

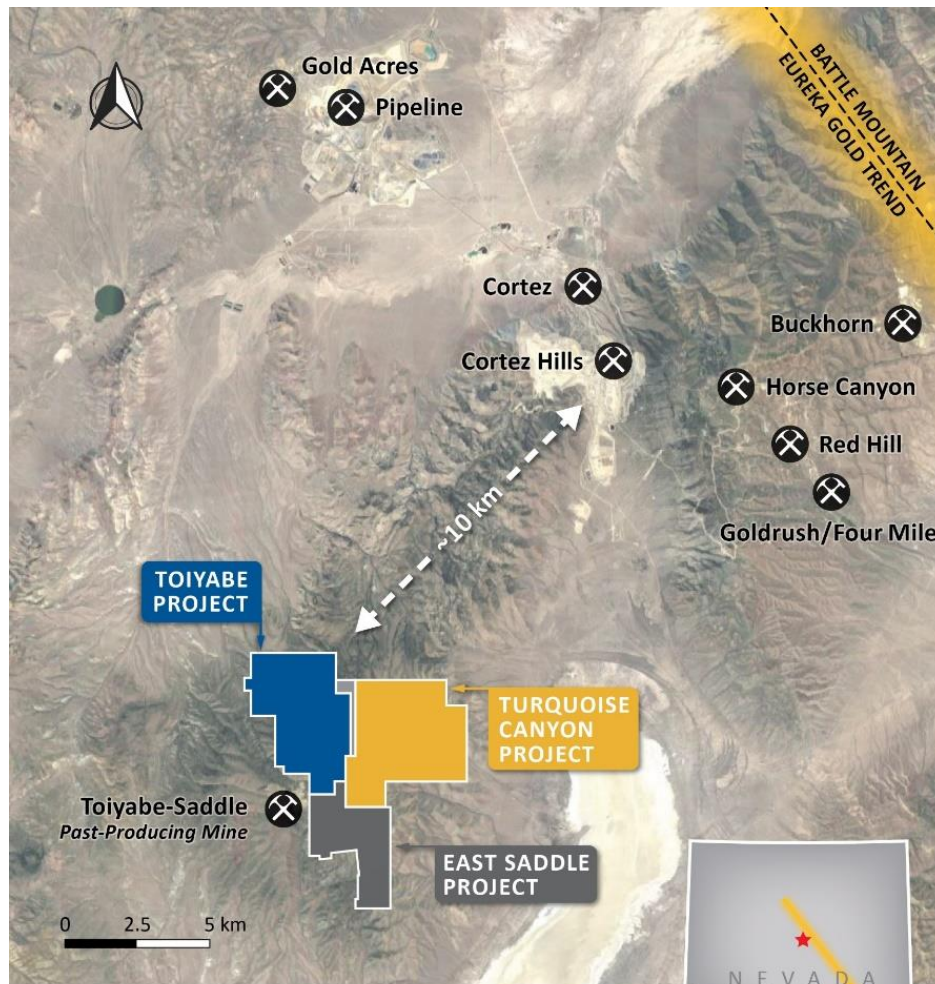
## ***Westward Gold Completes 100% Earn-In at the Turquoise Canyon Project***

Vancouver, British Columbia, January 30, 2023 – Westward Gold Inc. (CSE: WG, OTCQB: WGLIF, FSE: IM50) (“**Westward**” or the “**Company**”) is pleased to announce that it has completed its final anniversary payment to First Mining Gold Corp. (“**First Mining**”) pursuant to the option agreement (the “**Agreement**”) entered into by Momentum Minerals Ltd., a wholly-owned subsidiary of Westward, and First Mining. As a result, the Company has exercised its option to earn into a 100% ownership position in the Turquoise Canyon Project in Lander County, Nevada (“**Turquoise Canyon**”), based on the Agreement dated August 20, 2019, as amended on August 19, 2020.

As per the Agreement, Westward has elected to pay First Mining C\$137,500 in shares, based on the trailing 30-day volume-weighted average price on the Canadian Securities Exchange, calculated as at market close on January 25, 2023. The Company has issued a total of 1,701,732 shares at a deemed price of C\$0.0808 per share; following the issuance, First Mining will own 4,457,565 shares of Westward, representing approximately 5.6% of the total issued and outstanding shares of the Company.

