31,					
	2004	2003	2002	2001	2000	1999
High	1.3970	1.5750	1.6128	1.6023	1.5592	1.5302
Low	1.1775	1.2923	1.5108	1.4933	1.4350	1.4440
End of Period	1.2034	1.2923	1.5800	1.5925	1.4995	1.4440
Average	1.3017	1.4012	1.5704	1.5519	1.4855	1.4828
	2004					
	December	November	October	September	August	July
High	1.2401	1.2263	1.2726	1.3071	1.3323	1.3353
Low	1.1856	1.1775	1.2194	1.2648	1.2964	1.3082
End of Period	1.2034	1.1902	1.2209	1.2648	1.3166	1.3296
Average	1.2189	1.1968	1.2469	1.2881	1.3127	1.3634

Risk Factors**Recent Losses**

Although the Company reported net income for the nine months ended September 30, 2004 and expects to report net income for the year ended December 31, 2004, it incurred net losses in 2003 and in each of the five years prior to 2002. For a discussion of the factors contributing to the losses, please refer to pages 1 to 22 in Exhibit 99C to this Form 20-F under the caption "Management's Discussion and Analysis of the Company's Financial Condition and Results of Operations." The Company's profitability depends on the price of gold, gold production, total cash costs, the prices and production levels of byproduct zinc, silver and copper and other factors discussed in this section of the Form 20-F. Substantially all of these factors are beyond the Company's control and there can be no assurance that the Company will sustain profitability in the future.

Dependence on the LaRonde Division

The Company's mining and milling operations at the LaRonde Division account for all of the Company's gold production and will continue to account for all of its gold production in the future unless additional properties are acquired or brought into production. Any adverse condition affecting mining or milling conditions at the LaRonde Division could be expected to have a material adverse effect on the Company's financial performance and results of operations until such time as the condition is remedied. In addition, the Company's principal development program is the expansion of the LaRonde Division. This program involves the exploration and extraction of ore from new zones and may present new or different challenges for the Company. In addition, gold production at the LaRonde Mine is expected to begin to decline commencing in 2007. Unless the Company can successfully bring into production the Lapa property, the Goldex property or its other exploration properties or otherwise acquire gold producing assets prior to 2007, the Company's results of operations will be adversely affected. There can be no assurance that the Company's current exploration and development programs at the LaRonde Division will result in any new economically viable mining operations or yield new mineral reserves to replace and expand current mineral reserves.

Metal Price Volatility

The Company's earnings are directly related to commodity prices as revenues are derived from precious metals (gold and silver), zinc and copper. The Company's policy and practice is not to sell forward its future gold production; however, under the Company's Price Risk Management Policy, approved by its Board of Directors,

the Company may review this practice on a project by project basis, making use of hedging strategies where appropriate to ensure an adequate return to shareholders on new projects. In addition, in accordance with the Company's revolving bank credit facility, the Company has purchased put options to ensure projected revenues from sales of gold are sufficient to reasonably ensure that the Company will be in compliance with the financial and other covenants of the facility. See "Management's Discussion and Analysis of the Company's Financial Condition and Results of Operations Risk Profile" on pages 12 to 15 of Exhibit 99C to this Form 20-F for more details of the Company's hedging activities. Gold prices fluctuate widely and are affected by numerous factors beyond the Company's control, including central bank sales, producer hedging activities, expectations of inflation, the relative exchange rate of the US dollar with other major currencies, global and regional demand and political and economic conditions, and production costs in major gold producing regions. The aggregate effect of these factors is impossible to predict with accuracy. Gold prices are also affected by worldwide production levels. In addition, the price of gold has on occasion been subject to very rapid short-term changes because of speculative activities. Fluctuations in gold prices may adversely affect the Company's financial performance or results of operations. If the market price of gold falls below the Company's total costs and remains at such a level for any sustained period, the Company may experience losses and may curtail or suspend some or all of its exploration, development and mining activities. The prices received for the Company's byproducts (zinc, silver and copper) affect the Company's ability to meet its targets for total cash cost per ounce of gold produced. Byproduct prices fluctuate widely and are affected by numerous factors beyond the Company's control. The Company occasionally implements hedging strategies to mitigate the effects of fluctuating byproduct metal prices.

The volatility of gold prices is illustrated in the following table which sets forth, for the periods indicated, the high and low afternoon fixing prices for gold on the London Bullion Market (the "London P.M. Fix") and the average gold prices received by the Company.

	2004	2003	2002	2001	2000	1999
High price (\$ per ounce)	454	417	350	293	313	326
Low price (\$ per ounce)	375	323	278	256	264	253
Average price received (\$ per ounce)	418	368	312	273	278	274

On January 13, 2005, the London P.M. Fix was \$423.60 per ounce of gold.

Based on 2005 production estimates, the approximate sensitivities of the Company's after-tax income to a 10% change in metal prices from 2004 market average prices are as follows:

	Income per share
Gold	\$ 0.09
Zinc	\$ 0.04
Silver	\$ 0.03
Copper	\$ 0.01

Sensitivities of the Company's after-tax income to changes in metal prices will increase with increased production.

Uncertainty of Production Estimates

The Company's gold production may fall below estimated levels as a result of mining accidents such as cave-ins, rock falls, rock bursts or flooding. In addition, production may be unexpectedly reduced if, during the course of mining, unfavourable ground conditions or seismic activity are encountered, ore grades are lower than expected, or the physical or metallurgical characteristics of the ore are less amenable than expected to mining or treatment. Accordingly, there can be no assurance that the Company will achieve current or future production estimates.

A rock fall that occurred in two production stopes during the first quarter of 2003 led to an initial 20% reduction in the Company's 2003 gold production estimate from 375,000 ounces to 300,000 ounces. Production

drilling challenges and lower than planned recoveries in the mill in the third quarter of 2003 led to a further reduction in the production estimate by 21%. Final gold production in 2003 was 236,653 ounces.

Cost of Exploration and Development Programs

The Company's profitability is significantly affected by the costs and results of its exploration and development programs. As mines have limited lives based on proven and probable mineral reserves, the Company actively seeks to replace and expand its reserves, primarily through exploration and development and, from time to time, through strategic acquisitions. Exploration for minerals is highly speculative in nature, involves many risks and frequently is unsuccessful. Among the many uncertainties inherent in any gold exploration and development program are the location of economic ore bodies, the development of appropriate metallurgical processes, the receipt of necessary governmental permits and the construction of mining and processing facilities. In addition, substantial expenditures are required to pursue such exploration and development activities. Assuming discovery of an economic ore body, depending on the type of mining operation involved, several years may elapse from the initial phases of drilling until commercial operations are commenced and during such time the economic feasibility of production may change. Accordingly, there can be no assurance that the Company's current exploration and development programs will result in any new economically viable mining operations or yield new reserves to replace and expand current reserves.

Total Cash Costs of Gold Production at the LaRonde Mine

The Company's total cash costs to produce an ounce of gold are dependent on a number of factors, including primarily the prices and production levels of byproduct zinc, silver and copper, the revenue from which is offset against the cost of gold production, the US dollar/Canadian dollar exchange rate, smelting and refining charges and production royalties, which are affected by all of these factors and the gold price. All these factors are beyond the Company's control.

Total cash cost is not a recognized measure under US GAAP and this data may not be comparable to data presented by other gold producers. Management uses this generally accepted industry measure in evaluating operating performance and believes it to be a realistic indication of such performance and useful in allowing year over year comparisons. The data also indicates the Company's ability to generate cash flow and operating income at various gold prices. This additional information should be considered together with other data prepared in accordance with US GAAP and is not necessarily indicative of operating costs or cash flow measures prepared in accordance with US GAAP (see the information set out under the caption "Results of Operations - Production Costs" on pages 4 to 7 of Exhibit C to this 20-F for a reconciliation of total cash costs per ounce and minesite costs per ton to their closest GAAP measure).

Risks of Acquisitions

The Company regularly evaluates opportunities to acquire shares or assets of other mining businesses. Such acquisitions may be significant in size, may change the scale of the Company's business, and may expose the Company to new geographic, political, operating, financial or geological risks. The Company's success in its acquisition activities depends on its ability to identify suitable acquisition candidates, acquire them on acceptable terms and integrate their operations successfully with those of the Company. Any acquisitions would be accompanied by risks, such as the difficulty of assimilating the operations and personnel of any acquired businesses; the potential disruption of the Company's ongoing business; the inability of management to maximize the financial and strategic position of the Company through the successful integration of acquired assets and businesses; the maintenance of uniform standards, controls, procedures and policies; the impairment of relationships with employees, customers and contractors as a result of any integration of new management personnel; and the potential unknown liabilities associated with acquired assets and businesses. In addition, the Company may need additional capital to finance an acquisition. Debt financing related to any acquisition may expose the Company to increased risk of leverage, while equity financing may cause existing shareholders to suffer dilution. The Company is permitted under the terms of its recently amended bank credit facility to raise additional debt financing provided that it complies with certain covenants including that no default under the credit facility has occurred and is continuing, the terms of such indebtedness are no more onerous to the Company than those under the credit facility and the incurrence of such indebtedness would not result in a

material adverse change in respect of the Company or the LaRonde Mine. There can be no assurance that the Company would be successful in overcoming these risks or any other problems encountered in connection with such acquisitions.

Restrictions in the Bank Credit Facility

The Company's recently amended \$100 million revolving bank credit facility limits, among other things, the Company's ability to incur additional indebtedness, pay dividends or make payments in respect of its common shares, make investments or loans, transfer the Company's assets, or make expenditures relating to property secured under the credit agreement at that time that is not consistent with the mine plan and operating budget delivered pursuant to the credit facility. Further, the bank credit facility requires the Company to maintain specified financial ratios and meet financial condition covenants. Events beyond the Company's control, including changes in general economic and business conditions, may affect the Company's ability to satisfy these covenants, which could result in a default under the bank credit facility. While there are currently no amounts of principal or interest owing under the bank credit facility, if an event of default under the bank credit facility occurs, the Company would be unable to draw down on the facility, or if amounts were drawn down at the time of the default, the lenders could elect to declare all principal amounts outstanding thereunder at such time, together with accrued interest, to be immediately due and payable and to enforce their security interest over substantially all property relating to the LaRonde Mine and the El Coco property. An event of default under the bank credit facility may also give rise to an event of default under existing and future debt agreements and, in such event, the Company may not have sufficient funds to repay amounts owing under such agreements.

Competition for and Scarcity of Mineral Lands

Many companies and individuals are engaged in the mining business, including large, established mining companies with substantial capabilities and long earnings records. There is a limited supply of desirable mineral lands available for claim staking, lease or other acquisition in the areas where the Company contemplates conducting exploration activities. The Company may be at a competitive disadvantage in acquiring mining properties, as it must compete with these individuals and companies, many of which have greater financial resources and larger technical staffs than the Company. Accordingly, there can be no assurance that the Company will be able to compete successfully for new mining properties.

Uncertainty of Mineral Reserve and Mineral Resource Estimates

The figures for mineral reserves and mineral resource presented herein are estimates, and no assurance can be given that the anticipated tonnages and grades will be achieved or that the indicated level of recovery of gold will be realized. The ore grade actually recovered by the Company may differ from the estimated grades of the mineral reserves and mineral resource. Such figures have been determined based on assumed gold prices and operating costs. The Company has estimated proven and probable mineral reserves based on a \$325 per ounce gold price. While gold prices have generally been above \$325 per ounce since mid 2002, for the four years prior to that the market price of gold has been, on average, below \$325 per ounce. Prolonged declines in the market price of gold may render mineral reserves containing relatively lower grades of gold mineralization uneconomic to exploit and could materially reduce the Company's reserves. Should such reductions occur, the Company could be required to take a material write-down of its investment in mining properties or delay or discontinue production or the development of new projects, resulting in increased net losses and reduced cash flow. Market price fluctuations of gold, as well as increased production costs or reduced recovery rates, may render mineral reserves containing relatively lower grades of mineralization uneconomical to recover and may ultimately result in a restatement of mineral resources. Short-term factors relating to mineral reserves, such as the need for orderly development of ore bodies or the processing of new or different grades, may impair the profitability of a mine in any particular accounting period.

Mineral resource estimates for properties that have not commenced production are based, in most instances, on very limited and widely spaced drill hole information, which is not necessarily indicative of conditions between and around the drill holes. Accordingly, such mineral resource estimates may require revision as more drilling information becomes available or as actual production experience is gained.

