



Andina Commences Aroma and Anocarire Drilling Programs

TORONTO, July 17, 2006 - ANDINA Minerals Inc. (TSXV:ADM) (“Andina” or “the Company”) announces that it has commenced a 1,800 metre diamond drilling campaign on its Aroma and Anocarire projects located 95 kilometres east and 120 kilometres east southeast, respectively, of Arica, Chile. The purpose of the drill programs is to follow up on the results from the Company’s 2005 exploration programs. Results are anticipated to be available during the third quarter 2006.

Aroma Project

Approximately 900 metres of diamond drilling will target a series of gold and copper-molybdenum anomalies outlined by Andina during the 2005 exploration program. Channel sampling during the 2005 program outlined two intersecting structural zones with association geochemical anomalies: a north-south trending zone exhibiting porphyry-style characteristics with associated strong molybdenum anomalies and a second east northeast trending zone with weak to moderate gold anomalies exhibiting characteristics of a high sulphidation epithermal environment.

The molybdenum anomalies, at a 25 ppm cut off, extend over 2,500 metres north-south and 250 metres east-west. The core of the anomaly measures 200 by 80 metres and grades between 150 to 275 ppm molybdenum. The best trench intersection was 225 ppm over 50 metres and the highest molybdenum value obtained from channel sampling was 1090 ppm.

Anocarire Project

The Anocarire property overlies a collapsed stratovolcano approximately six kilometres in diameter, which hosts an extensive, high sulphidation-type epithermal system with prominent, structurally controlled steam-heated alteration features. Such alteration zones classically overlie large high sulphidation systems elsewhere in the Chilean Andes such as those associated with the Pascua-Veladero, Coipa Norte and Puren gold deposits.

A trenching and channel sampling program completed by Andina during the third quarter 2005, returned widespread strong anomalous mercury values with core anomalies ranging from 3 – 14 ppm. The highest gold value returned was 0.35 grams per tonne gold while average anomalous gold values ranged between 10 – 100 ppb which is typical for acid-leached, steam-heated alteration zones.

The purpose of the 900-metre Anocarire diamond drilling campaign is to determine the nature of the geological environment underlying the alteration system.



About Andina Minerals Inc.

Andina is an Americas focused exploration company with a portfolio of precious metals exploration projects in Chile which is dedicated to maximizing the value of its exploration assets through a disciplined and fiscally responsible approach exploration. The Company is earning a 100% interest in the Aroma and Anocarire projects by making a series of escalating payments.

Michael Easdon, a Register Professional Geologist of Santiago, Chile is the Qualified Person, as defined by National Instrument 43-101 of the Canadian Securities Administrators, for the Aroma and Anocarire exploration programs.

A summary of the Aroma project, including work performed by the previous operators, 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.

For further information please contact:

Carl Hansen, President and CEO
416 203 3488

or visit the Company's website at www.andinaminerals.com

Certain statements herein that are not historical facts are forward-looking statements, including, but not limited to, statements as to timing and extent of exploration programs and the availability of exploration results. As such, forward looking statements address future events and conditions and so involve inherent risks and uncertainties, as disclosed under the heading "Risk Factors" in the company's recent Management Discussion and Analysis filed with Canadian securities regulators. Actual results could differ significantly from those currently projected as a result of, among those factors, adverse weather, regulatory changes, delays in receiving permits, accidents and delays in completing exploration activities not all of which are in the control of the company. The forward-looking information contained herein is the company's reasonable estimate today of future events and conditions, but no assurance can be given that such events or conditions will occur.

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