Ownership of the 188 unpatented mining claims which make up Turquoise Canyon will be transferred to Turquoise Canyon Corp., a wholly-owned Westward subsidiary incorporated in Nevada. First Mining will retain a 2.0% Net Smelter Return Royalty, which can be reduced to 1.0% with a C\$1,000,000 cash payment at any time prior to the first anniversary of Commercial Production (as defined within the Agreement).

### **Figure 1: Westward’s Cortez Trend Land Package**



### WESTWARD CLAIMS

- Toiyabe Project
- Turquoise Canyon Project
- East Saddle Project
- Momentum Claims Block (100% Owned)
- Mine/Prospect

Turquoise Canyon represents approximately 41% of the total consolidated land position that the Company has assembled along the Cortez Trend, through a combination of corporate transactions and staking. Westward also recently acquired 100% ownership of 111 unpatented mining claims on the Carlin Trend to bolster its Nevada exploration portfolio (see press releases dated October 11, 2022, and January 18, 2023).

Colin Moore, Westward’s President & CEO, noted: “We’re thrilled to have exercised our option on Turquoise Canyon ahead of schedule; this represents a significant milestone for our growing company. We’d like to thank First Mining for being a valued partner over these last several years, and look forward to having them as one of our largest shareholders moving forward.”

Dave Browning, Vice President of Exploration, added: “Turquoise Canyon represents a massive opportunity for us, as evidenced by the extensive work completed to date, which includes soil sampling, gravity surveys, induced polarization, airborne hyperspectral surveys, and detailed geological mapping. Additionally, the 2022 field season highlighted trends at Toiyabe which indicate the mineralization vectors towards Turquoise Canyon, making it a highly-prospective, target-rich environment. With no historical drill holes on the property, we’re excited to continue advancing the project towards its first-ever drilling campaign.”

## **Qualified Person**

The technical information contained in this news release was reviewed and approved by Steven R. Koehler, Technical Advisor to the Company, who is a Qualified Person under National Instrument 43-101 – *Standards of Disclosure for Mineral Projects*. Mr. Koehler is a Certified Professional Geologist (CPG) through the American Institute of Professional Geologists (AIPG).

## **About Westward Gold**

Westward Gold is a mineral exploration company focused on developing the Toiyabe, Turquoise Canyon, and East Saddle Projects located in the Cortez Hills area of Lander County, Nevada, and the Coyote and Rossi Projects located along the Carlin Trend in Elko County, Nevada. From time to time, the Company may also evaluate the acquisition of other mineral exploration assets and opportunities.

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*The Canadian Securities Exchange has neither approved nor disapproved the contents of this news release. The Canadian Securities Exchange does not accept responsibility for the adequacy or accuracy of this news release.*

*This news release contains or incorporates by reference “forward-looking statements” and “forward-looking information” as defined under applicable Canadian securities legislation. All statements, other than statements of historical fact, which address events, results, outcomes, or developments that the Company expects to occur are, or may be deemed, to be, forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements are generally, but not always, identified by the use of forward-looking terminology such as “expect”, “believe”, “anticipate”, “intend”, “estimate”, “potential”, “on track”, “forecast”, “budget”, “target”, “outlook”, “continue”, “plan” or variations of such words and phrases and similar expressions or statements that certain actions, events or results “may”, “could”, “would”, “might” or “will” be taken, occur or be achieved or the negative connotation of such terms.*

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*risk factors and details with respect to risk factors that may affect the Company's ability to achieve the expectations set forth in the forward-looking statements contained in this news release are set out in the Company's latest management discussion and analysis under "Risks and Uncertainties", which is available under the Company's SEDAR profile at [www.sedar.com](http://www.sedar.com). Although the Company has attempted to identify important factors that could cause actual results to differ materially, there may be other factors that cause results not to be as anticipated, estimated, described or intended. Accordingly, readers should not place undue reliance on forward-looking statements or information. The Company's forward-looking statements and information are based on the assumptions, beliefs, expectations, and opinions of management as of the date of this press release, and other than as required by applicable securities laws, the Company does not assume any obligation to update forward-looking statements and information if circumstances or management's assumptions, beliefs, expectations or opinions should change, or changes in any other events affecting such statements or information.*