

Stock Symbols: AGE (TSE, ME)
AEM (NYSE)

CEO

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For Immediate Release:

AGNICO-EAGLE DECLARES ANNUAL DIVIDEND OF 2 CENTS (U.S) PER SHARE

Toronto (December 18, 1997) - **Agnico-Eagle Mines Limited** has declared a dividend of 2 cents (U.S.) a share, payable January 27, 1998, to shareholders of record January 6, 1998. This year's dividend of 2 cents (U.S.) a share compares with 10 cents (U.S.) a share paid a year earlier. The lower dividend payment reflects current conditions in the gold market and management's decision to conserve cash for longer-term development and growth of its asset base, particularly the expansion of its LaRonde Mine.

The January 27 payment will mark the 18th consecutive annual dividend by the Canadian based gold producer, which has gold operations in

northwestern Quebec. Consistently one of the industry's lowest-cost producers, Agnico-Eagle's operating history includes 23 years of continuous gold production primarily from underground mining operations. Current proven and probable gold reserves stand at 1.0 million contained ounces, with an additional 3.5 million ounces in the mineral resource category at its LaRonde Mine. Agnico-Eagle is currently focused on the expansion and large scale exploration program at its LaRonde Mine which is expected to result in increased gold and by-product production (silver, zinc) and expanded reserves.