BUY



# **DENISON MINES CORP.**

## 2021 Plans Laid Out at Wheeler River

#### **EVENT**

This morning Denison Mines provided an update on planned 2021 activities at its 90%-owned high-grade Wheeler River uranium project in Canada's Athabasca Basin.

## **BOTTOM LINE**

**Modest Positive** – Various in-situ recovery (ISR) field programs will be undertaken in 2021. This will support the initiation of a Feasibility Study (FS) by year-end in coordination with the submission of a draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) in early 2022.

#### FOCUS POINTS

- Well Funded for 2021: The Wheeler River development budget for 2021 has been set at C\$24.0 MM (C\$19.4 MM net to Denison) and the work program is fully permitted.
- ISR Commercial-scale Well Test and Lixiviant Tests Key Catalysts: Denison will undertake the installation of a 5-spot Test Pattern of commercial-scale wells (CSWs) at Phoenix. This will be a key de-risking milestone for the project as it will support the final design of the production wells and set up a lixiviant test next year. The lixiviant test is necessary to confirm all key design parameters related to the proposed ISR method at the project (permeability, leachability, and containment).
- Maintaining Rating and Target: We are maintaining our Buy rating and \$1.05/C\$1.35 target price on Denison Mines.

#### Recommendation:

Symbol/Exchange: Sector:	DNN-NYSE / DML-TSX		
	Metals & Mining		
All dollar values in US\$ unless otherwise noted.			
Current price:	\$0.78; C\$0.99		
One-year target:	\$1.05; C\$1.35		
Return to target:	23.5%		
Cash and equivalents:	~C\$29 MM		

#### **Company Summary**

0 0

Feb-20

Apr-20

	,			
Shares O/S (MM)	677.7	52-week ra	\$0.19 - \$0.85	
Market cap (\$MM)	\$576.0	30D avg vol. ('000)		4,488.3
Market float (\$MM)	\$572.9	Fiscal year-end		31-Dec
Probable Reserves		Tonnes	U <sub>3</sub> O <sub>8</sub> Grade	Attrib. Resource
Wheeler River		1,398,000	3.54%	98.4 MMlb
M&I Resources		Tonnes	U <sub>3</sub> O <sub>8</sub> Grade	Attrib. Resource
McClean Lake Deposits		376,400	2.18%	4.0 MMlb
Midwest		1,019,000	2.26%	12.8 MMlb
Waterbury Lake		291,000	2.00%	8.6 MMlb
Wheeler River		1,809,000	3.30%	118.9 MMlb
Inferred Resources		Tonnes	U <sub>3</sub> O <sub>8</sub> Grade	Attrib. Resource
McClean Lake Deposits		510,900	0.68%	1.6 MMlb
Midwest		846,000	0.98%	4.6 MMlb
Waterbury Lake		268,000	0.96%	3.8 MMlb
Wheeler River		82,000	1.70%	2.7 MMlb
$ \begin{array}{c} 20.0 \\ 18.0 \\ - \\ 16.0 \\ 14.0 \\ \overbrace{W}{12.0} \\ \end{array} $		٨		\$0.90 \$0.80 - \$0.70 - \$0.60
W 12.0 - e 10.0 - m 8.0 - 6.0 - 4.0 - 2.0 -	m	Mul	Www	- \$0.50 g - \$0.40 - \$0.30 - \$0.20

**Company profile:** Denison Mines is a uranium exploration company and development company focused on the Athabasca Basin. Its 90%-owned Wheeler River project is one of the highest-grade uranium projects globally.

Jun-20 Aug-20 Oct-20

Mike Kozak mike.kozak@cantor.com (416) 350-8152 Associate: Carter Smith carter.smith@cantor.com (416) 350-8159

Dec-20

\$0.10

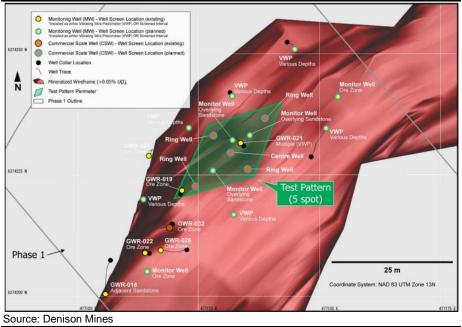
Sales/Trading - Toronto: (416) 363-5757, (866) 442-4485

See disclosure and a description of our recommendation structure at the end of this report.

