

**Western Québec Mines Inc.**

**Wesdome Gold Mines Inc.**

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**JOINT PRESS RELEASE**

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**RESTRUCTURING AND KIENA ACQUISITION PROGRESSING**

**Toronto, Ontario, December 16, 2003** - Western Québec Mines Inc. (“Western”) and Wesdome Gold Mines Inc. (“Wesdome”) are pleased to announce that Western has paid the \$200,000 execution consideration to McWatters Mining Inc. in accordance with its agreement to purchase the Kiena Mine Complex.

Wesdome is in the process of raising \$11.0 million to finance both the acquisition and an underground exploration programme from Kiena into the Shawkey property. Firm orders for \$9.0 million shares of Wesdome are in hand. The Companies are in the process of receiving approval for the restructuring of their assets as announced on December 3, 2003.

All transactions are expected to close by December 31, 2003.

Western trades on the TSX and has 22.9 million shares outstanding. Wesdome trades on the TSX Venture Exchange and has 19.0 million shares outstanding.

*For further information please contact:*

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