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Victoria Gold Corp. (VGCX.TO) Rating: Buy

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2023 and 4Q23 Financial Results; Gold Price and Sales Increase Revenue YoY; 2024 Guidance Issued; Reit. Buy; PT Lower

Stock Data	(02/21/2024									
Price		C\$5.41									
Price Target	C\$12.00										
52-Week High	_										
52-Week Low	C\$5.35										
Enterprise Valu	C\$577.5										
Market Cap (M	C\$368										
Shares Outstar	68.0										
3 Month Avg Vo	220,793										
Short Interest (0.72									
Balance Sheet Metrics											
Cash (M)		C\$26.70									
Total Debt (M)		C\$236.20									
Total Cash/Sha		C\$0.39									
	Cash (M): Includes marketable securities.										
EPS (C\$) Diluted											
Full Year - Dec	2022A	2	023A	2024E							
FY	0.54	0.54 0.38 1.0									
Revenue (C\$M)										
Full Year - Dec	2022A	2	2023A 2024								
FY	C\$321.8	C\$	\$416.9 C\$556.								



2023 and 4Q23 financial results. On February 21, Victoria Gold announced its year-end financial results. During the period, the firm had C\$416.9M in revenue which yielded a net income of C\$25.1M, or C\$0.38 per share. This compares to 2022 revenue of C\$321.8M and net income of C\$35.0M, or C\$0.55 per basic share. Importantly, the 29% YoY increase in revenue is mainly attributable to gold ounces (oz) sold increasing to 160,153oz (+15% YoY), amid a higher average realized gold price, which grew to C\$2,603/oz (+13% YoY). Management notes that operating costs were pressured by increasing input costs related to labor, parts, and consumables, leading to the cost of goods sold growing to C\$263.9M (+59% YoY), with gross profit equating to C\$80.3M (-9% YoY). In short, while the company experienced meaningful revenue growth, the increase in costs across the board nonetheless led to a decline in net income.

4Q23 results. During the quarter, the company recorded C\$96.4M in revenue, which resulted in net income of C\$2.5M, or C\$0.04 per share. This compares to 4Q22 revenue of C\$92.3M and net income of C\$10.5M, or C\$0.16 per share. We note that the lower revenue YoY is primarily due to a 10% YoY decline in ounces of gold sold (to 36,601oz) that was further exacerbated by the firm's cost of goods sold increasing to C\$63.8M (+26% YoY). Overall, the firm made a gross profit of C\$14.7M (-36% YoY). We stress that the decrease in gold production is due to the impact of wildfires and the timing of gold shipments.

2024 guidance issued. Victoria's management team expects a 2024 gold production rate of 165,000-185,000oz, with the midpoint representing a 5% increase over 2023 production of 166,730oz. Victoria anticipates its all-in sustaining costs (AISC) at the site to be in range of \$1,450 - 1,650/oz, which remains mostly in line with 2023 results of \$1,488/oz. The firm also expects sustaining capital to total C\$30.0M during 2024, mostly composed of mobile equipment and fixed maintenance rebuilds. Notably, estimated capitalized waste stripping costs of C\$35.0M in 2024 are factored into the AISC but are not part of the sustaining capital costs.

We are reiterating our Buy recommendation on Victoria Gold while lowering our PT to C\$12 from C\$24. Our lower PT derives from factoring in both the 2023 year-end financials and the guidance for 2024 production and costs. In addition, we have increased our longer-term cost outlook for Eagle. Our valuation for the company remains based on a DCF of Victoria Gold's Eagle Gold Mine, to which we assign an unchanged 9.0% discount rate. This yields a project NAV of roughly C\$765.6M, or C\$11.26 per share. We then add a further C\$36.6M for resource and exploration upside that accounts for Raven and Brewery Creek. Finally, we account for the company's cash and marketable securities balance of C\$26.7M, coupled with C\$217.9M in inventories, while subtracting the firm's debt. We then round this figure to the nearest C\$1.00 for our final price target of C\$12.

Near-term catalysts. As reiterated on the quarterly earnings call, Victoria's management team remains focused on reducing its net debt amid a focus on paying off its term loan facility by September 2024. Importantly, the firm anticipates releasing a revised Mineral Resource Estimate for Raven in the near-term, which should encompass drill results from the past year of exploration within the Raven resource. We continue to monitor the company's reduction of seasonal fluctuations thanks to year-round stacking, though we stress that 2Q24 and 3Q24 are likely to show stronger stacking and peak gold production due to the benefits of warmer weather. Longer-term, we anticipate lower input costs and operational optimizations at the site, which should further aid the profitability of the mine.

