



Volcan Drilling Program Increases Size of Central Zone Gold Mineralization Traced Over 400 Metres

TORONTO, January 9, 2006 - ANDINA Minerals Inc. (TSX-V:ADM) (“Andina” or “the Company”) is pleased to report that drilling activities on its Volcan Gold Project located in Chile’s Maricunga Gold Belt have significantly increased the size of the Central Zone. The gold mineralization (+0.5 g/t gold) has been traced by diamond and reverse circulation (“RC”) drilling over a strike length of 400 metres and to a depth of 300 metres with true widths varying from 30 to 100 metres. The Central Zone remains open along strike to the northwest and southeast, although appears to be narrowing to the southeast, and is open to depth.

Highlights of the recent drilling results, summarized in Table 1, include 84 metres grading 1.10 g/t gold including a higher grade section of 10 metres grading 3.16 g/t (RCA-09), 94 metres grading 1.02 g/t gold (RCA-11), and 46 metres grading 1.23 g/t gold (RCA-13). The Central Zone commonly exhibits a higher grade core as seen in RCA-09 (above), RCA-08 (30 metres grading 2.97 g/t gold) and RCA-07 (46 metres grading 2.19 g/t Au). In addition, while drilling the Central Zone, a new and potentially significant zone of gold mineralization, the NC Zone, has been discovered 50 metres north of and parallel to the Central Zone.

Table 1 – Summary of Drill Assay Results					
Hole #	Zone	From (metres)	To (metres)	Dist. (metres)	Grade* (g/t gold)
DCA-01		10	58	48	1.17
RCA-09	Central	42	126	84	1.10
<i>including</i>	Central	76	86	10	3.16
RCA-10 ¹	NC	0	34	34	0.89
RCA-11	Central	28	122	94	1.02
RCA-12	NC	0	16	16	0.84
<i>and</i>		186	214	28	0.65
<i>and</i>	Central	244	290	46	1.23
RCA-13	NC	0	34	34	0.88
<i>and</i>	Central	134	168	34	0.75
RCA-14	Central	2	22	20	0.71
RCA-15	Central	0	50	50	0.92

* assay intervals based upon a 0.5 g/t cut off grade

1. RCA-10 halted at a depth of 82 m without reaching target

Note: All intervals represent downhole lengths and not true widths.

“Andina’s recent drilling campaign has been quite successful in increasing the size of the Central Zone”, stated Carl B. Hansen, President and CEO, “and the potential exists to further expand the Central Zone particularly in light of the discovery of

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additional gold mineralization in the immediate area.” Definition drilling at the East and Central Zones continues in preparation for a global property resource estimate scheduled to be released in February 2006.

Only partial results have been received from RCA-10 as the drill hole was halted at 82 metres due technical issues which have since been resolved. The drill hole is presently being deepened to approximately 300 metres. RCA-13 intersected a dike-like dacitic body which appears to have intruded into the southern contact of the Central Zone. The impact of the intrusion on the potential size of the Zone will likely be minor.

Ongoing drilling will be focused on tracing the mineralization to the northwest beyond drill hole RCA-15 which returned 50 metres grading 0.92 g/t gold and on infill drilling. To the southeast the Central Zone is narrowing while the gold grades are lower than normal. Drill hole RCA-14, the most south-easterly drilled hole located approximately 125 southeast of RCA-09, returned 20 metres grading 0.71 g/t gold.

With the exception of DCA-01, all of the holes reported targeted the Central Zone. DCA-01, which cut 48 metres grading 1.17 grams per tonne gold starting 10 metres downhole, was drilled 200 west of the Central Zone into a zone of gold mineralization previously intersected in RCA-02 (70 metres grading 0.63 g/t gold) at a depth of 125 metres. Initially it was thought that this gold mineralization represented the western extension of the Central Zone, however, the mineralization represents another separate zone of gold mineralization which will be followed up during this drill campaign. An updated drilling plan is being prepared and will be posted on the Andina website (www.andinaminerals.com) when completed.

New Discovery – NC Zone

Drilling of the Central Zone has led to the discovery of a new and potentially significant zone of gold mineralization, the NC Zone, located approximately 50 metres north of the Central Zone. Three RC drill holes were collared into the NC Zone returning the follow intersections: 34 metres grading 0.84 g/t gold (RCA-10), 34 metres grading 0.88 g/t gold (RCA-13) and 16 metres grading 0.84 g/t gold (RCA-12). The new gold zone is open along strike and to the depth. As the three drill holes were collared directly into the NC Zone and drilled in a southerly direction, the northern contact has yet to be discovered and the potential width of the NC Zone is unknown.

About Andina Minerals Inc.