Mining Risks and Insurance

The business of gold mining is generally subject to certain types of risks and hazards, including environmental hazards, industrial accidents, unusual or unexpected rock formations, changes in the regulatory environment, cave-ins, rock bursts, rock falls and flooding and gold bullion losses. Such occurrences could result in damage to, or destruction of, mineral properties or production facilities, personal injury or death, environmental damage, delays in mining, monetary losses and possible legal liability. The Company carries insurance to protect itself against certain risks of mining and processing in amounts that it considers to be adequate but which may not provide adequate coverage in certain unforeseen circumstances. The Company may also become subject to liability for pollution, cave-ins or other hazards against which it cannot insure or against which it may elect not to insure because of high premium costs or other reasons or the Company may become subject to liabilities which exceed policy limits. In such case, the Company may be required to incur significant costs that could have a material adverse effect on its financial performance and results of operations.

Laws and Regulations

The Company's mining and mineral processing operations and exploration activities are subject to extensive Canadian federal and provincial laws and regulations, and local laws and regulations governing prospecting, development, production, exports, taxes, labour standards, occupational health and safety, waste disposal, toxic substances, environmental protection, mine safety and other matters. Compliance with such laws and regulations increases the costs of planning, designing, drilling, developing, constructing, operating, closing, reclaiming and rehabilitating mines and other facilities. Amendments to current laws and regulations governing operations and activities of mining companies or more stringent implementation or interpretation thereof could have a material adverse impact on the Company, cause a reduction in levels of production and delay or prevent the development of new mining properties.

In January 2003, the Company received a notice of infraction from the Quebec Ministry of the Environment in connection with a controlled discharge of water of excess toxicity, which was carried out over a three-month period in the summer of 2002. The purpose of the discharge was to establish favourable construction conditions for the increase of tailings pond capacity in the autumn of 2002. No fine was payable in respect of the notice of infraction, however, the notice required production of a report detailing the causes of algae proliferation at the LaRonde Mine, which was delivered in 2003.

Under mine closure plans originally submitted to the Minister of Natural Resources in Quebec in 1996, the estimated current reclamation costs for the LaRonde Division and the Bousquet property are approximately \$17 million and \$6 million respectively. These reclamation plans are subject to approval by the Minister of Natural Resources and there can be no assurance that the Minister of Natural Resources will not impose additional reclamation obligations with attendant higher costs. In addition, the Minister of Natural Resources may require that the Company provide financial assurances to support such plans. At December 31, 2003, the Company had a total reclamation provision of \$11.7 million, with \$5.8 million allocated for the LaRonde Division and \$5.9 million allocated for Bousquet.

Prior to January 1, 2003, reclamation costs were accrued on an undiscounted unit-of-production basis, using proven and probable reserves as the base. On this basis, the Company recorded its annual reclamation provision for the LaRonde Division at approximately \$5 per ounce of gold produced. Effective January 1, 2003, the Company adopted the provisions of Financial Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 143 relating to asset retirement obligations, which applies to long-lived assets such as mines. (See Note 6 to the table under the caption "Item 3 Key Information - Selected Financial Information" for an explanation of the new standard.) The application of the new provisions resulted in the Company recording a one-time, net of tax, non-cash charge of \$1.7 million on January 1, 2003 reflecting the cumulative effect of adopting this standard.

Currency Fluctuations

The Company's operating results and cash flow are significantly affected by changes in the US dollar/Canadian dollar exchange rate. Exchange rate movements can have a significant impact as all of the Company's revenues are earned in US dollars but most of its operating and capital costs are in Canadian dollars. The US dollar/Canadian dollar exchange rate has varied significantly over the last several years. During the period from

January 1, 1999 to December 31, 2004, the Noon Buying Rate fluctuated from a high of C\$1.6128 to a low of C\$1.1775. Historical fluctuations in the US dollar/Canadian dollar exchange rate are not necessarily indicative of future exchange rate fluctuations. Based on the Company's anticipated 2005 after-tax operating results, a 10% change in the average annual US dollar/Canadian dollar exchange rate would affect net income by approximately \$0.10 per share. To hedge its foreign exchange risk and minimize the impact of exchange rate movements on operating results and cash flow, the Company has periodically used foreign currency options and forward foreign exchange contracts to purchase Canadian dollars. However, there can be no assurance that the Company's foreign exchange hedging strategies will be successful or that foreign exchange fluctuations will not materially adversely affect the Company's financial performance and results of operations.

Interest Rate Fluctuations

Fluctuations in interest rates can affect the Company's results of operations and cash flows. The Company's 4.50% convertible subordinated debentures due 2012 are at a fixed rate of interest; however both its bank debt and cash balances are subject to variable interest rates.

Potential Unenforceability of Civil Liabilities and Judgments

The Company is incorporated under the laws of the Province of Ontario, Canada. All but one of the Company's directors and officers and certain of the experts named in this Form 20-F are residents of Canada. Also, almost all of the Company's assets and the assets of these persons are located outside of the United States. As a result, it may be difficult for shareholders to initiate a lawsuit within the United States against these non-United States residents, or to enforce judgments in the United States against the Company or these persons which are obtained in a United States court. Our Canadian counsel has advised us that a monetary judgment of a U.S. court predicated solely upon the civil liability provisions of U.S. federal securities laws would likely be enforceable in Canada if the U.S. court in which the judgment was obtained had a basis for jurisdiction in the matter that was recognized by a Canadian court for such purposes. We cannot assure you that this will be the case. It is less certain that an action could be brought in Canada in the first instance on the basis of liability predicated solely upon such laws.

ITEM 4. INFORMATION ON THE COMPANY

History and Development of the Company

The Company is an established Canadian gold producer with mining operations located in northwestern Quebec and exploration and development activities in Canada and the western United States (principally Nevada and Idaho). The Company's operating history includes almost three decades of continuous gold production primarily from underground operations. Since its formation in 1972, the Company has produced over 3.5 million ounces of gold. The Company believes it is currently one of the lowest cash cost producers in the North American gold mining industry. In 2004, the Company produced 271,567 ounces of gold at an average cash cost estimated to have been between \$75 and \$85 per ounce and, in 2003, the Company produced 236,653 ounces of gold at an average cash cost of \$269 per ounce, in each case net of revenues received from the sale of zinc, silver and copper byproducts. For 2005, the Company expects total cash costs per ounce of gold produced to be between \$135 and \$145. These expected increased costs are due to an anticipated decline in byproduct metals prices below those realized in 2004 and a reduction in the contribution of foreign exchange hedging activities. The Company has traditionally sold all of its production at the spot price of gold due to its general policy not to sell forward its future gold production. However, the Company has purchased put options that will allow it to set a floor price of \$260 per ounce on a portion of its gold production prior to December 31, 2007. For a definition of terms used in the following discussion, see the section entitled "Mineral Reserve and Mineral Resource" on page 21.

The Company's principal operating divisions are the LaRonde Division and the Exploration Division. The LaRonde Division consists of the LaRonde Mine and the adjacent El Coco and Terrex properties, each of which is 100% owned and operated by the Company. The LaRonde Mine, with its single production shaft (the "Penna Shaft"), currently accounts for all of the Company's gold production. Since the commissioning of the mill in 1988, the LaRonde Division has produced over 2.5 million ounces of gold. In March 2000, the Company

completed the Penna Shaft at the LaRonde Mine to a depth of 7,380 feet, which the Company believes makes it the deepest single-lift shaft in the Western Hemisphere. Production was expanded at the LaRonde Mine to 7,000 tons of ore treated per day in October 2002. An extensive surface and underground exploratory drilling program to delineate additional mineral reserve began in 1990 and is continuing. The program successfully outlined several ore zones and a large mineral resource to the east of what was, at the time, the main production shaft. As at December 31, 2003, the LaRonde Division had established proven and probable mineral reserves of approximately 5.0 million ounces of contained gold.

The Company's strategy is to focus on the continued exploration, development and expansion of its properties in the Abitibi region of Quebec in which the LaRonde Mine is situated, with a view to increasing annual gold production and gold mineral reserve. The Company also plans to pursue opportunities for growth in gold production and gold reserves through the acquisition or development of advanced exploration properties, development properties, producing properties and other mining businesses in the Americas or Europe.

Expenditures on the expansion of the LaRonde Mine and exploration and development in the surrounding region as at September 30, 2004 and the three preceding fiscal years were \$32.0 million, \$44.1 million, \$62.5 million and \$37.6 million, respectively. Expenditures for mine expansion, exploration and development for 2004 are expected to have been \$55 million. These estimated 2004 expenditures include \$27 million of capital expenditures at the LaRonde Mine, \$8 million at the LaRonde II project, \$13 million for the exploration and development of the Lapa property, \$5 million for the exploration and development of the Goldex property, and \$2 million for the exploration and development of the Bousquet and Ellison properties. Budgeted 2005 exploration and capital expenditures of \$42.0 million consist of \$14.1 million of sustaining capital expenditures at the LaRonde Mine, \$12.7 million on projects relating to the LaRonde II project, \$12.1 million at the Lapa property, \$1.5 million on bulk sample and engineering projects at the Goldex property and \$1.6 million on drilling at the Bousquet and Ellison properties. The financing for these expenditures is expected to be from internally generated cash flow from operations and from the Company's existing cash balances. Depending on the success of the exploration programs at this and other properties, the Company may be required to make additional capital expenditures for exploration, development and reproduction.

In addition, the Company continuously evaluates opportunities to make strategic acquisitions. In the second quarter of 2004, the Company acquired an ownership interest in Riddarhyttan Resources AB ("Riddarhyttan"), representing 13.8% of its outstanding shares. In late December 2004, Riddarhyttan concluded a rights offering for 7.5 million shares pursuant to which the Company raised its ownership level to 14% of Riddarhyttan's outstanding shares. In connection with this acquisition, two representatives of the Company were elected to Riddarhyttan's board of directors. Riddarhyttan is a precious and base metals exploration and development company with a focus on the Nordic region of Europe. Its shares are listed on the Stockholm Stock Exchange under the symbol "RHYT". Riddarhyttan is the 100% owner of the Suurikuusikko gold deposit, located approximately 550 miles north of Helsinki near the town of Kittilä in Finnish Lapland. Riddarhyttan's property position in the Suurikuusikko area consists of 22 contiguous claims (approximately 4,261 acres) with similar Precambrian greenstone belt geology and topography to the Company's land package in the Abitibi region of Quebec. The Company also recently signed a non-binding letter of intent pursuant to which it is conducting due diligence on an exploration property in northern Mexico with a view to purchasing an option to acquire the property. The Company has no other commitments or agreements with respect to any other acquisitions.

The Company, through its Exploration Division, focuses its exploration activities primarily on the identification of new mineral reserve, mineral resource and development opportunities in the proven producing regions of Canada, with a particular emphasis on northwestern Quebec. The Company currently directly manages exploration on 56 properties in central and eastern Canada and the western United States, including properties acquired from Contact Diamond Corporation (formerly Sudbury Contact Mines Limited) ("Contact Diamond") in September 2004. The Company's Reno, Nevada exploration office, acquired in that transaction, is focused on evaluating exploration opportunities in the western United States and northern Mexico.

Edgar Filing: AGNICO EAGLE MINES LTD - Form 20-F/A

The Company was formed by articles of amalgamation under the laws of the Province of Ontario on June 1, 1972 as a result of the amalgamation of Agnico Mines Limited ("Agnico Mines") and Eagle Gold Mines Limited ("Eagle"). Agnico Mines was incorporated under the laws of the Province of Ontario on January 21, 1953 under the name "Cobalt Consolidated Mining Corporation Limited". Eagle was incorporated under the laws of the Province of Ontario on August 14, 1945. The Company's executive and registered office is located at Suite 500, 145 King Street East, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5C 2Y7; telephone number (416) 947-1212; website: <http://www.agnico-eagle.com>. The information contained on the website is not part of this Form 20-F.

On December 19, 1989, Agnico-Eagle acquired the remaining 57% interest in Dumagami Mines Limited not already owned by it as a consequence of the amalgamation of Dumagami Mines Limited with a wholly-owned subsidiary of Agnico-Eagle, to continue as one company under the name Dumagami Mines Inc. ("Dumagami"). On December 29, 1992, Dumagami transferred all of its property and assets, including the LaRonde Mine, to Agnico-Eagle and was subsequently dissolved. On December 8, 1993, the Company acquired the remaining 46.3% interest in Goldex Mines Limited not already owned by it, as a consequence of the amalgamation of Goldex Mines Limited with a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company, to continue as one company under the name Goldex Mines Limited. On January 1, 1996, the Company amalgamated with two wholly-owned subsidiaries, including Goldex Mines Limited.

In October 2001, pursuant to a plan of arrangement, the Company amalgamated with an associated corporation, Mentor Exploration and Development Co., Limited ("Mentor"). In connection with the arrangement, the Company issued 369,348 common shares in consideration for the acquisition of all of the issued and outstanding shares of Mentor that it did not already own.

Effective February 11, 1999, two subsidiaries of the Company, Sudbury Contact Mines, Limited and Silver Century Explorations Ltd. ("Silver Century"), amalgamated pursuant to a court-approved plan of arrangement to form Contact Diamond.

