

WALKABOUT RESOURCES LTD ACN 119 670 370

#### ASX Code: WKT

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# DIRECTORS

Chairman: Exec: Tech: Non Exec:

Trevor Benson Allan Mulligan Andrew Cunningham Mike Elliott

ORDINARY SHARES 349,133,645

UNLISTED OPTIONS

PROJECTS

Lindi Jumbo Graphite Project Tanzania (70% - 100%)

Northern Ireland Gold and Base Metals (50% - 100%)

Scotland Base Metal Projects (Farm-in to earn 75%)

Eureka Lithium Project Namibia (100%)

<del>Taka</del>tokwane Coal Project Botswana (40% - 70%)



Walkabout Resources Limited (ASX:WKT) is pleased to report its activities for the December 2019 quarter.

#### Highlights

- US\$40m Senior Secured Loan Note managed by international investment bank Pareto Securities, launched;
- To date, loan-note process has resulted in significant interest by investors in partial funding of the project, but is not yet closed;
- Efforts to secure a cornerstone note holder continue through ongoing engagement which will continue as the holiday season closes out;
- Selected large shareholders provided important bridge-loan funds during the loan note engagement process;
- Bridge-loan has been fully repaid using funds from successful A\$0.15 option conversions;
- Receipt of A\$4.2m from exercise of A\$0.15 options;
- During the Quarter and subsequently, Barrick and Government of Tanzanian resolve dispute and form mining partnership that will transform mining industry in Tanzania;
- This is a significant transformation that the Company believes will re-energise foreign direct capital into Tanzania's mining industry;
- Lindi Jumbo major plant equipment passes Walkabout engineer inspection and ready for mobilisation to site; and
- Early works earthmoving completed on site and ready for civils construction to commence.

#### Senior Secured Loan Note

During the quarter under review, the Company launched a Senior Secured US\$40m Loan Note Issue (the "Loan Note" or the "Facility") in the international debt capital markets. The Company continues to engage with interested parties to secure a suitable funding solution for the Lindi Jumbo Graphite Project.

As at the time of writing this Quarterly, several potential funding institutions have expressed interest in providing partial funding and efforts to secure a cornerstone loan-note holder continue.

Several new potential loan note subscribers have opened discussions during 2020 after the close of the Quarterly period.

The Company engaged international investment bank Pareto Securities ("Pareto") to advise on procuring the development funding for the Lindi Jumbo Project.

The Company benefits from Pareto's experience of securing funding for green-field mining projects and structuring emerging market transactions particularly when considering the regulatory and logistical aspects of lending to a project in Tanzania.



Pareto coordinated the due diligence process through the engagement of a range of international thirdparty advisors and consultants to undertake legal and technical due diligence, and an independent review by a leading mineral market intelligence agency of the graphite market and the marketing of the Lindi Jumbo graphite concentrate. The outcome of this due diligence process has been very positive with no fatal flaws identified.

Post the due diligence, Pareto initiated a live transaction to their global desk, engaging potential international investors and organizing meetings with management. This process remains ongoing.

The disruption of the Christmas period and Chinese New Year holidays and subsequent slow start to the annual business calendar has resulted in the schedule being extended. Company executives and key investor groups are meeting in Africa during early February including with highly supportive Ministers of the Ministry of Minerals of Tanzania.

# Bridging Loan from Shareholders

As an important first step towards the Lindi Jumbo financing, selected large and sophisticated shareholders and a director of the Company provided a short-term Bridging Debt Facility of A\$5m while the Company undertakes the loan note project funding facility.

The bridging debt was used to meet due diligence and operating costs including the continued development of the Lindi Jumbo project until full project financing funds are available to be drawn. The bridging debt provided for early mobilisation funds which allowed the loan note launch to not be complicated by other fund raising activity.

The shareholder bridging loan has been repaid in full from proceeds received through the exercising of listed A\$0.15 options that expired 31 December 2019.

# Barrick and Tanzania Partnership

During the extended well publicised dispute between initially Acacia Mining and subsequently, Barrick Gold Limited (Barrick), it has been very difficult to close financial transactions for projects in Tanzania. The Company has secured many letters of endorsement and support from the Tanzanian government in mitigation of the previous perceived risk of developing mines in Tanzania.

During the Quarter and subsequently, Barrick and the Government of Tanzania have negotiated a settlement to the highly publicised dispute between them. On Friday 24 January, 2020 Barrick Gold signed a landmark agreement with the Tanzanian Government in which the ownership of the mines and other operational issues were resolved.

Whereas the media discusses a 50/50 partnership and only a 16% free carry ownership, the 50% value sharing is in respect of all economic benefits to country and the 16% free carry is in respect of an after-all-expenses and capital dividend return. Around half of the mineral's direct sales revenue is expected to remain as a benefit to Tanzania. When considering all in country expenses and contracts, this hurdle is not difficult to achieve for location bound mining projects.

Barrick's President and CEO, Mark Bristow commented that the Agreement was a pioneering move which would take Barrick's policy of partnership with its host countries to a new level. In addition, Barrick through its new partnership Company Twiga Minerals Corporation, will invest US\$10m in building mining skills capacity in the mining industry and US\$50m in brown and green-fields exploration in Tanzania.