Andina is an Americas focused exploration company with a portfolio of precious metals exploration projects in Chile and Mexico which is dedicated to maximizing the value of its exploration assets through a commitment to fiscally responsible exploration. The Company is earning a 100% interest in the Volcan project by undertaking certain work commitments and making a series of escalating payments ending in 2008.



Under the guidelines of National Instrument 43-101, the qualified person for the Volcan exploration project is Eduardo Margi, Ph.D. in mining engineering (Witwatersrand) and a Fellow of the SAIMM with over 30 years of industry experience. Mr. Margi has approved the exploration program and established the quality assurance and quality control program to ensure the accuracy of the collection and analysis of samples.

The reverse circulation ("RC") chips and diamond drill core from Andina's ongoing drill campaign are collected at the drill under the direct supervision of Andina staff. RC samples of approximately 70 kilograms in weight are collected over 2 metre intervals. Both the RC samples and drill core are appropriately tagged, secured and transported to the Andina exploration camp and then to Andina's secure sample logging and preparation site near Copiapo, Chile. RC chip samples are riffle split twice to obtain a 15 kilogram sample for assay purposes. Representative chips are collected from each sample for logging purposes. Drill core is logged, marked at two metre intervals for sampling and split longitudinally with a diamond drill saw. One half of the core is bagged and sample tags attached and the second half of the core is returned to the core boxes. All samples are appropriately tagged and securely stored prior to shipping to Asesoría Minera Geoanalítica Ltda.'s ("Geoanalítica") laboratory in La Serena, Chile.

Samples are processed and analyzed for gold using fire assay techniques with atomic absorption finish. Samples which returned gold values greater than 1.00 gram per tonne are re-analyzed by Geoanalítica. using fire assay techniques with a gravimetric finish. Duplicate samples are inserted at a rate of approximately 5%. Andina also inserts standard samples within each sample batch to ensure laboratory quality control procedures. Occasionally Andina requests Geoanalítica ship samples to ALS Chemex in La Serena for 47 trace element analysis using ICP.

A summary of the work performed by the previous operators, including a discussion of the quality assurance and quality control of the previous drilling programs, is reported within the Company's Technical Report titled "Review of Gold and Copper Exploration Potential of Mineral Properties in Chile" dated November 12, 2004 which was filed at www.sedar.com on November 24, 2004

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The statements herein that are not historical facts are forward-looking statements. These statements address future events and conditions and so involve inherent risks and uncertainties, as disclosed under the heading "Risk Factors" in the company's periodic filings with Canadian securities regulators. Actual results could differ from those currently projected.

The TSX Venture Exchange has not reviewed and does not accept responsibility for the adequacy or accuracy of this release.



Table 2 - Volcan Project Phase II Drilling Summary – Jan 9, 2006

Central Zone											
Drill #	Northing	Easting	Elev. (metres)	Length (metres)	Azim.	Dip		From (metres)	To (metres)	Dist. (metres)	Grade (g/t Au)
DCA-01	6971050	483600	4990	253	0	-60		10	58	48	1.17
							<i>and</i>	58	76	18	0.33
RCA-09	6970984	484000	4980	220	180	-60		4	16	12	0.55
							<i>and</i>	16	42	26	0.40
							<i>and</i>	42	126	84	1.10
							<i>including</i>	76	86	10	3.16
								126	174	48	0.31
RCA-10	6971047	484000	4998	82	180	-60		0	34	34	0.89
							<i>and</i>	34	68	34	0.45
RCA-11	6971079	483900	5014	330	230	-60		8	28	20	0.25
							<i>and</i>	28	122	94	1.02
							<i>and</i>	122	174	52	0.35
							<i>and</i>	244	254	10	0.31
							<i>and</i>	254	274	20	1.09
							<i>and</i>	274	294	20	0.31
RCA-12	6971104	483900	5068	366	180	-70		0	16	16	0.84
							<i>and</i>	16	86	70	0.30
							<i>and</i>	86	96	10	0.91
							<i>and</i>	96	186	90	0.32
							<i>and</i>	186	214	28	0.65
							<i>and</i>	214	244	30	0.34
							<i>and</i>	244	290	46	1.23
							<i>and</i>	290	328	38	0.28
RCA-13	6971047	484000	4998	350	210	-50		0	34	34	0.88
							<i>and</i>	34	46	12	0.41
							<i>and</i>	134	168	34	0.75
							<i>and</i>	168	184	16	0.35
RCA-14	6970900	484094	4970	332	230	-50		2	22	20	0.71
							<i>and</i>	50	62	12	0.62
RCA-15	6971059	483802	5018	302	0	-50		0	50	50	0.92
							<i>and</i>	50	108	58	0.41

- "R" prefixed Drill #'s are reverse circulation drill holes
 - "D" prefixed Drill #'s are diamond drill holes
 Note: All intervals represent downhole lengths and not true widths.