The Company has an approximate 44.2% interest in Contact Diamond. Contact Diamond is a junior exploration and development company with diamond properties in Ontario, Quebec, Nunavut and the Northwest Territories. Contact Diamond is incorporated under the laws of the Province of Ontario and is listed on the Toronto Stock Exchange.

Business Overview

The Company believes that it has a number of key operating strengths that provide distinct competitive advantages.

First, the Company and its predecessors have over three decades of continuous gold production, experience and expertise in metals mining. The Company's operations are located in areas that are supportive of the mining industry. These operations are concentrated in areas among North America's principal gold-producing regions.

Second, the Company believes that it is one of the lowest total cash cost producers in the North American gold mining industry. Although total cash cost per ounce of gold was \$269 for 2003, this increased level resulted, in part, from the rescheduling of stope mining sequencing required as a result of the rock fall that occurred during the first quarter of 2003. For 2004, the Company's total cash cost per ounce of gold is estimated to have been between \$75 and \$85, due principally to higher gold production, higher net byproduct revenue resulting from increased production, higher byproduct metal prices and the elimination of the production royalty on an area of the mine that is mined out. The Company has achieved significant improvements in these measures through the strength of its byproduct revenue, the economies of scale afforded by its large single shaft mine and its dedication to cost-efficient mining operations. In addition, the Company believes its highly motivated work force contributes significantly to continued operational improvements and to the Company's low cost producer status. For 2005, the Company expects total cash cost per ounce of gold produced to be between \$135 and \$145.

Third, the Company's existing operations at the LaRonde Division provide a sound economic base for additional mineral reserve and production development at the property. The experience gained through building and operating the LaRonde Mine, along with the LaRonde Mine's extensive infrastructure, are expected to support the development of new projects in the region including the Lapa property, the Goldex property and the

development project at LaRonde to access the Company's mineral resource base located outside of the Penna Shaft infrastructure (the "LaRonde II" project).

Fourth, the Company's senior management team has an average of 16 years of operating and exploration experience in the mining industry. Management's significant experience has been instrumental in the Company's historical growth and provides a solid base upon which to expand the Company's operations. The geological knowledge that management has gained through its years of experience in mining and developing the LaRonde Division is expected to benefit the Company's current expansion program in the region.

The Company believes it can benefit not only from the existing infrastructure at its mines, but also from geological knowledge that it has gained in mining and developing its properties. The Company's strategy is to capitalize on its mining expertise to exploit fully the potential of its properties. The Company's goal is to apply the proven operating principles of the LaRonde Division to each of its existing and future properties.

The Company continues to focus its resources and efforts on the exploration and development of its properties in the Abitibi region of Quebec, including LaRonde II, the Lapa property, the Goldex property and the LaRonde Mine with a view to increasing annual gold production and gold mineral reserve. The Company is evaluating these properties as potential growth opportunities in the Abitibi region. In 2003, although LaRonde's proven and probable gold mineral reserves were essentially unchanged on a tonnage basis, on the basis of contained gold ounces the Company added approximately 1.0 million ounces of gold to proven and probable mineral reserve, including replacement of 252,000 ounces of gold mined (before mill recoveries and smelter charges). As a result, the LaRonde Division's current proven and probable mineral reserve is estimated to contain approximately 5.0 million ounces of gold, 68.2 million ounces of silver, 2.2 billion pounds of zinc and almost 271.0 million pounds of copper.

The underground workings at the Penna Shaft provide a base from which the Company conducted its drilling program of 161,000 feet in 2004 and will conduct an estimated 174,000 feet of drilling in 2005. For 2004, capital expenditures at the LaRonde Mine together with expenditures on regional projects and other exploration and development projects are estimated to have been \$55 million, of which \$44.1 million had been spent as at September 30, 2004. These 2004 estimates include \$27 million of capital expenditures at the LaRonde Mine, \$8 million at the LaRonde II project, \$13 million for the exploration and development of the Lapa property, \$5 million for the exploration and development of the Goldex property and \$2 million for the exploration and development of the Bousquet and Ellison properties. Expenditures at LaRonde II in 2004 are estimated to have been \$8 million. The regional development team continues to evaluate the LaRonde II, Lapa and Goldex development project. The Company plans to continue to invest in sustaining and project capital expenditures at the LaRonde Mine together with regional projects and other exploration and development projects. Budgeted 2005 exploration and capital expenditures of \$42.0 million consist of \$14.1 million at the LaRonde Mine, \$12.7 million at the LaRonde II project, \$12.1 million at the Lapa property, \$1.5 million at the Goldex property and \$1.6 million at the Bousquet and Ellison properties. There can be no assurance that the Company will not revise its anticipated capital expenditure program.

In the first quarter of 2003, a rock fall of an estimated 30,000 tons occurred in two production stopes above Level 215 at 7,050 feet below surface during routine operations at the LaRonde Mine. The rock fall did not cause any injuries to employees, damage to equipment or loss of mineral reserves. However, the incident limited the Company's ability to extract ore from the higher grade areas of the mine. Remedial steps were taken, the fallen ore was extracted and the void was backfilled with cemented rock fill. Recovery studies also established that the mining width on four blocks needed to be narrower to establish more quickly the pyramid sequence. This narrowing of stope sizes was a contributing factor to the lower than budget gold production for 2003. In the third quarter of 2003, production drilling challenges further limited the Company's ability to mine higher grade mining blocks in the gold-copper mining areas in the lower part of the mine. As a result, mining activity was concentrated in the zinc-silver rich zones in the upper part of Zone 20 North rather than the higher grade gold stopes in Zone 20 North at depth. This re-sequencing of production resulted in lower than anticipated gold production in 2003 and pushed into future years gold production initially scheduled for 2003.

The Company's growth strategy has been to pursue the expansion of its development base through the acquisition of additional properties in the Americas and Europe. Historically, the Company's producing properties have resulted from a combination of investments in early-stage exploration companies and primary

exploration activities. By investing in early-stage exploration companies, the Company has been able to acquire control of exploration properties at favourable prices. The Company's approach to property acquisition has evolved to include joint ventures and partnerships and the acquisition of producing properties and, more recently, has evolved to include consideration of properties outside of Canada and the United States. The Company is currently considering opportunities to acquire development and producing properties in the Americas and Europe.

In the first quarter of 2004, two accidents claimed the lives of an employee and a contract miner. The Commission de la santé et de la sécurité du travail has completed an investigation into these accidents, but has not yet announced a decision as to if it intends to proceed further in respect of the matter. Also, in January 2005, an accident claimed the life of an employee. Other than the investigation discussed above, no regulatory or other action has been initiated against the Company in connection with these industrial accidents. The Company's LaRonde Mine remains one of the safest mines in Quebec with a lower accident frequency index than the provincial mining industry average. Nevertheless, the Company and all of its employees continue with a focused effort to improve workplace safety.

Mining Legislation and Regulation

The mining industry in Canada operates under both federal and provincial legislation governing the exploration, development, operation and decommissioning of mines and mineral processing facilities. Such legislation relates to the method of acquisition and ownership of mining rights, labour, occupational or worker health and safety standards, royalties, mining, exports, reclamation, closure and rehabilitation of mines, and other matters.

The mining industry in Canada is also subject to extensive laws and regulations at both the federal and provincial levels concerning the protection of the environment. The primary federal and provincial regulatory authorities with jurisdiction over the Company's mining operations in respect of environmental matters are the Department of Fisheries and Oceans, the Quebec Ministry of the Environment and the Quebec Ministry of Natural Resources. The construction, development and operation of a mine, mill or refinery requires compliance with applicable environmental laws and regulations and/or review processes including the obtaining of land use permits, water permits, air emissions certifications, hazardous substances management and similar authorizations from various governmental agencies. Environmental laws and regulations impose high standards on the mining industry to reduce or eliminate the effects of waste generated by mining and processing operations and subsequently deposited on the ground or emitted into the air or water. Laws and regulations regarding the decommissioning, reclamation and rehabilitation of mines may require approval of reclamation plans, the provision of financial assurance and the long-term management of former mines.

In Quebec, mining rights are governed by the *Mining Act* (Quebec). In 1966, the mining concession system set out for Crown lands containing mineralized zones by the *Mining Act* (Quebec) was replaced by a system of claims and mining leases. A claim entitles its holder to explore for minerals on the subject land. It remains in force for a term of two years from the date it is registered and may be renewed indefinitely subject to continued exploration works in relation thereto. A mining lease entitles its holder to mine and remove valuable mineral substances from the subject land. Leases are granted initially for a term of 20 years and are renewable up to three times, each for a duration of 10 years.

Organizational Structure

The Company's only significant associate is Contact Diamond (formerly Sudbury Contact Mines Limited), a public company listed on the TSX under the symbol "CO". The Company has an approximate 44.2% interest in Contact Diamond. Contact Diamond is an exploration and development company with diamond properties in Ontario, Quebec, Nunavut and the Northwest Territories. Contact Diamond is a corporation incorporated under the laws of the Province of Ontario. Historically and until August 31, 2003 Contact Diamond had been a subsidiary of the Company. However in 2003, through a series of equity financings, Contact Diamond became more financially independent and the Company's ownership was diluted to less than 50%. Accordingly, Contact Diamond is no longer a subsidiary of the Company and the Company no longer consolidates Contact Diamond's operations with its own. The Company now uses the equity method to account for its interest in Contact

Diamond. Each member of Contact Diamond's management team (other than Matthew Manson, its recently appointed President and Chief Operating Officer) is also a member of the management team of the Company, two of its directors are also directors of the Company (including one director of the Company who is also an officer of the Company), and two of its directors are also officers of the Company. The Company does not have any significant subsidiaries.

Property, Plant and Equipment

LaRonde Division Property

The Company's LaRonde Division consists of the LaRonde property, currently the Company's only material property, and the adjacent El Coco and Terrex properties (collectively the "LaRonde Mine"), each of which is 100% owned and operated by the Company. The LaRonde Mine is situated approximately 35 miles west of the City of Val d'Or in northwestern Quebec (approximately 400 miles northwest of Montreal, Canada) in the municipalities of Preissac and Cadillac. The LaRonde Mine can be accessed from either Val d'Or or Rouyn- Noranda, which is approximately 35 miles west of the LaRonde Mine, via Quebec provincial highway No. 117. The LaRonde Mine is situated approximately 1.2 miles north of highway No. 117 on Quebec regional highway No. 395. The Company has access to the Canadian National Railway at Cadillac, Quebec, roughly four miles from the LaRonde Mine.

Location Map of Agnico-Eagle LaRonde Division

The LaRonde Mine is located in the Abitibi region of northwestern Quebec, a region characterized by its availability of experienced mining personnel. The elevation is 1,106 feet above sea level. All of the LaRonde Mine's power requirements are supplied by Hydro-Quebec through connections to its main power transmission grid. Water used in the LaRonde Mine's operations is sourced from Lac Preissac and is transported approximately 2.5 miles to the mine site through a surface pipeline. The climate of the region is continental and the average annual rainfall is 25 inches and the average annual snowfall is 125 inches. The average monthly temperatures range from a minimum of -23 degrees Celsius in January to a maximum of 23 degrees Celsius in July. Under normal circumstances, mining operations are conducted year round without interruption due to

weather conditions. However, in 2002 high underground temperatures due to extreme summer heat caused delay in development activity in lower portions of the mine.

The LaRonde Mine operates under mining leases obtained from the Quebec Ministry of Natural Resources and under certificates of approval granted by the Quebec Ministry of the Environment. The LaRonde property consists of 35 contiguous mining claims and two provincial mining leases and covers in total approximately 2,785 acres. The El Coco property consists of 22 contiguous mining claims and a portion of one of the LaRonde provincial mining leases and covers in total approximately 888 acres. The Terrex property consists of 20 mining claims that cover in total approximately 1,009 acres. In Quebec, in order to retain title to mining claims, in addition to paying a small bi-annual rental fee, exploration work (or an equivalent value cash payment) has to be completed in advance (either on the claim or on adjacent claims) and filed with the Quebec Ministry of Natural Resources. The amount of exploration work (and bi-annual rental fee) required bi-annually ranges from \$500 to \$2,500 per claim (the rate is fixed by Quebec Government regulations). The mining leases on the LaRonde property and on the LaRonde and El Coco properties expire in 2008 and 2021, respectively, and are automatically renewable for three further ten-year terms on payment of a small fee.