#### **ISR METHOD CONTINUES DE-RISKING**

The Wheeler River project is designed as an in-situ recovery operation and test work to further de-risk its amenability to this mining method will be ramped up over the course of this year. The primary objectives for 2021 are to model the hydrogeological characteristics of the Phoenix ore body, finalize the production well design pattern, and confirm cost estimates for the commercial-scale wells (CSWs). A test pattern of five CSWs will be installed in the Phase 1 development area of Phoenix that will be used to evaluate hydraulic connectivity between wells and test for permeability and permeability enhancement on an individual and collective basis. The CSW test pattern area is estimated to contain 6.6 MMlb grading 39.2% U<sub>3</sub>O<sub>8</sub> of Proven & Probable reserves, approximately 30% of the 22.2 MMlb grading  $27.1\% U_3O_8$  of Proven & Probable reserves within the highgrade (0.8% cut-off) Phase 1 area. As such, the results from the 2021 test program will have significant implications to the overall economics of the project. Eleven monitoring wells will be installed around the five CSWs test pattern to monitor fluid flow and pressure during the tests and help define the area's subaquifers for the purposes of finalizing the freeze-wall design. This 2021 5-spot CSW test should provide all the necessary data to design and permit a lixiviant test in 2022, which if successful, will be key to confirming the technical feasibility of using ISR at Wheeler River, including verifying the permeability, leachability, and containment parameters needed. The Wheeler River development budget for 2021 has been set at C\$24.0 MM (C\$19.4 MM net to Denison) and the work program is fully permitted.





# FS AND EIS MOVING IN COORDINATION

The ISR field programs to be undertaken this year will support the initiation of a Feasibility Study (FS) at Wheeler River by year-end. The FS should then be completed in early 2022 in coordination with the submission of a draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), also targeted for early 2022. This is a pro-active approach being taken by Denison management as it allows for



integration of the Environmental Assessment (EA) process, including extensive community consultation, in the final design elements of the Wheeler River FS.

## WELL-FUNDED FOR 2021

On October 14, 2020, Denison completed a \$19 MM (C\$25.3 MM) equity financing in which Cantor Fitzgerald participated as lead underwriter. More recently, the Company also entered into an at-the-market (ATM) equity offering program allowing it to potentially raise gross proceeds of up to \$20 MM, taking advantage of market conditions when prudent. Net proceeds from the October 2020 financing and potentially tapping its ATM facility should cover Denison's planned activities through 2021 (Cantor estimate).

## VALUATION, RECOMMENDATION AND TARGET PRICE

Our target multiple on Denison Mines of 1.0x NAVPS (rounded) is unchanged, driven via DCF-based NAVPS7.5% on Wheeler River, the McClean Lake Mill, and the Waterbury Lake project, and option value of  $2.00/lb U_3O_8$  in-situ for Denison's earlier stage exploration properties in the Athabasca Basin. Denison is very well capitalized with ~C\$29 MM in cash and equivalents and no outstanding debt. We maintain our Buy recommendation and 1.05/C. As a stage target price.



## DISCLAIMERS AND DISCLOSURES

#### Disclaimers

The opinions, estimates and projections contained in this report are those of Cantor Fitzgerald Canada Corporation. ("CFCC") as of the date hereof and are subject to change without notice. CFCC makes every effort to ensure that the contents have been compiled or derived from sources believed to be reliable and that contain information and opinions that are accurate and complete; however, CFCC makes no representation or warranty, express or implied, in respect thereof, takes no responsibility for any errors and omissions which may be contained herein and accepts no liability whatsoever for any loss arising from any use of or reliance on this report or its contents. Information may be available to CFCC that is not herein.

