



**SANDSPRING RESOURCES OBTAINS
HIGH GRADE ASSAY OF 673g/t GOLD IN
ROCK ADJACENT TO TOROPARU GOLD-COPPER RESOURCE**

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June 9, 2009 - Calgary, Alberta: Sandspring Resources Ltd. (the “Corporation” or “Sandspring”) (TSX-V: SSP.P) is pleased to announce the receipt of geochemical sampling assays on the Toroparu Gold–Copper Project, Upper Puruni River Area, Guyana (the “Property”). The proposed acquisition of Goldheart Investment Holdings Ltd. whose material operating subsidiary is ETK, Inc. (“ETK”) and the owner and operator of certain mineral interests in Guyana including the Property is intended to constitute Sandspring’s qualifying transaction (the “Qualifying Transaction”) in accordance with the policies of the TSX Venture Exchange (the “Exchange”) and is subject to, among other things, the approval of the Exchange. For additional information relating to the Qualifying Transaction and the Property, readers are referred to the Corporation’s press releases dated May 15, 2009 and May 20, 2009 available under the Corporation’s profile on SEDAR.

The purpose of the geochemical sampling program is to provide guidance for commencement of an aggressive step-out diamond drill program adjacent to the NI 43-101 compliant mineral resource and definition drilling of the open pit model on the Property, containing the mineral resource previously reported as 2.0 Million Indicated & 1.4 Million Inferred Gold Equivalent Ounces determined from 27 NQ diamond drill holes.

The geochemical sampling program at Toroparu consists predominantly of shallow surface auger drilling into weathered saprolite material above the unweathered bedrock interface. ETK has also installed several backhoe trenches approximately 3m deep cut into weathered saprolite material to facilitate continuous sampling across the projected

strike extension of the Toroparu mineral resource both to the northwest and southeast along the interpreted extensions of the host Toroparu Shear Zone structure.

In addition to several anomalous saprolite auger samples obtained along strike, ETK also sampled a large angular rock fragment of mineralized bedrock material retrieved by backhoe from a saprolite pit. The rock sample is described as “highly weathered greenstone-transition to saprolite, with narrow quartz veinlets and iron oxide with very fine visible gold” which returned an assay of 673g/t gold. The sample is thought to be near insitu and is located approximately 800m northwest from the closest drill hole defining the current Toroparu mineral resource and hypothetical pit model developed by the Company’s independent consultants filed on SEDAR in a NI 43-101 compliant Technical Report on May 20, 2009.

Sandspring is encouraged at this very positive indication of elevated grade in the Toroparu Shear Zone structure which hosts a series of historical alluvial and saprolite gold occurrences along a 10km mineralized trend. The current bedrock mineral resource model defined by just 27 holes to date represents the first ever diamond drilling on the trend and has tested only approximately 600m of strike length within the larger structure. The Company intends to follow up this highly anomalous result with a systematic program of deep seeking gradient IP geophysics and diamond drilling on closing of the CDN\$12.5 Million Financing and Qualifying Transaction announced May 15, 2009.

The bedrock fragment was assayed and certified by ISO-certified ActLabs Venezuela using a gravimetric fire assay with atomic absorption finish with duplicate assays of 662g/t gold and 685g/t gold averaging 673g/t gold and use of known gold standard reference materials to ensure proper quality assurance and quality control (Qa/Qc).

Abraham Drost, P.Geo. recently visited the Toroparu site and has reviewed and approved the release of the technical information and conclusions contained in this news release. Mr. Drost is a Qualified Person within the meaning of NI 43-101.

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Completion of the Qualifying Transaction is subject to a number of conditions, including, but not limited to, Exchange acceptance, and if applicable pursuant to Exchange requirements, majority of the minority shareholder approval, satisfactory due diligence reviews, availability of prospectus and registration exemptions or the obtaining of exemptive relief therefrom and necessary governmental and third-party approvals. Where applicable, the Qualifying Transaction cannot close until the required shareholder approval is obtained. There can be no assurance that the Qualifying Transaction will be completed as

proposed or at all. Investors are cautioned that, except as disclosed in the filing statement to be prepared in connection with the Qualifying Transaction, any information released or received with respect to the Qualifying Transaction may not be accurate or complete and should not be relied upon. Trading in the securities of a capital pool company should be considered highly speculative.

The Exchange has in no way passed upon the merits of the Qualifying Transaction and neither the Exchange nor its Regulation Services Provider (as that term is defined in the policies of the Exchange) accepts responsibility for the adequacy, accuracy or content of this release.

Certain information contained in this press release may contain forward-looking statements. This information is based on current expectations that are subject to significant risks and uncertainties that are difficult to predict. Actual results might differ materially from results suggested in any forward-looking statements. The Corporation and the parties (the "Parties") to the Qualifying Transaction assume no obligation to update any forward-looking statements or to update the reasons why actual results could differ from those reflected in the forward-looking statements unless and until required by securities laws applicable to the Corporation and the Parties. Additional information identifying risks and uncertainties is contained in filings of the Corporation with Canadian securities regulators, which filings are available under the Corporation's profile at www.sedar.com.

This press release does not constitute and the subject matter hereof is not, an offer for sale or a solicitation of an offer to buy, in the United States or to any "U.S Person" (as such term is defined in Regulation S under the U.S. Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "1933 Act")) of any equity or other securities of the Corporation. The securities of the Corporation to be issued in connection with the Private Placement have not been registered under the 1933 Act and may not be offered or sold in the United States (or to a U.S. Person) absent registration under the 1933 Act or an applicable exemption from the registration requirements of the 1933 Act.