The LaRonde Mine includes underground operations at the LaRonde and El Coco properties that can both be accessed from the Penna Shaft, a mill, treatment plant, secondary crusher building and related facilities. The El Coco property was acquired from Barrick Gold Corporation ("Barrick") in June 1999 and is subject to a 50% net profits interest in future production from approximately 500 meters (1,640 feet) east of the LaRonde property boundary. The remaining 1,500 meters (4,921 feet) is subject to a 4% net smelter return royalty. This area of the property is now substantially mined out and therefore the Company did not pay royalties in 2004 and does not expect to pay royalties in 2005. In 2003, exploration work started to extend outside of the LaRonde property on to the Terrex property where a down plunge extension of the 20 North gold zone was discovered. The Terrex property is subject to a 5% net profits royalty to Delfer Gold Mines Inc., a 1% of the net smelter return royalty to Breakwater Resources Ltd. and a 2% of the net smelter return royalty to Barrick. In addition, the Company owns 100% of the Sphinx property immediately to the east of the El Coco property.

Mining and Milling Facilities

The LaRonde Mine was originally developed utilizing a 3,961 foot shaft (Shaft #1) and an underground ramp access system. The ramp access system is available down to the 25th Level of Shaft #1 and then continues down to Level 152 at the Penna Shaft. The mineral reserve accessible from Shaft #1 was depleted in September 2000. Shaft #1 is currently being used as a second escape way and provides services for the Penna Shaft (i.e. ventilation, compressed air, water). A second production shaft (Shaft #2), located 4,000 feet to the east of Shaft #1, was completed in 1994 down to a depth of 1,722 feet and was used to mine Zones #6 and #7. Both ore zones were depleted in March 2000 and the workings were allowed to flood up to the 6th Level. A third shaft (Penna Shaft, formerly called Shaft #3) located approximately 1,640 feet to the east of Shaft #1, was completed down to a depth of 7,380 feet in March 2000. The Penna Shaft is used to mine Zones 20 North, 20 South, 7 and 6.

Four mining methods have historically been used at the LaRonde Mine: open pit for the two surface deposits, sublevel retreat, longitudinal retreat with cemented backfill, and transverse open stoping with both cemented and unconsolidated backfill. The primary source of ore at the LaRonde Mine continues to be from underground mining methods. During 2003, two methods were used: longitudinal retreat with cemented backfill and transverse open stoping with both cemented and unconsolidated backfill. In the underground mine, sublevels are driven at 100 foot and 130 foot intervals, depending on the depth. Stopes are undercut in 45-foot panels. In the longitudinal method, panels are mined in 45-foot sections and backfilled with 100% cemented rock fill or paste fill. In the transverse open stoping method, 50% of the ore is mined in the first pass and filled with cemented rock fill or paste fill from the paste backfill plant completed two years ago located on the surface at the milling facility. On the second pass, the remainder of the ore is mined and filled with unconsolidated waste rock fill or paste fill.

Currently, water is treated at various facilities at the LaRonde Division. Prior to the water entering the tailings pond system, cyanide is removed at a cyanide destruction facility using a sulphur dioxide (Inco) process. A secondary treatment plant located between the #1 and #2 polishing ponds uses a peroxysilica process to

complete the cyanide destruction process. In addition, water with higher than permissible acidity is treated by lime in the mill complex prior to being released to the environment. In the first quarter of 2004, in response to revised Federal mining effluent regulations, the Company completed and commissioned a new water treatment plant that will reduce tailing effluent toxicity immediately prior to discharge. The plant uses a biological treatment process. Prior to the completion of the water treatment plant, the Company retained excess water in its tailing pond complex. At the end of March 2004 treated water released from the plant successfully passed a toxicity test. The flow rate is steadily being increased as the biomass continues to build up. In 2004, high water levels at the tailings pond at LaRonde caused by above average rainfall and overcast conditions were mitigated by a discharge of slightly toxic water into the environment that was permitted by the Quebec Ministère de l'Environnement. Also, the Company installed a coffer dam in the tailings pond to provide extra capacity. In 2004, the Company initiated construction on a second phase expansion of the water treatment plant and to further increase treatment capacity. Estimated expenditures on this second phase expansion are \$4.2 million and construction is expected to be completed in the first quarter of 2005.

Tailings are stored in tailings ponds covering an area of approximately 293 acres and waste rock is stored in two waste rock piles with a combined volume of approximately 50.4 million cubic feet. The Company holds mining claims to the northeast, to the east and to the southeast of the tailings ponds that would allow expansion of the tailings ponds and the establishment of additional waste disposal areas.

Surface facilities at the LaRonde Mine include a 7,000 tons of ore treated per day milling complex, which has been expanded three times from the original 2,000 tons of ore treated per day rate. The first expansion to 3,600 tons per day was completed at the beginning of 2000 and the second expansion to 5,000 tons per day was completed at the end of the third quarter of 2001. The expansion to 7,000 tons per day was completed in October 2002. This expansion consisted of additions to the grinding and precious metals circuits and modifications to the copper and zinc flotation circuits. A new ore handling system was completed at the end of 1999. It included a truck dump linked by a new conveyor gallery to a 5,000-ton coarse ore bin. The coarse ore bin feeds a semi-autogenous (SAG) mill that was installed at the end of 1999. Ore from the Penna Shaft is transported to the ore handling facility by 35-ton trucks.

The milling complex consists of a grinding, gravity, copper flotation, zinc flotation, and a precious metals recovery circuit and refinery. A copper concentrate containing approximately 75% of the gold and by product silver and copper is recovered. The zinc flotation circuit produces a zinc concentrate containing approximately 5% of the gold. The remaining 20% is recovered partly by the gravity circuit (5%) and the precious metals circuit including a new refinery using the Merrill Crowe process (15%) and shipped as doré bars. Both the zinc and copper flotation circuits consist of a series of column and mechanical cells that sequentially increase the zinc concentrate and copper concentrate quality. In 2003, zinc recoveries averaged 78.2% with peak monthly recovery rates exceeding 82.5% on a daily basis (83.1% on a monthly basis). Zinc concentrate quality has averaged over 53.25% zinc. Copper recoveries have averaged over 80.3%, however, with peak monthly recovery rates of 86.2% on a monthly basis. Copper concentrate quality averaged 17.1% for the year. In the first three quarters of 2004, zinc recoveries averaged 84.0% with high and low monthly recovery rates approximately 85.1% and 80.7%, respectively, and copper recoveries averaged 78.8%, with high and low monthly recovery rates of 83.1% and 72.3%, respectively. Copper concentrate quality averaged 14.7% for the first three quarters of 2004.

Since commercial production began in 1988, gold recoveries have averaged over 92%. During 2003 and the first three quarters of 2004, gold recoveries averaged over 91.4% and 91.9%, respectively. In 2003, silver recoveries averaged 82.6%. During 2003 and the first three quarters of 2004, the mill processed approximately 2.4 million and 2.2 million tons of ore, respectively, averaging approximately 6,700 and 8,000 tons of ore treated per day, respectively, and operating over 89.6% and 93.2% of available time in such periods, respectively.

Edgar Filing: AGNICO EAGLE MINES LTD - Form 20-F/A

The following table sets out the metal recoveries, concentrate grades and contained metals for the 2.449 million tons of ore extracted by the Company at the LaRonde Division in 2003.

	Head Grades	Copper Concentrate (63,037 tons produced)		Zinc Concentrate (111,747 tons produced)		Doré Produced (000s)	Overall Metal Recoveries	Payable Production (000s)
		Grade	Recovery	Grade	Recovery			
Gold	0.11 oz/t	2.40 oz/t	57.63%	0.22 oz/t	9.57%	62.1 oz	91.51%	236.7 oz
Silver	2.16 oz/t	44.16 oz/t	47.93%	6.97 oz/t	14.74%	924.6 oz	82.79%	3,953 oz
Zinc	3.10%	7.43%		53.25%	78.19%		78.19%	100,337 lbs
Copper	0.55%	17.10%	80.30%				80.30%	20,131 lbs

Development

In the latter half of 2003 and in 2004, development was focused on preparing mining blocks well in advance of their planned production to mitigate the impact of any unforeseen development delays on production. Development also focused on completing ramp development between Level 194 and Level 215. This ramp development was completed in the third quarter of 2003 bringing about additional mining flexibility as mining equipment is no longer captive on mining horizons between these levels. In 2004, the Company initiated ramp development construction between Level 215, the lowest producing level of the LaRonde Mine, and Level 236 in order to establish a new mining horizon for production on this lower level. The Company expects that the first mining blocks on Level 236 should be ready for mining by the end of 2005. Also construction will continue on a ramp between the upper and lower mining horizons of the Penna Shaft that will provide the Company with continuous ramp access from the surface to Level 236. The Company expects to complete this ramp development program in mid 2005.

Development along Level 215 continued in 2003 as the Level 215 drift continued toward the western property boundary. This drift is a base for our continued drilling on Zone 20 North at depth. For 2004, development crews focused on continuing the Level 215 drift to the west as drilling from this level is pivotal to the Company's ongoing testing of Zone 20 North at depth and to the west. In 2005, development and exploration activity will continue from the Level 215 Exploration Drift. At September 30, 2004, development activity had reached 200 feet to the west of the boundary between the LaRonde and Bousquet properties. The exploration drift will be extended an additional 2,000 feet by mid 2005. The focus of the development activity will be to define the western limit of Zone 20 North at depth and to acquire additional information on the high grade polymetallic zone of Zone 20 North at depth and to the west.

Geology and Diamond Drilling

Geologically, the LaRonde Mine property is located near the southern boundary of the Archean-age (2.7 billion years old) Abitibi Sub-Province and the Pontiac Sub-Province within the Superior Province of the Canadian Shield. The most important regional structure is the Cadillac-Larder Lake fault zone marking the contact between the Abitibi and the Pontiac sub-provinces, located approximately 1.2 miles to the south of the LaRonde property.

The geology that underlies the LaRonde Mine consists of three east-west trending, steeply south dipping and generally southward facing regional lithological units (geological Groups). The units are, from north to south: (i) 1,200 feet of the Kewagama Group which is made up of thick band of interbedded wacke; (ii) 5,000 feet of the Blake River Group, a volcanic assemblage which hosts all the known economic mineralisation on the property; and (iii) 1,800 feet of the Cadillac Group, made up of thick band of wacke interbedded with pelitic schist and minor iron formation.

Zones of strong sericite and chlorite alterations, which enclose massive to disseminated sulphide mineralization (in which gold, silver, copper and zinc are mined at the LaRonde Mine) follow steeply dipping, east-west trending, anastomosing shear zone structures within the Blake River Group volcanic units from east to west across the property. These shear zones comprise a larger structure, the Doyon-Dumagami Structural Zone, which hosts several important gold occurrences (including the Doyon gold mine and the former Bousquet

mines) and has been traced for over 6 miles within the Blake River Group from the LaRonde Division property westward to the Mouska gold mine.

The gold bearing zones at the LaRonde Division are lens-shaped aggregates of disseminated, stringer through to massive, aggregates of coarse pyrite with a copper, zinc and silver content. Ten zones that vary in size from 50,000 to 40,000,000 tons have been identified, of which eight are believed to be economic. Gold content is not proportional to the total sulphide content but does increase with copper content. Gold values are also enhanced where closely spaced north-south fractures cut the pyrite lenses.

These historical relationships are maintained at the Penna Shaft zones. The zinc-silver (i.e. Zone 20 North) mineralization, which is common in the upper Penna Shaft area and contains lower gold values, grades into gold-copper mineralization at depth. North-south fractures have been noted in the Penna Shaft underground development along with the associated gold value enhancement.

The copper mineral that is present at the Penna Shaft is chalcopyrite while the predominant zinc mineral is sphalerite.

Compared to the mineral reserve estimate as of December 31, 2002, on a tonnage basis, the LaRonde Division's combined proven and probable mineral reserve decreased 0.2% to 41.6 million tons in 2003. The 41.6 million tons of mineral reserves includes the replacement of 2.4 million tons that were mined in 2003. The Company's ability to sustain its level of proven and probable mineral reserve was primarily due to continued successful exploration results at depth.

In 2003, drilling targeted continued definition of Zone 20 North, delineation and definition drilling of Zone 7, deep exploration testing the extension of Zone 20 North at depth and to the west. The Zone 7 drilling program was largely completed in 2003 with the first production mining block from Zone 7 being mined in January 2004. The testing of Zone 20 North at depth and to the west continued into 2004 as the property boundary constraints were removed with the Company's purchase of the Bousquet property and the Terrex property. In 2004, the focus of the exploration program was to continue the conversion of mineral resource to mineral reserve, to complete the definition of Zone 20 North at depth, to confirm potential higher grade core at depth, and to test for the extension of Zone 20 South at depth and to the west. The results of the exploration program will be incorporated into the deep mining feasibility study that the Company expects to complete by mid 2005. A summary of the diamond drilling completed on the LaRonde Mine property is set out below:

LaRonde Target for Diamond Drilling	Number of Holes Drilled		Feet Drilled	
	2003	2004	2003	2004
Production Stope Delineation	218	180	43,285	35,880
Definition	84	54	50,479	24,852
Deep Exploration (Zone 20 North)	41	41	69,171	98,749
TOTAL	343	275	162,935	159,481

The combined cost of the diamond drilling at the LaRonde Mine was approximately \$5.0 million in 2003 (including \$0.5 million in definition drilling expenses charged to operating costs at the LaRonde Mine and also the cost of the Level 215 exploration drift and services) and is estimated to have been \$2.0 million in 2004. The total cost of exploration incurred since production started at the LaRonde Mine in 1988 is estimated to be over C\$53.9 million. Expenditures on exploration and studies for LaRonde II (Zone 20 North at depth) are estimated to have been \$3.8 million in 2004 and is expected to be \$12.7 million in 2005. In the first three quarters of 2004, the Company spent \$3.0 million on exploration and studies for LaRonde II.