Head of Intelligence and Analysis, East Africa for Africa Practice, a specialist consultancy with years of incountry experience, Margarita Dimova commented; *"This deal is a sigh of relief not just for Barrick or the mining industry in Tanzania, but for investors in the broader region"*. The Barrick-Tanzania deal sets a new Government endorsed standard and establishes a workable model for foreign direct investment in mining in Tanzania. This model is less onerous than in many other African mining jurisdictions.

Chairman of Walkabout Resources Ltd, Mr Trevor Benson said; "The partnership philosophy of which Mr Bristow speaks is identical to that upheld by Walkabout Resources in developing the Lindi Jumbo Project. The commitments agreed by Barrick highlight the confidence they have in continuing to invest in Tanzania and these will be significant in underpinning the transformational changes implemented by the Government of Tanzania some years ago. For Walkabout, and other companies operating in Tanzania, the Barrick settlement is a significant positive step in once again attracting investment back into the Country."

## Manufacturing, Development and Project Progress

During the Quarter under review, Engineers and Metallurgists representing the Company travelled to Yantai in China to sign off on the major plant construction items that are nearing completion prior to shipping once funding has been secured. Buy out items such as Motors, bearings etc. have been ordered and advance payments have been made by Yinpeng. These items will undergo further workshop testing and be packed into containers for shipment to Lindi in line with the construction schedule.

Early works earthmoving and levelling on site has been completed and civils construction can commence immediately after final funding has been secured.

The pre-manufacture of these major long lead items and early start site works has worked toward de-risking the project timetable and positioning the Lindi Jumbo project very well in respect of the expected international graphite market rebound expected during 2020.

The Company believes that this progress demonstrates that Lindi Jumbo is the most advanced graphite project in East Africa with the shortest timeframe to full production.

Furthermore, as a result of intense independent review of the Project, all contracts including off-take agreements have been updated and prepared for final signature to coincide with a funded start-up.

END

This ASX Quarterly Report has been approved for release by Trevor Benson - Chairman

For further information, contact Trevor Benson, Chairman Ph: +6186298 7500

### About WKT

Walkabout is developing the high-grade Lindi Jumbo Graphite Project in South East Tanzania to take advantage of forecast market conditions for Large and Jumbo flake graphite products.

The Company holds 100% of a Mining Licence and between 70% and 100% of adjacent graphite prospecting licences at Lindi Jumbo with an enduring option to acquire the remaining 30% share. A high-grade graphite Mineral Reserve has been delineated within the Mining Licence area.

The Company has also acquired an exciting exploration portfolio for gold and base metals in Northern Ireland and Scotland where zinc, lead and other base metals occurrences are being explored.

Details of Walkabout Resources' projects are available at the Company's website, <u>www.wkt.com.au</u>.

#### Schedule of mining tenements and beneficial interests held as at the end of the December 2019 quarter.

Project / Location	Tenement Type	Tenement Number	Interest at Start of Quarter	Interest at End of Quarter	Comment	Holding Company
Botswana						
Takatokwane	PL	35/2007	70%	70%	Renewed	Wizard Investments (Pty) Ltd
Takatokwane	PL	157/2009	40%	40%	Earning 65%	Triprop Energy (Pty) Ltd
Takatokwane	PL	160/2009	40%	40%	Earning 65%	Triprop Energy (Pty) Ltd
Namibia						
Eureka	EPL*	6308	100%	100%		Aardvark Minerals Pty Ltd
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Tanzania						
Kimoingan	PL	11119/2017	100%	100%		Walkabout Resources Ltd (Tz)
Lindi	ML	579/2018	0%	100%		Lindi Jumbo Ltd
Lindi	PL	9993/2014	70%	70%	Renewed	Lindi Jumbo / Ali Mbarak
Lindi	PLA	13376/2018	100%	100%		Lindi Jumbo Ltd
Lindi	PL	11377/2019	70%	70%	Granted	Lindi Jumbo Ltd / Ali Mbarak
Northern Ireland						
NE Antrim	MPL <sup>#</sup> MRO	LON01/14 LON01/14	50% 50%	0% 50%	Relinquished Renewed	Shackleton Resources Ltd (DfE) Antrim Metals Ltd (CE)
Glenariff	MPL <sup>#</sup> MRO	LON02/14 LON02/14	50% 50%	0% 50%	Relinquished Renewed	Shackleton Resources Ltd (DfE) Antrim Metals Ltd (CE))
Gortnamoyagy	MPL <sup>#</sup>	LON05/14	100%	0%	Relinquished	Shackleton Resources Ltd (DfE)
Tyrone	MPL <sup>#</sup> / MRO	KOZ01/16	0%	Earning 50%		Koza (UK) Ltd (CE & DfE)
Lisburn	MRO	SK01/18	100%	0%	Relinquished	Shackleton Resources Ltd
Scotland						
St John's Town of Dalry	MRO	GH	0%	Earning 75%	Farm-In	JDH Resources Ltd
Newton Stewart	MRO	CN	0%	Earning 75%	Farm-In	JDH Resources Ltd
Rhins of Galloway	MRO	CG	0%	Earning 75%	Farm-In	JDH Resources Ltd

\*EPL (Exclusive Prospecting Licence), #MPL (Mineral Prospect Licence) DfE Department for the Economy (all other minerals), MRO (Mineral Royal Option), CE Crown Estate (Au & Ag),