This report is provided, for informational purposes only, to institutional investor clients of CFCC, and does not constitute an offer or solicitation to buy or sell any securities discussed herein in any jurisdiction where such offer or solicitation would be prohibited. This report is issued and approved for distribution in Canada, CFCC, a member of the Investment Industry Regulatory Organization of Canada ("IIROC"), the Toronto Stock Exchange, the TSX Venture Exchange and the CIPF. This report is has not been reviewed or approved by Cantor Fitzgerald USA., a member of FINRA. This report is intended for distribution in the United States only to Major Institutional Investors (as such term is defined in SEC 15a-6 and Section 15 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended) and is not intended for the use of any person or entity that is not a major institutional investor. Major Institutional Investors receiving this report should effect transactions in securities discussed in the report through Cantor Fitzgerald USA.

Non US Broker Dealer 15a-6 disclosure: This report is being distributed by (CF Canada/CF Europe/CF Hong Kong) in the United States and is intended for distribution in the United States solely to "major U.S. institutional investors" (as such term is defined in Rule15a-6 of the U.S. Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and applicable interpretations relating thereto) and is not intended for the use of any person or entity that is not a major institutional investor. This material is intended solely for institutional investors and investors who CFCC reasonably believes are institutional investors. It is prohibited for distribution to non-institutional clients including retail clients, private clients and individual investors. Major Institutional Investors receiving this report should effect transactions in securities discussed in this report through CFCC This report has been prepared in whole or in part by research analysts employed by non-US affiliates of Cantor Fitzgerald & Co that are not registered as broker-dealers in the United States. These non-US research analysts are not registered as associated persons of Cantor Fitzgerald & Co. and are not licensed or qualified as research analysts with FINRA or any other US regulatory authority and, accordingly, may not be subject (among other things) to FINRA's restrictions regarding communications by a research analyst with a subject company, public appearances by research analysts, and trading securities held by a research analyst account.

#### Potential conflicts of interest

The author of this report is compensated based in part on the overall revenues of CFCC, a portion of which are generated by investment banking activities. CFCC may have had, or seek to have, an investment banking relationship with companies mentioned in this report. CFCC and/or its officers, directors and employees may from time to time acquire, hold or sell securities mentioned herein as principal or agent. Although CFCC makes every effort possible to avoid conflicts of interest, readers should assume that a conflict might exist, and therefore not rely solely on this report when evaluating whether or not to buy or sell the securities of subject companies.

#### Disclosures as of February 8, 2021

CFCC *has* provided investment banking services or received investment banking related compensation from Denison within the past 12 months.

The analysts responsible for this research report *do not have*, either directly or indirectly, a long or short position in the shares or options of Denison.

The analyst responsible for this report *has* visited the material operations of Denison. No payment or reimbursement was received for the related travel costs.

#### Analyst certification

The research analyst whose name appears on this report hereby certifies that the opinions and recommendations expressed herein accurately reflect his personal views about the securities, issuers or industries discussed herein.

#### Definitions of recommendations

**BUY:** The stock is attractively priced relative to the company's fundamentals and we expect it to appreciate significantly from the current price over the next 6 to 12 months.

**BUY (Speculative):** The stock is attractively priced relative to the company's fundamentals, however investment in the security carries a higher degree of risk.

**HOLD:** The stock is fairly valued, lacks a near term catalyst, or its execution risk is such that we expect it to trade within a narrow range of the current price in the next 6 to 12 months. The longer term fundamental value of the company may be materially higher, but certain milestones/catalysts have yet to be fully realized.

**SELL:** The stock is overpriced relative to the company's fundamentals, and we expect it to decline from the current price over the next 6 to 12 months.

**TENDER:** We believe the offer price by the acquirer is fair and thus recommend investors tender their shares to the offer.

**UNDER REVIEW:** We are temporarily placing our recommendation under review until further information is disclosed.

#### Member-Canadian Investor Protection Fund.

- Customers' accounts are protected by the Canadian Investor Protection Fund within specified
- limits. A brochure describing the nature and limits of coverage is available upon request.