Edgar Filing: AGNICO EAGLE MINES LTD - Form 20-F/A

Zone 20 North has developed into what the Company believes is one of the largest gold bearing massive sulphide mineralized zones known in the world and one of the largest mineralized zones known in the Abitibi region of Ontario and Quebec. The following table summarizes Zone 20 North's contribution to the LaRonde Mine's mineral reserve:

	Proven and Probable Mineral Reserves
Total LaRonde Property	41,602,000 tons

Zone 20 North 39,208,000 tons

The following table summarizes Zone 20 North's contribution to the LaRonde Mine's mineral resource (see "Note to Investors Concerning Estimates of Mineral Resources"):

	Measured and Indicated Mineral Resources
Total LaRonde Property	3,716,000 tons

Zone 20 North 2,468,000 tons

	Inferred Mineral Resource
Total LaRonde Property	15,294,000 tons

Zone 20 North 14,189,000 tons

Zone 20 North initially occurs at a depth of 2,700 feet below surface and has been traced down to a depth of 9,900 feet below surface. With increased access on the lower levels of the mine (i.e., Levels 170, 194, 212, 215 and 220), the transformation from a "zinc/silver" ore body to a "gold/copper" deposit continued during 2003 and 2004. Most of the definition drilling was conducted from Levels 194 and 215. In 2003 and 2004, exploration drilling was also conducted from Level 220, the lowest level of the Penna Shaft.

Zone 20 North can be divided into an upper zinc/silver-enriched zone and a lower gold/copper-enriched zone. The zinc zone has been traced over a vertical distance of 2,600 feet and a horizontal distance of 1,900 feet, with thicknesses approaching 125 feet. The gold zone has been traced over a vertical distance of over 4,400 feet and a horizontal distance of 2,000 feet, with thicknesses varying from 35 feet to 100 feet. The zinc zone consists of massive zinc/silver mineralization containing 50% to 90% massive pyrite and 10% to 50% massive light brown sphalerite. The gold zone mineralization consists of 30% to 70% finely disseminated to massive pyrite containing 1% to 10% chalcopyrite veinlets, minor disseminated sphalerite and rare specks of visible gold. Gold grades are generally related to the chalcopyrite or copper content. This is the same historical relationship noted at Shaft #1's Main Zone. At depth, the massive sulphide lens becomes richer in gold and copper. During 2003, 2.1 million tons of ore grading 0.09 ounces of gold per ton, 2.44 ounces of silver per ton, 0.41% copper and 4.06% zinc were mined from Zone 20 North. In the first three quarters of 2004, 2.1 million tons of ore grading 0.10 ounces of gold per ton, 2.62 ounces of silver per ton, 0.55% copper and 4.31% zinc were mined from Zone 20 North.

Drilling results in 2003 continued to delineate and increase the size of the zone while demonstrating the transformation from a zinc/silver ore body to a gold deposit at depth. One of the most significant results of the year was obtained from drill hole 3215-68A. The drill hole intersected the following values:

Drill Hole	True Thickness (ft)	Interval (ft)		Gold (oz/ton) Cut (1.5 oz)	Silver (oz/ton)	Copper (%)	Zinc (%)
		From	To				
3215-68A (North)	45.9	4,160.0	4,245.0	0.19	2.21	0.61	1.87

The result is significant because of the reoccurrence of the massive sulphide bands with locally up to 15% chalcopyrite mineralization and the reoccurrence of zinc values. The value was located 4,352 feet to the west of the Penna Shaft, on the recently acquired Terrex property, representing the most westerly drill hole completed on Zone 20 North at depth.

Edgar Filing: AGNICO EAGLE MINES LTD - Form 20-F/A

The 2003 development and drilling results have indicated the following:

Existence of a higher grade gold core at depth.

Existence of multiple lenses at depth that are open for further exploration.

Zone 20 North is open for further expansion at depth and more importantly on the recently acquired Bousquet and Terrex properties to the west and south.

The drilling results continue to have major geologic implications for further exploration along the Cadillac Belt.

In the first nine months of 2004, two additional drill holes were completed which tested the Zone 20 North's polymetallic zone at depth. The results are summarized below:

Drill Hole	True Thickness (ft)	Interval (ft)		Gold (oz/ton) Cut (1.5 oz)	Silver (oz/ton)	Copper (%)	Zinc (%)
		From	To				
3215-85D	12.1	3,784.1	3,800.2	0.26	1.95	0.37	9.66
Uncut	12.1	3,784.1	3,800.2	0.59	1.95	0.37	9.66
3215-95	40.7	3,103.6	3,152.2	0.22	1.60	0.52	6.26
Uncut	40.7	3,103.6	3,152.2	0.26	1.60	0.52	6.26

These results further confirm the existence of a higher grade polymetallic zone at depth. The most significant result was obtained in drill hole 3215-95, which is the third hole to confirm the existence of a higher grade polymetallic zone at depth. The intercept, located at a depth of 9,339 feet and approximately 3,700 feet to the west of the Penna Shaft, straddles the boundary of the LaRonde and Terrex properties. The intersection consisted of 30% to 90% massive pyrite with occurrences of sphalerite and chalcopyrite hosted by a siliceous matrix. Visible gold was noted in a quartz vein. The vein graded 2.55 ounces of gold (uncut) over an interval of 2.1 feet. With the most recent results, the polymetallic zone has been traced over a length of approximately 1,500 feet and a vertical height of 500 feet. These results will be used in the preparation of the Company's deep mining feasibility study that is expected to be completed in mid 2005.

Agnico-Eagle currently controls almost 20 miles along this belt both east and west of the LaRonde Mine, much of which remains unexplored. Access to a portion of this property holding provided by the LaRonde Mine's underground infrastructure will facilitate further exploration.

Historically, increased drill hole density has improved initial mineral reserve and mineral resource estimates based on widely spaced drill holes usually drilled from the shaft stations. Ultimately, development within the ore zones has confirmed or upgraded the original estimates.

Zone 20 South is located approximately 400 feet south of Zone 20 North. It consists of at least two known disseminated to massive sulphide gold/copper/zinc-bearing lenses made up of 80% to 90% pyrite, 5% to 10% sphalerite and 1% to 3% chalcopyrite. The Zone 20 South horizon has been traced over a vertical distance of 5,300 feet and a horizontal distance of 400 feet, with a mineralized thickness varying from 10 feet to 40 feet. The El Coco property contains the eastern extension of Zone 20 South. The current mineral reserve position on Zone 20 South on the LaRonde property is 189,600 ounces and on the El Coco property is 3,900 ounces. In 2003, approximately 114,100 tons grading 0.14 ounces of gold per ton were mined from Zone 20 South on the LaRonde property and over 178,800 tons grading 0.17 ounces of gold per ton were mined from Zone 20 South on the El Coco property. In the first three quarters of 2004, approximately 36,100 tons grading 0.14 ounces of gold per ton were mined from Zone 20 South on the LaRonde property and over 22,800 tons grading 0.20 ounces of gold per ton were mined from Zone 20 South on the El Coco property. As at December 31, 2003, the reserves on the El Coco property were substantially depleted.

Reserves in Zone 20 South in the upper Penna Shaft area are depleting rapidly and have been substantially depleted on the El Coco property. The bulk of the current reserves (almost 193,500 ounces of gold) are located in the lower mine area. Mineralization of Zone 20 South in this lower area of the Penna Shaft appears to be very similar to what was initially encountered in Zone 20 South near Level 146 where the mineralization is narrow, high-grade but more difficult to define. Additional high-grade gold mineralization at depth could have a significant impact on the long-term mine plan. High grade mineralization just above Level 215 has not yet been factored into the long-term mine plan.

Edgar Filing: AGNICO EAGLE MINES LTD - Form 20-F/A

The significance of Zone 20 South production can be summarized as follows:

Zone 20 South is characterized by higher-grade mineralization frequently accompanied by coarse visible gold.

Reserves on the El Coco property were substantially depleted as at December 31, 2003 and production since then has come from royalty-free areas of Zone 20 South lens production.

Unlike the typical LaRonde massive sulphide model, higher gold grades are frequently accompanied by higher-grade silver/zinc mineralization. In the LaRonde geological model, higher-grade gold mineralization is normally accompanied by corresponding higher copper values.

Mineralization is continuous down to Level 154 (5,050 feet below surface). Economic mineralization reoccurs at the Level 170 horizon (5,600 feet below surface) and is open at depth. Mineralization has been traced to a depth of 7,800 feet.

Zone 20 South will require significantly more delineation drilling. Zone 20 South will be drilled from the Level 215 exploration drift, resulting in shorter drill holes and significantly tighter drill spacing.

In the first three quarters of 2004, 14 drill holes were completed in Zone 20 South below Level 215. The results were highly erratic and generally poor. While additional drilling will be conducted in 2005, the current results do not justify an economic evaluation.

The 2004 drilling program continued testing Zone 20 North at depth and to the west and will continue upper and lower mine delineation drilling. In addition to drilling conducted from the LaRonde Mine infrastructure, drilling was also conducted in 2004 using the underground infrastructure available from the Company's recently acquired Bousquet property. For 2004, three main areas of drilling were conducted including testing potential extensions of mineralization at depth on the Ellison property from the 9th Level and drilling from bottom of the Bousquet Shaft to probe the results at depth encountered in Drill Hole 3215-68A, intersected from LaRonde's Level 215 exploration drift.

Capital Projects and Expansion

Installation of a crushing plant and conveyor system at 7,200 feet below surface was completed in the second quarter of 2003. In addition, the paste backfill distribution network in the lower areas of the mine was completed in the fourth quarter of 2003. The Company also completed the extension of the exhaust system to Level 215 and installed additional cooling systems at depth during the second quarter of 2003.

In 2004, the Company commissioned a water treatment plant that reduces tailing effluent toxicity immediately prior to discharge. The Company has initiated construction on a second phase expansion of the water treatment plant to further increase treatment capacity. In 2004, the Company initiated ramp development between Level 215 and Level 236. The Company expects to complete this development and ramp construction between the upper and lower mining horizons at the Penna Shaft in 2005.

The regional development team will continue to evaluate the development project at LaRonde II, the Company's mineral resource base located outside of the Penna Shaft infrastructure. In 2004, the Company continued the deep drilling program from the Level 215 drift and the bottom of the Bousquet Shaft to incorporate those results into a feasibility study which is expected to be completed in mid 2005. In connection with the preparation of this feasibility study, the development team is also refining studies of the technical issues associated with deep mining.

The Company initially planned capital expenditures of \$31.4 million in 2004, but revised that amount to \$55 million, with the increase primarily due to the commencement of underground programs at Lapa and Goldex projects (see "Lapa Project" and "Goldex Project"). Budgeted 2005 exploration and capital expenditures of \$42 million consist of \$14.1 million of sustaining capital expenditures at the LaRonde Mine, \$12.7 million on projects relating to LaRonde II, \$12.1 million on the Lapa property, \$1.5 million on the bulk sample and engineering projects at the Goldex property and \$1.6 million on drilling at the Bousquet and Ellison properties. During 2005, the Company plans exploration expenditures on grassroots exploration projects of approximately \$4.8 million.

Mineral Reserve and Mineral Resource

The information set forth below with respect to the mineral reserves at the LaRonde Division, Bousquet, Ellison, Goldex and Lapa properties has been prepared by the following qualified people in accordance with the Canadian Securities Administrators' National Instrument 43-101 ("National Instrument 43-101"):

Property	Qualified person responsible for mineral reserve estimates
LaRonde Division	Guy Gosselin, P.Eng., P.Geo., Chief Geologist, LaRonde Division
Bousquet and Ellison	Normand Bedard, P.Geo., Senior Geologist, Regional Project Division
Lapa and Goldex	Marc Legault, P.Eng., Manager, Project Evaluations

The qualified person responsible for the LaRonde II, Lapa and Goldex preliminary feasibility studies is Rosaire Emond, P.Eng., Senior Mining Engineer, Regional Project Division.

