

NEWS RELEASE TRANSMITTED BY MARKETWIRE

FOR: HIGH DESERT GOLD CORPORATION

TSX SYMBOL: HDG, HDG.WT

November 3, 2008

RETRANSMISSION: High Desert Gold Corporation Provides Update on Unsolicited Take-Over Bid and Special Committee Process

VANCOUVER, BRITISH COLUMBIA--(Marketwire - Nov. 3, 2008) - On October 31, 2008, High Desert Gold Corporation ("HDG" or the "Company") (TSX:HDG)(TSX:HDG.WT) provided an update on the unsolicited take-over bid by Northern Financial Corporation ("Northern") to purchase all of the issued and outstanding common shares of HDG at a price of Cdn\$0.19 per share. The Company confirmed that Northern has commenced its take-over and filed its offer and related documents on SEDAR at www.sedar.com under HDG's profile. Northern's offer is open until 5:00 p.m. (Toronto time) on December 5, 2008 unless withdrawn or extended. As it stands, Northern's offer is not open for at least 60 days and is therefore not a "permitted bid" under the Company's previously announced shareholder rights plan. The directors of the Company are obligated to respond to the unsolicited take-over bid by way of a directors' circular on or before November 14, 2008.

The special committee of the board of directors of the Company (the "Special Committee") also confirmed that its financial advisor, Wellington West, is assisting it in considering Northern's unsolicited take-over bid and is providing advice on alternative proposals for maximizing shareholder value. Wellington West has been instructed by the Special Committee to actively seek potential superior transactions on an expedited basis and to evaluate any serious expressions of interest as soon as possible. The Special Committee is also seriously considering declaring and paying a cash dividend of a substantial majority of the Company's cash to shareholders if an expeditious superior transaction is not possible.

The Company advised that as of October 31, 2008, it has 41,053,334 common shares outstanding. The Company also advised that its cash-on-hand as of October 31, 2008 less current and expected near-term commitments is approximately US\$8.8 million. The Company cautions shareholders to consider currency volatility in comparing the Company's cash position in U.S. dollars against Northern's offer price in Canadian dollars. The Company continues to urge shareholders not to take any action with respect to the unsolicited take-over bid pending the response of the directors of the Company by way of the directors' circular.

The Company is a mineral exploration company that acquires and explores mineral properties, primarily gold, copper and silver, in North America. The three major properties held by HDG are the flagship Canasta Dorada gold property in Sonora, Mexico, the Gold Lake porphyry copper-gold-molybdenum property in New Mexico and the Monitor copper-silver property in Arizona.

Additional information concerning HDG may be obtained on HDG's website, www.highdesertgoldcorp.com, and on SEDAR at www.sedar.com, under HDG's profile.

Certain statements contained herein constitute "forward-looking statements". These forward-looking statements are based on current expectations and various estimates, factors and assumptions and involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors. The material factors and assumptions that were applied in making the forward-looking statements in this release include but are not limited to assumptions regarding: the current status of Northern's unsolicited take-over bid; the Company's current and expected near-term commitments; and currency volatility. Material factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from the forward-looking statements in this release include risks and uncertainties relating to: Northern's unsolicited take-over bid; and the availability of any superior alternatives to present to shareholders and whether any such alternative can be sufficiently pursued before the expiry of Northern's bid. Readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on these statements as the Company's actual results, performance or achievements may differ materially from any future results, performance or achievements expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements if known or unknown risks, uncertainties or other factors affect the Company or its business, or if the Company's estimates or assumptions prove inaccurate. The Company cannot provide any assurance that forward-looking statements will materialize. Except as required by law, the Company assumes no obligation to update or revise any forward-looking statement, whether as a result of new information, future events or any other reason. Additional information regarding risks and uncertainties that could affect the Company's business is contained in the Company's MD&A and in its Annual Information Form, which are available on SEDAR at www.sedar.com.

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