Risks. (1) Gold price risks; (2) Operating and technical risks; and (3) Financial risks.

Eagle Gold Mine				2024E		2025E		2026E		2027E		2028E		2029E		2030E	2031E	2032E
All relevant figures in USD and 000's unless specified.			Not	e: Modeled	prod	duction exter	nds o	out to 2036 bi	ut ye	ears after 20	031	are not shown.						
Tonnes processed				9,700		12,800		14,000		14,000		14,200		12,700		12,600	12,700	12,600
Mill head grade (gpt)				0.72		0.72		0.70		0.58		0.55		0.50		0.56	0.50	0.56
Gold recovery				75%		77%		77%		77%		77%		77%		77%	77%	77%
Annual gold production				168.4		228.1		242.6		201.0		193.3		157.2		174.7	157.2	174.7
Gold Price (USD)			\$	1,900	\$	1,900	\$	1,900	\$	1,900	\$	1,900 \$	S	1,900	\$	1,900	\$ 1,900	\$ 1,900
Total revenue			\$	319,963	\$	433,479	\$	460,947	\$	381,928	\$	367,347 \$;	298,675	\$	331,882	\$ 298,675	\$ 331,882
Cash costs per ounce of gold			\$	1,250	\$	1,250	\$	1,250	\$	1,250	\$	1,250 \$	5	1,250	\$	1,250	\$ 1,250	\$ 1,250
Total operating costs			\$	210,502	\$	285,183	\$	303,255	\$	251,268	\$	241,676 \$	5	196,497	\$	218,344	\$ 196,497	\$ 218,344
Gross profit			\$	109,461	\$	148,295	\$	157,693	\$	130,660	\$	125,671 \$	•	102,178	\$	113,539	\$ 102,178	\$ 113,539
Sustaining capital and CapEx			\$	(30,000)	\$	(22,000)	\$	(22,000)	\$	(22,000)	\$	(22,000) \$	5	(22,000)	\$	(22,000)	\$ (22,000)	\$ (22,000)
(Tax) / Tax Benefit (\$000s)			\$	(7,645)	\$	(12,151)	\$	(28,119)	\$	(22,517)	\$	(21,484) \$	6	(16,615)	\$	(18,969)	\$ (16,615)	\$ (18,969)
Operating cash flow			\$	71,816	\$	114,144	\$	107,573	\$	86,142	\$	82,188 \$;	63,563	\$	72,569	\$ 63,563	\$ 72,569
Discount rate 9.0%																		
PV of operating cash flow			\$	65,886	\$	96,073	\$	83,066	\$	61,025	\$	53,416 \$	<u> </u>	37,901	\$	39,698	\$ 31,900	\$ 33,413
Total current cash flow (CAD)	\$	765,628	\$	11.26	pei	r share												
Exploration assets (CAD)	\$	36,594	\$	0.54	per	share												
Cash and cash equivalents + Marketable Securities (CAD)	\$	26,749	\$	0.39	per	share	As c	of 12/31/23										
Inventory (CAD)	\$	217,941	\$	3.20	per	share	As c	of 12/31/23			CA	D/USD		0.7401	As o	of 2/20/24		
Debt (CAD)	\$	(236,175)	\$	(3.47)	pei	r share	As c	of 12/31/23										
Total Company NAV (CAD)	\$	810,737																
Fully diluted shares		68,005	As c	of 12/31/23														
Victoria Gold share price (VGCX.TO) (CAD)	\$	5.41	As c	of 02/21/202	24			54.9%	Disc	count to PT								
Project NAV per share (CAD)	\$	11.92																
Rounded Price Target (CAD)	\$	12.00																
Source: H.C. Wainwright & Co. estimates; company report	ts.																	

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Distribution of Ratings Table as of February 21, 2024											
		IB Service/Past 12 Months									
Ratings	Count	Percent	Count	Percent							
Buy	557	88.13%	144	25.85%							
Neutral	63	9.97%	5	7.94%							
Sell	2	0.32%	0	0.00%							
Under Review	10	1.58%	5	50.00%							

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