The Company's Manager, Project Evaluations, Marc H. Legault, P.Eng., a "qualified person" under National Instrument 43-101, has supervised the preparation of and verified the information that forms the basis for the scientific and technical information in this Form 20-F.

The criteria set forth in National Instrument 43-101 are similar to the reserve definitions and guidelines for classification of mineral resource used by the United States Securities and Exchange Commission's Industry Guide No. 7. However, the definitions in National Instrument 43-101 differ in certain respects from the definitions set forth in the United States Securities and Exchange Commission's Industry Guide No. 7 concerning mining operations. The Company's mineral reserve estimate was derived from internally generated data or audited reports.

Cautionary Note to Investors concerning estimates of Measured and Indicated Resources

This section uses the terms "measured resources" and "indicated resources." We advise investors that while those terms are recognized and required by Canadian regulations, the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission does not recognize them. **Investors are cautioned not to assume that any part or all of mineral deposits in these categories will ever be converted into reserves.**

Cautionary Note to Investors concerning estimates of Inferred Resources

This section uses the term "inferred resources." We advise investors that while this term is recognized and required by Canadian regulations, the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission does not recognize it. "Inferred resources" have a great amount of uncertainty as to their existence, and great uncertainty as to their economic and legal feasibility. It cannot be assumed that all or any part of an Inferred Mineral Resource will ever be upgraded to a higher category. Under Canadian rules, estimates of Inferred Mineral Resources may not form the basis of feasibility or pre-feasibility studies, except in rare cases. **Investors are cautioned not to assume that part or all of an inferred resource exists, or is economically or legally mineable.**

A "Mineral Reserve" is the economically mineable part of a measured or indicated resource demonstrated by at least a preliminary feasibility study. This study must include adequate information on mining, processing, metallurgical, economic and other relevant factors that demonstrate, at the time of reporting, that economic extraction can be justified. A mineral reserve includes diluting materials and allows for losses that may occur when the material is mined.

A "Proven Mineral Reserve" is the economically mineable part of a measured resource for which quantity, grade or quality, densities, shape and physical characteristics are so well established that they can be estimated with confidence sufficient to allow the appropriate application of technical and economic parameters, to support production planning and evaluation of the economic viability of the deposit.

A "Probable Mineral Reserve" is the economically mineable part of an indicated mineral resource for which quantity, grade or quality, densities, shape and physical characteristics can be estimated with a level of confidence sufficient to allow the appropriate application of technical and economic parameters, to support mine planning and evaluation of the economic viability of the deposit.

A "Mineral Resource" is a concentration or occurrence of natural, solid, inorganic or fossilized organic material in or on the earth's crust in such form and quantity and of such a grade or quality that it has reasonable prospects for economic extraction. The location, quantity, grade, geological characteristics and continuity of a mineral resource are known, estimated or interpreted from specific geological evidence and knowledge.

A "Measured Mineral Resource" is that part of a mineral resource for which quantity, grade or quality, densities, shape and physical characteristics can be estimated with a level of confidence sufficient to allow the appropriate application of technical and economic parameters, to support mine planning and evaluation of the economic viability of the deposit. The estimate is based on detailed and reliable exploration, sampling and testing information gathered through appropriate techniques from locations such as outcrops, trenches, pits, workings and drill holes that are spaced closely enough to confirm both geological and grade continuity.

An "Indicated Mineral Resource" is that part of a mineral resource for which quantity, grade or quality, densities, shape and physical characteristics can be estimated with a level of confidence sufficient to allow the appropriate application of technical and economic parameters, to support mine planning and evaluation of the economic viability of the deposit. The estimate is based on detailed and reliable exploration and testing information gathered through appropriate techniques from locations such as outcrops, trenches, pits, workings and drill holes that are spaced closely enough for geological and grade continuity to be reasonably assumed. Mineral resources that are not mineral reserves do not have demonstrated economic viability.

A "Preliminary Feasibility Study" means a comprehensive study of the viability of a mineral project that has advanced to a stage where the mining method, in the case of underground mining, or the pit configuration, in the case of an open pit, has been established, and which, if an effective method of mineral processing has been determined, includes a financial analysis based on reasonable assumptions of technical, engineering, operating, economic factors and the evaluation of other relevant factors which are sufficient for a qualified person, acting reasonably, to determine if all or part of the Mineral Resource may be classified as a Mineral Reserve.

Canadian Securities Administrators' National Instrument 43-101 requires mining companies to disclose reserves and resources using the subcategories of "proven" reserves, "probable" reserves, "measured" resources, "indicated" resources and "inferred" resources. Mineral resources that are not mineral reserves do not have demonstrated economic viability.

"Cut-off Grade" means (a) in respect of mineral resources, the lowest grade below which the mineralized rock currently cannot reasonably be expected to be economically extracted, and (b) in respect of mineral reserves, the lowest grade below which the mineralized rock currently cannot be economically extracted as

Edgar Filing: AGNICO EAGLE MINES LTD - Form 20-F/A

demonstrated by either a preliminary feasibility study or a feasibility study. Cut-off grades vary between deposits depending upon the amenability of ore to gold extraction and upon costs of production and metal prices.

LaRonde Division	at December 31,		
	2003	2002	2001
Gold			
Proven ⁽¹⁾ tons	4,083,000	3,800,000	1,900,000
Average grade gold ounces per ton	0.14	0.13	0.17
Probable ⁽¹⁾ tons	25,893,000	22,700,000	18,200,000
Average grade gold ounces per ton	0.16	0.13	0.14
Zinc			
Proven tons	2,764,000	4,200,000	4,500,000
Average grade gold ounces per ton	0.03	0.03	0.03
Probable tons	8,862,000	11,000,000	11,700,000
Average grade gold ounces per ton	0.03	0.03	0.03
Total mineral reserve tons	41,602,000	41,700,000	36,300,000
Total contained gold ounces⁽²⁾	5,020,000	4,022,000	3,267,000

Tonnage information is rounded to the nearest 100,000 tons.

Notes:

- (1) The proven and probable mineral reserves set forth in the table above are based on net smelter return cut-off value of the ore that varies between C\$35.38 per ton and C\$54.43 per ton depending on the deposit. (For instance, the C\$35.38 cut-off, which is supported by LaRonde engineering reports that demonstrate that economic extraction can be justified, is applied only in respect of the recovery of gold mineralization located in a part of the LaRonde Mine immediately adjacent to zinc mineralization to which the C\$54.43 cut-off applies. The zinc mineralization is economic at a cut-off grade of C\$54.43 and will be extracted in the ordinary course. When the zinc mineralization is extracted, the access costs for the zinc will have been incurred. To extract the gold mineralization from this area once the adjacent zinc mineralization has been extracted, the Company will not have to incur additional access costs. As a result, the incremental cost of extracting the gold mineralization is low, and a cut-off grade of C\$35.38 is appropriate.) The metal grades reported in the mineral reserve estimate represent in-place grades and do not reflect losses in the recovery process, that is, the metallurgical losses associated with processing the extracted ore. The Company's historical metallurgical recovery rates for gold at the LaRonde Mine to December 31, 2003 were 92.0%. The Company's estimated metallurgical recovery rates for the first three quarters of 2004 from the LaRonde Mine were 91.9% for gold, 86.7% for silver, 78.8% for copper and 84.0% for zinc. The mineral reserve figures presented herein are estimates, and no assurance can be given that the anticipated tonnages and grades will be achieved or that the indicated level of recovery will be realized.

The 2004 mineral reserve and mineral resource estimate at LaRonde was calculated using a gold price of \$325 per ounce, a silver price of \$5.00 per ounce, a copper price of \$0.80 per pound, a zinc price of \$0.50 per pound and a US\$/C\$ exchange rate of \$1.40. The metal and foreign exchange assumptions were changed in 2003 resulting from changes in the prices for each metal and US\$/C\$ exchange rate. The impact of the increase in gold price from \$300 to \$325 was essentially negated by the change in the US\$/C\$ exchange rate from \$1.50 to \$1.40. Using a \$300 gold price, gold reserves would decrease by approximately 6%, whereas using a gold price of \$350 would increase reserves by approximately 6%.

- (2) Represents contained gold ounces and does not include equivalent gold ounces for the byproduct metals contained in mineral reserve.

Reconciliation of LaRonde Division Mineral Reserve

The following table shows the reconciliation of mineral reserve (in nearest 100,000 tons) at the LaRonde Division by category as at December 31, 2002 to December 31, 2003.

	Proven	Probable	Total
December 31, 2002	8,000,000	33,700,000	41,700,000
Mined	(2,410,000)		(2,410,000)

Edgar Filing: AGNICO EAGLE MINES LTD - Form 20-F/A

	<u>Proven</u>	<u>Probable</u>	<u>Total</u>
Revision	1,258,000	1,054,000	2,312,000
December 31, 2003	6,848,000	34,754,000	41,602,000

Preparation of Scientific and Technical Data

The personnel at the LaRonde Division utilize quality assurance procedures and assay protocols in connection with drilling and sampling that conform to industry-accepted quality control procedures. Exploration drilling is carried out on approximately a 400-foot by 400-foot pattern, whereas reserve drilling is carried out on approximately a 130-foot by 130-foot pattern. Samples are taken at regular (one foot to five feet) intervals and assayed for gold using the fire assay method. Drill hole collar, survey and assay information used in modelling and resource estimation are manually verified by on-site geologic staff and all core sample metal grades are verified by independent assay laboratories. Factors that could affect the accuracy or reliability of the results of the sampling and assaying carried out at the LaRonde Division include uncleanliness of the coreshack area, a dirty coresaw, the lack of an unobstructed drain for water and rock cuttings during the cutting process, the inability to collect uniform representative samples of adequate size, as well as an ore core recovery of less than 100%. In cases of irregular mineralization, representative samples are sometimes chosen in order to avoid introducing a sampling bias during cutting.

Complete information on the verification procedures, the quality assurance program, quality control procedures, operating and capital cost assumptions, parameters and methods and a full discussion of the factors that may materially affect mineral reserve and mineral resource estimates may be found in the 2004 LaRonde Mineral Resource and Mineral Reserve Estimate, Agnico-Eagle Mines Limited, LaRonde Division dated November 15, 2004, filed with Canadian Securities Administrators on SEDAR.

Lapa Project

The Lapa Project is an advanced stage exploration property located approximately seven miles east of the LaRonde Mine near Cadillac, Quebec and is accessible by provincial highway. The Lapa property, which contains the Contact Zone deposit, is made up of the Tonawanda property, which consists of 42 mining claims totalling approximately 1,912 acres, and the Zulapa property, which consists of one mining concession totalling approximately 231 acres. In 2003, the Company purchased the Lapa property from Breakwater Resources for a payment of \$8.925 million, a 1% net smelter return royalty on the Tonawanda property and a 0.5% net smelter return royalty on the Zulapa property. An additional \$1 million is payable to Breakwater if the published inferred mineral resource at the Lapa property reaches 2.0 million ounces of gold. Of the total potential cash consideration of \$9.925 million, \$2.0 million may be used by the Company as a credit to offset net smelter return royalties payable.

In the first quarter of 2003, the Company completed a mineral reserve and mineral resource estimate on the Contact Zone deposit conforming to National Instrument 43-101. In February 2003, the mineral resource estimate was 3,270,546 tons grading 0.249 ounces per ton of gold. Most of the mineralized drill holes contain visible gold. For this mineral resource estimate, high assay values were capped at 1.50 ounces per ton. Drilling throughout 2003 also confirmed a potentially new zone, the Contact South Zone, immediately adjacent to the west of the Contact Zone. The 2003 drilling program also focused on infill drilling that resulted in the resource to reserve conversion at year end.

Throughout 2003, the Company also focused on collecting material to be used in conducting metallurgical testing and preliminary engineering and baseline environmental studies have been initiated. Drilling in 2004 concentrated on expanding the known orebodies (Contact Zone and Contact South Zone) as well as drilling untested portions of the volcano-sedimentary contact in the eastern portion of the property. Preliminary engineering throughout 2004 was focused on providing various options for the development of the property. In 2004 the Company initiated a project to sink a 2,700 foot deep shaft at the Lapa property. Completion of the shaft is expected to occur in 2006. The shaft will provide access for underground diamond drilling to test the depth potential of the deposit, confirm appropriate mining methods and initiate a bulk sampling program. Activity at the Lapa property in 2005 will focus on the construction of the shaft and initiating the underground drilling program.

Edgar Filing: AGNICO EAGLE MINES LTD - Form 20-F/A

As of December 31, 2003, a mineral reserve estimate was conducted on the Lapa property which, when it was incorporated into a preliminary feasibility study, led to the following results.

	December 31, 2003
Gold	
Probable tons	4,661,000
Average grade gold ounces per ton	0.25
Total mineral reserve tons	4,661,000
Total contained gold ounces	1,187,000

Tonnage information is rounded to the nearest 100,000 tons.

Notes:

- (1) The 2003 mineral reserve and mineral resource estimate was calculated using a gold price of \$325 per ounce and a US\$/C\$ exchange rate of \$1.40. In estimating the Lapa probable mineral reserve and mineral resource, cut-off grades of 0.19 and 0.15 ounces per ton, respectively, were used to evaluate drill intercepts that have been adjusted to respect a minimum mining width of 9.2 feet. Separate cut-off grades are used for the estimation of mineral reserves and mineral resources. The cut-off grade used for the estimate of mineral reserves is based on the grades used in the preliminary feasibility study or feasibility study that supports the estimate of mineral reserves whereas the cut-off grade used for the estimation of mineral resources is determined by the Company based on the minimum grade of ore that has reasonable prospects for economic extraction. The estimate was derived using a three dimensional block model of the deposit; the grades were interpolated using the inverse distance power squared method. The metal grades reported in the mineral reserve estimate represent in-place grades and do not reflect losses in the recovery process, that is, the metallurgical losses associated with processing the extracted ore. The mineral reserve figures presented herein are estimates, and no assurance can be given that the anticipated tonnages and grades will be achieved or that the indicated level of recovery will be realized. In addition to the mineral reserves set out above, the Lapa property contained 0.7 million tons of measured and indicated mineral resource grading 0.16 ounces of gold per ton and 0.3 million tons of inferred mineral resource grading 0.18 ounces of gold per ton.
- (2) For the 2004 mineral reserve and mineral resource estimate, high assay values were capped at 1.5 and 2.0 ounces of gold per ton, respectively, for the Contact and Contact South Zones.

Preparation of Scientific and Technical Data

All Lapa drill core has been logged and the results have been verified by Dino Lombardi, P.Geo., Senior Geologist, Exploration Division, who is fully qualified per the standards outlined in National Instrument 43-101. The Exploration Division personnel utilize quality assurance and assay protocols that conform to industry accepted quality control procedures. Exploration drilling at Lapa is carried out on approximately a 400-foot by 400-foot pattern, whereas probable reserve drilling is carried out on approximately a 260-foot by 260-foot pattern. Samples are taken consecutively at one foot to five feet intervals. The drill core selected for analysis is sawed in half with one half sent to a commercial laboratory and the other half retained for future reference. Upon reception of the assay results, the pulps and rejects are recovered and submitted to a second laboratory for check-assay purposes. The gold assaying method uses a 30-gram sample by Fire Assay or Metallic Sieve finish as requested by the project geologist. The laboratories used are Bourslamaque Assay Laboratories Ltd., Val d'Or, Quebec, and Expert Laboratories Inc., Rouyn-Noranda, Quebec.

Goldex Project

The Goldex Project is an exploration property held under 22 claims, totalling approximately 661.7 acres. The Goldex property is located in Val d'Or, Quebec and is accessible by provincial highway. The claims are renewable every second year upon payment of a small fee. The Company has a 100% working interest in the Goldex property. The Goldex property is made of three claim blocks: the Probe block (ten claims, 302.4 acres); the Dalton block (one claim, 25.7 acres); and the Goldex Extension block (11 claims, 333.6 acres). The Goldex Extension Zone, which is the gold deposit on which the Company is currently focusing its exploration and development efforts, was discovered in 1989 on the Goldex Extension claim block (although a small portion of the deposit is interpreted to occur on both the Dalton and Probe claim blocks). Probe Mines Ltd. holds a 5% net smelter return royalty interest on the Probe claim block. Should commercial production commence on the Dalton claim, 18,000 shares of the Company will be issued to the estate of John Michael Dalton Jr. The Goldex Extension block claims are subject to a 20% net profits royalty interest in favour of Explorations Ormico Ltée and a 1% net smelter return royalty interest in favour of Donald, Bernard, Marlin and Christine Charlebois.

Edgar Filing: AGNICO EAGLE MINES LTD - Form 20-F/A

The surface facilities at the Goldex Project include a headframe, a surface building containing a mechanical shop, a warehouse, an office and a 2,600-foot shaft, which provides underground access. Since 1989, the Company has undertaken a major exploration program on the Goldex Extension Zone. This program included deepening the shaft from 1,500 feet to its current 2,600-foot depth, over 158,700 feet of drilling, over 6,833 feet of horizontal development, 146,500 cubic feet of slashing, 476.2 feet of raising and the extraction and milling of two bulk samples (36,743 tons in 1995 and 113,395 tons in 1996). Underground exploration drilling in 1997 confirmed earlier results that outlined a large zone of low-grade mineralization. A mineral resource estimate was calculated which returned 22.6 million tons, grading 0.068 ounces of gold per ton, using a cutting factor of one ounce per ton.

In 1997, a mining study showed that the deposit was not economically viable to mine using the mining approach chosen and drill-hole indicated grade. Results from the bulk sampling suggested, however, that the estimation method used may have underestimated the realized grade for the Goldex Extension Zone. However, in late 1997, in view of the then-prevailing market price of gold, the property was placed on a care and maintenance basis. In September 1998, the workings were allowed to flood. The carrying value of the Goldex Project was written down to nil in 1997.

In January 2003, a new mineral resource estimate was completed conforming with National Instrument 43-101. The indicated mineral resource of the Goldex Extension Zone was estimated to be approximately 13.7 million tons at 0.073 ounces of gold per ton with an additional 5.6 million tons grading 0.075 ounces of gold per ton in the inferred mineral resource category. The estimate was based on a \$300 per ounce gold price, a cut-off grade of 0.045 ounces per ton and 0.03 ounces per ton for internal dilution (or sloughing), and a US\$/C\$ rate of \$1.50.

Throughout 2003, the Company re-evaluated the Goldex project reviewing mining methods and grade estimation methods. In February 2004, a new reserve and resource estimate was completed for the Goldex Extension Zone conforming to National Instrument 43-101 which, coupled with a new preliminary feasibility study, led to a resource to reserve conversion of 1.6 million ounces of gold.

Dewatering of the underground workings was completed in 2004 in preparation for a bulk sample. The shaft bottom is at a depth of 2,610 feet. Shaft rehabilitation was completed to a depth of 750 feet.

In 2004, a total of 2,000 feet of raise development was excavated through the center of the gold mineralization at three separate locations along the 1,500 feet strike length of the Goldex deposit. Mapping and sampling of these raises started in 2004 and are expected to be completed in early 2005. During the first three quarters of 2004, 373 feet of raise development and other development have been completed and 4,700 tons of ore have been extracted with an average grade of 0.07 ounces of gold per ton. A 20,000-ton bulk sample of the rock extracted from the deposit during development is scheduled to be processed at a local milling facility in January 2005. The mill tests, the information from a 21,000-foot diamond drilling program and detailed mapping will be used to refine the current mineral reserve estimate and for the final feasibility study, expected to be completed in the second quarter of 2005. During the first three quarters of 2004, 6,840 feet of diamond drilling was completed and the preliminary results are within the predicted grade range. Work on projects at the Goldex property is currently proceeding on schedule. The following table shows the Goldex property reserves as of December 31, 2003.

	December 31, 2003
Gold	
Probable tons	23,983,000
Average grade gold ounces per ton	0.069
Total mineral reserve⁽¹⁾ tons	23,983,000
Total contained gold ounces	1,647,000

Tonnage information is rounded to the nearest 100,000 tons.

Note:

- (1) The 2003 mineral reserve and mineral resource estimate was calculated using a gold price of \$325 per ounce and a US\$/C\$ exchange rate of \$1.40. The cut-off grade used to evaluate drill intercepts at Goldex was 0.04 ounces per ton over a minimum true thickness of 50

Edgar Filing: AGNICO EAGLE MINES LTD - Form 20-F/A

feet. The reserve was derived by evaluating a three-dimensional model of the Goldex Extension Zone, whose gold grade was estimated using a 95% confidence interval grade calculation method, and then adjusting the model envelope to only include sectors with a high probability of exceeding the cut-off grade. The metal grades reported in the mineral reserve estimate represent in-place grades and do not reflect losses in the recovery process, that is, the metallurgical losses associated with processing the extracted ore. The mineral reserve figures presented herein are estimates, and no assurance can be given that the anticipated tonnages and grades will be achieved or that the indicated level of recovery will be realized. In addition to the mineral reserves set out above, the Goldex property contained 1.2 million tons of measured and indicated resource grading 0.08 ounces of gold per ton and 2.8 million tons of inferred mineral resource grading 0.06 ounces per ton.

Preparation of Scientific and Technical Data

At Goldex, exploration drilling was carried out on approximately a 300-foot by 600-foot pattern whereas probable reserve drilling was carried out on approximately a 100-foot by 100-foot pattern. Core samples were taken consecutively at one foot to five feet intervals. The core selected for analysis was cut or sawed in half with one half sent to a commercial assay laboratory. Upon reception of the assay results, at least 10% of the pulps and rejects were sent to another laboratory for check assay purposes. The gold assaying method was 30-gram sample by either a Fire Assay or Metallic Sieve finish. The principal laboratory used was Abilab Laboratories, Val d'Or Quebec.

Bousquet and Ellison Properties

The Bousquet property is located immediately west of the LaRonde property and consists of two mining leases (180.6 acres) and 31 claims (951.0 acres). The property, along with various equipment and other mining properties, was acquired from Barrick in September 2003 for \$3.9 million in cash (including transaction costs), \$1.5 million in common shares of the Company, and the assumption of specific reclamation and other obligations related to the Bousquet property. The property is subject to a 2% net smelter return royalty interest in favour of Barrick.

The Ellison property is located immediately west of the Bousquet property and consists of eight claims (249.8 acres). The property was acquired in August 2002 for C\$0.5 million in cash and a commitment to spend C\$0.5 million in exploration over four years. The property is subject to a net smelter return royalty interest in favour of Yorbeau Resources Inc. that varies between 1.5% and 2.5% depending on the price of gold. Should commercial production commence, Yorbeau Resources will receive an additional C\$0.5 million in cash.

In the first quarter of 2003, a mineral resource was estimated for the A Zone on the Ellison property conforming to National Instrument 43-101. The estimate, which used a gold price of \$300 per ounce and 0.09 ounce per ton cut-off grade, revealed an indicated mineral resource of 249,000 tons grading 0.16 ounces of gold per ton. With the underground exploration access provided by the Bousquet II infrastructure, an exploration program was initiated in 2004 to test the potential of both the Ellison and Bousquet properties.

In addition, in 2003, the mineral resources at the Bousquet and Ellison properties were reviewed with the possibility of mining resource blocks which could become potentially economic given the proximity of the mill facility at LaRonde. The result was the definition of a small proven mineral reserve (104,000 tons grading 0.09 ounces of gold per ton) associated with a possible open pit at the Bousquet property.

The 2003 measured and indicated mineral resource at the Bousquet property is approximately 1.6 million tons grading 0.16 ounces of gold per ton and the inferred mineral resource is 2.4 million tons grading 0.27 ounces of gold per ton. The December 31, 2003 measured and indicated mineral resource at Ellison is 0.2 million tons grading 0.16 ounces of gold per ton, unchanged from December 31, 2002, but the inferred resource increased to 1.7 million tons grading 0.29 ounces of gold per ton.

Preparation of Scientific and Technical Data

In estimating the Bousquet and Ellison 2003 mineral reserve and mineral resource, a minimum gold cut-off grade of 0.09 ounces of gold per ton was used to evaluate drill intercepts that have been adjusted to respect a minimum mining width of 9.8 feet. The estimate was derived using a combination of three dimensional block modelling (grades were interpolated using the inverse distance power squared method) for certain zones and for the other zones, by the polygonal method on longitudinal sections. A portion of the resource estimate is based on estimates reported when the Bousquet I mine closed in 1996. A portion of the resource estimate is based on

estimates reported when the Bousquet I mine closed in 1996. The resource was reviewed and reclassified using the CIM definitions and guidelines. This information is of a good quality and is considered reliable.

Joutel Project

The Joutel properties consist of the Eagle Mine (including the Eagle West Zone) and the Telbel Mine, in Joutel Township, Quebec. The Eagle Mine and Telbel Mine are held under two adjoining provincial mining leases, totalling approximately 911 acres. Dismantling of the Eagle Mine and Telbel Mine facilities was completed in 2000. Mining and milling operations at the Eagle and Telbel Mines in Joutel ceased in December 1993 and the Company began the restoration of the Joutel mining and milling site in 1998. The carrying value of the Joutel mine site was written down to nil in 1997.

During 1996, the Company submitted a mine closure plan for the Joutel Project to the Minister of Natural Resources in Quebec. Based on this closure plan, the estimated current reclamation cost is \$0.3 million. Expenditures on reclamation at the Joutel Project under this closure plan were \$0.1 million in 2003 and \$0.1 million in 2002. As of December 31, 2003, the Company's reclamation provision for the Joutel Project was \$0.8 million.

All decommissioning and rehabilitation of the Joutel property has been completed except for re-vegetation of the tailings area. In 2002, the Company submitted a modelling study with respect to the tailings area to the Ministry of Environment in Quebec. The Company is currently monitoring the site and will commence contouring and re-vegetation of the tailings area once the Ministry of Environment has made a ruling with respect to the Company's modelling study.

Veza Project

The Company's Veza Project is located approximately 38 miles from the Joutel properties and consists of the Veza deposit located in Veza Township, Quebec and a number of properties in the Veza, Noyon and Cavalier Townships in Quebec. The Veza Project currently comprises ten exploration properties held under 578 mining claims, totalling approximately 22,152 acres. The Company owns 100% of the Veza deposit free of royalty interests. The carrying value of the Veza Project was written down to nil in 1997. The Company has submitted a closure plan to the Ministry of Environment in Quebec which was accepted. Rehabilitation will be carried out after the Company has made a decision on the future exploration potential of the property.

Agnico-Eagle's Exploration Activities

Agnico-Eagle continued to actively explore in Quebec, Newfoundland, Nevada and Idaho. At the end of December 2004, the land holdings of Agnico-Eagle consisted of 3,162 mineral titles (claims, mining leases, etc.) covering 139,123 acres. During 2003 and 2004, Agnico-Eagle's exploration activities were focused mainly on the Lapa property and acquiring additional property along the Cortez sector of the Battle Mountain trend in Nevada.

Riddarhyttan

In May 2004, the Company acquired 12.7 million common shares in Riddarhyttan from its then largest shareholder, Swedish private company, Dunross & Co. AB, bringing its total ownership interest in Riddarhyttan to 13.8%. Together with an additional 800,000 shares of Riddarhyttan purchased by the Company in the second quarter of the year and transaction costs, total cash consideration of \$11.8 million was paid by the Company. In late December 2004, Riddarhyttan concluded a rights offering for 7.5 million shares pursuant to which the Company raised its ownership level in Riddarhyttan to 14.0% of the outstanding shares. In connection with this acquisition, two representatives of the Company were elected to Riddarhyttan's board of directors.

Riddarhyttan is a precious and base metals exploration and development company with a focus on the Nordic region of Europe. Its shares are listed on the Stockholm Stock Exchange under the symbol "RHYT". Riddarhyttan is the 100% owner of the Suurikuusikko gold deposit, located approximately 550 miles north of Helsinki near the town of Kittilä in Finnish Lapland. Riddarhyttan's property position in the Suurikuusikko area consists of 22 contiguous claims (approximately 4,261 acres) with similar Precambrian greenstone belt geology and topography to the Company's land package in the Abitibi region of Quebec.

Edgar Filing: AGNICO EAGLE MINES LTD - Form 20-F/A

Riddarhyttan has reported an indicated mineral resource at Suurikuusikko, made up of several zones that occur over a 2.5 mile structure, of 7.2 million tons grading 0.18 ounces of gold per ton and an additional inferred gold resource, consisting of 5.5 million tons grading 0.13 ounces of gold per ton.

The mineral resource estimate for Suurikuusikko was prepared for Riddarhyttan in accordance with the Australasian Code for Reporting Mineral Resources and Ore Reserves, September 1999 (JORC Code). Mineral resources that have been disclosed herein were estimated using a minimum gold grade cut-off of approximately 0.064 ounces of gold per ton. Mineral resources estimates prepared under reporting codes other than National Instrument 43-101 should not be relied upon as they may not conform to National Instrument 43-101 standards and definitions. However, reserve and resource categories in the JORC Code are substantially similar to the corresponding categories of mineral reserves and resources required under National Instrument 43-101. To the best of the Company's knowledge, the Riddarhyttan estimate is relevant and reliable.

Legal and Regulatory Proceedings

As disclosed by the Company on March 18, 2004, the staff of the Ontario Securities Commission had been investigating the Company in relation to the timing and content of the Company's disclosure concerning a rock fall that occurred at the LaRonde Mine in the first quarter of 2003. The Company is currently in discussions with Ontario Securities Commission staff concerning this matter and the timing of the Company's disclosure of a production shortfall prior to its earnings announcement in the third quarter of 2003. The Company believes it is unlikely that there will be any material financial impact resulting from this matter.

In addition, on November 4, 2004, the Company was advised that Ontario Securities Commission staff were investigating an officer of the Company for potential insider trading violations. On November 5, 2004, the Company suspended the officer with pay pending the outcome of an internal investigation into the allegations. On November 8, 2004 the Board of Directors met and appointed an independent director to conduct, with the assistance of the Company's external counsel, an investigation into the matter and to report back to the Board. The Board of Directors met again on November 15, December 1, December 3 and December 7, 2004 in connection with the investigation. On December 7, 2004, the Company terminated the officer. The Company is cooperating with the Ontario Securities Commission in its investigation.

ITEM 5. OPERATING AND FINANCIAL REVIEW AND PROSPECTS

Operating Results

See "Management's Discussion and Analysis of the Company's Operations and Financial Condition Results of Operations" on pages 3 to 10 of Exhibit 99C to this Form 20-F for information about operations and production, which should be read in conjunction with the consolidated financial statements and accompanying notes, and in conjunction with "Item 3: Key Information Risk Factors" on pages 4 to 9 of this Form 20-F.

Liquidity and Capital Resources

See "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Operations and Financial Condition Liquidity and Capital Resources" on pages 10 to 11 of Exhibit 99C to this Form 20-F for information about the Company's liquidity. In the opinion of the Company, its working capital is sufficient for its present requirements.

ITEM 11. QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK

Metal Price and Foreign Currency

The Company's net income is sensitive to metal prices and the US\$/C\$ exchange rate. For the purpose of the sensitivities presented in the graph below, the Company used the following metal price and exchange rate assumptions:

Gold \$340;

Silver \$5.00;

Zinc \$0.40;

Copper \$0.85; and

Edgar Filing: AGNICO EAGLE MINES LTD - Form 20-F/A

US\$/C\$ \$1.30.

Changes in the market price of gold are due to numerous factors such as demand, global mine production levels, forward selling by producers, central bank sales and investor sentiment. Changes in the market prices of other metals are due to factors such as demand and global mine production levels. Changes in the US\$/C\$ exchange rate are due to factors such as supply and demand for Canadian and U.S. currencies and economic conditions in each country. In 2003, the price ranges for metal prices and the US\$/C\$ exchange rate were:

Gold \$323-\$416;

Silver \$4.35-\$5.97;

Zinc \$0.34-\$0.46;

Copper \$0.70-\$1.05; and

US\$/C\$ \$1.29-\$1.57.

The following graph shows the estimated impact on budgeted income per share in 2004 of a 10% change in assumed metal prices and exchange rates. A 10% change in each variable was considered in isolation while holding all other assumptions constant. Based on historical market data and 2003 price ranges shown above, a 10% change in assumed metal prices and exchange rates is reasonably likely in 2004.

In order to mitigate the impact of fluctuating precious and base metal prices, the Company enters into hedging transactions under its Metal Price Risk Management Policy, approved by the Board of Directors. The Company's policy and practice is not to sell forward its gold production. The Policy does allow the Company to review this to use hedging strategies where appropriate to ensure an adequate return on new projects. In the past, the Company has purchased put options to protect a minimum gold price while maintaining full participation to gold price increases. The Company's policy does not allow speculative trading. At the end of 2003, the Company's only metal hedges are gold puts with a strike price of \$260. These gold puts protect a minimum gold price of \$260 for 44% to 64% of anticipated gold production between 2004 and 2007. Gold puts are exercised at the Company's option therefore they do not limit its benefits from a rising gold price.

The Company receives payment for all of its metal sales in US dollars and pays most of its operating and capital costs in Canadian dollars. This gives rise to significant currency risk exposure. The Company has entered into currency hedging transactions under the Company's Foreign Exchange Risk Management Policy, approved by the Board of Directors, to hedge part of its exposure. The policy does not permit hedging of translation exposure (that is, the gains and losses that arise from the accounting translation of Canadian dollar assets and liabilities into US dollars) as these do not give rise to cash exposure. For 2004, the Company hedged approximately 40% of its Canadian dollar operating cost requirement at a US\$/C\$ exchange rate level well above the prevailing exchange rates that are in effect when the hedges expire. As shown in the chart above, a 10% increase in budget exchange rates would increase income per share by \$0.11. Due to the 2004 foreign currency hedges, a 10% decrease in exchange rates would decrease income per share by only \$0.05.

Interest Rate

Fluctuations in interest rates can also affect the Company's income and cash flows. In the fourth quarter of 2003, the Company entered into an interest rate swap whereby it exchanged its fixed rate payments on its Convertible Debentures for variable rate payments. The notional

amount under the swap exactly matches the \$144 million face value of the Convertible Debentures and the swap agreement terminates on February 15, 2006,

which is the earliest date that the debentures can be called for redemption. Under the terms of the swap agreement, the Company makes interest payments at a rate equal to the three-month LIBOR plus a spread of 2.37% and receives fixed interest payments of 4.50% which completely offsets the interest payments the Company must make under the Convertible Debentures. The three-month LIBOR rate was capped at 3.38% such that total variable interest payments will not exceed 5.75%.

The Company has a Short-Term Investment Risk Management Policy, approved by the Board of Directors, which only permits investment of excess cash balances in short-term money market instruments of the highest credit quality. Based on historical market data and the 2003 LIBOR range, the Company believes that a 10% change in interest rates is reasonably likely in 2004.

ITEM 18. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Pursuant to General Instruction E(c) of Form 20-F, the registrant has elected to provide the financial statements and related information specified in Item 18.

ITEM 19. EXHIBITS

The following auditors' report and consolidated financial statements set forth in Exhibit 99C are incorporated herein by reference:

	Exhibit 99C Page Number
Auditors' Report	24
Consolidated Balance Sheet as at December 31, 2003 and 2002	30
Consolidated Statement of Income (Loss) and Comprehensive Income (Loss) for the years ended December 31, 2003, 2002 and 2001	31
Consolidated Statement of Shareholders' Equity for the years ended December 31, 2003, 2002 and 2001	32
Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows for the years ended December 31, 2003, 2002 and 2001	33
Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements	34

Financial Statements. The consolidated financial statements under Item 18 herein are filed as part of this Annual Report.

Exhibits and Exhibit Index. The following Exhibits are filed as part of this Annual Report and incorporated herein by reference to the extent applicable.

Exhibit Index

Exhibit No.	Description	Sequential Page Number
4	Credit Agreement (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4 to the Registrant's Annual Report on Form 20-F/A for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2003 filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on January 18, 2005).	*
99A	Certification pursuant to Title 18, United States Code, Section 1350 as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 (Sean Boyd)	*
99B	Certification pursuant to Title 18, United States Code, Section 1350 as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 (David Garofalo)	*
99C	2003 Audited Annual Financial Statements and Management's Discussion and Analysis (prepared in accordance with US GAAP)	*
99D	Notice of Annual and Special Meeting of Common Shareholders and Management Proxy Circular dated March 31, 2004 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 99D to the Registrant's Annual Report on Form 20-F/A for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2003 filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on January 18, 2005).	*
99E	Code of Business Conduct and Ethics (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 99E to the Registrant's Annual Report on Form 20-F/A for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2003 filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on January 18, 2005).	*
99F	Articles and By-Laws (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 99F to the Registrant's Annual Report on Form 20-F/A for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2003 filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on January 18, 2005).	*

*Such exhibits and other information filed by the Company with the SEC are available to shareholders upon request at the SEC's public reference section or may be inspected and copied at prescribed rates at the public reference facilities maintained by the SEC at Room 1024, 450 Fifth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20549, U.S.A.

Toronto, Canada
May 20, 2005

David Garofalo
*Vice President, Finance and
Chief Financial Officer*

Toronto, Canada
May 20, 2005

QuickLinks

[TABLE OF CONTENTS](#)

[EXPLANATORY NOTE](#)

[PRELIMINARY NOTE](#)

[NOTE TO INVESTORS CONCERNING ESTIMATES OF MINERAL RESOURCES](#)

[NOTE TO INVESTORS CONCERNING CERTAIN MEASURES OF PERFORMANCE](#)

[ITEM 5. OPERATING AND FINANCIAL REVIEW AND PROSPECTS](#)

[ITEM 11. QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK](#)

[ITEM 18. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS](#)

[ITEM 19. EXHIBITS](#)

[SIGNATURES](#)

[CERTIFICATION](#)

[CERTIFICATION](#)