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Zenyatta Ventures Ltd. {TSX.V: ZEN}

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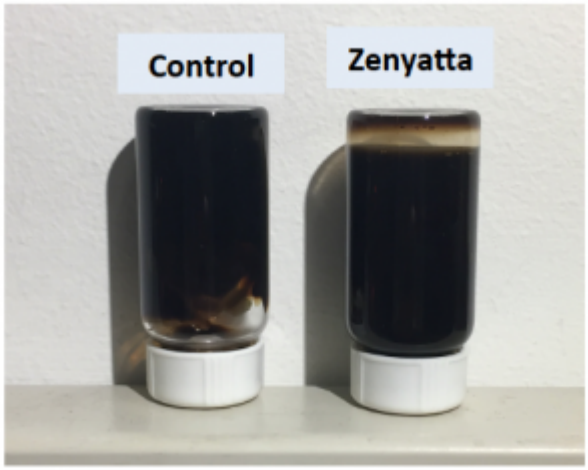

Zenyatta adds Interconnected Reduced Graphene Oxide to its Albany Graphite Product Development Pipeline

Thunder Bay, ON – October 12, 2018

Zenyatta Ventures Ltd. (TSX.V: ZEN}, "Zenyatta" or the "Company") today announced that it has added Interconnected Reduced Graphene Oxide (IC-rGO) to its product development pipeline, working with its research partner Prof. Aicheng Chen from the University of Guelph, Ontario.

IC-rGO is a three-dimensional nanomaterial with potential applications in the energy and environmental industries. While working at Lakehead University in late 2016, Prof. Chen and his team first developed the nanomaterial using graphite sourced from Zenyatta's Albany deposit in Northern Ontario – a unique form of graphite ideally suited to produce graphene and graphene derivatives. Patents are pending on the new nanomaterial.

Zenyatta, which changed its management team earlier this year, has announced a new direction as a company, and will focus in the future on exploring new applications for the high-quality graphene that can be produced from its unique Albany deposit.

"Our goal is to become vertically integrated – from producing the graphene right through to the development of high-value applications for this extraordinary material," **said Dr. Francis Dubé, Zenyatta's Co-CEO and Head of Business Development and Technology.** *"We will work with our research*

partners and other leading industrial partners to become an IP incubator where we will co-develop IP that has the potential to be a game changer across multiple industries. Dr. Chen's work is representative of the exciting prospects for graphene in years to come."

"IC-rGO represents a new class of 3-D platform, which is promising for many graphene-related applications such as sensors, catalysts, supercapacitors, batteries, adsorbents, and filters," said Dr. Chen. The fabricated IC-rGO exhibits a high capacitance with impressive charging and discharging stability due to its covalent interconnections and unique 3D superstructure. It is anticipated that the discovery could facilitate the research and development of new types of 3D hybrids and functional graphene nanocomposites".

For more information about IC-rGO, read more in The Royal Society of Chemistry journal, ChemComm (Chemical Communications).

"This invention has the potential to become a structural platform that can be functionalised for multiple applications leading to further innovation and IP for Zenyatta and its shareholders," **said Dr. Dubé**. *"We are very fortunate to have talented research partners like Dr. Chen, and we are grateful to him and his team for their world-leading work in the graphene space."*

About Dr. Chen

In 2015, Dr. Aicheng Chen, Professor of Chemistry and Canada Research Chair in Materials and Environmental Chemistry at Lakehead, was awarded a Natural Science and Engineering Research Council of Canada ('NSERC') Collaborative Research and Development ('CRD') grant. The two primary focuses of this NSERC CRD project are the characterisation of Zenyatta's graphite and the development of new materials for practical applications derived from it. Since the award of the grant, Dr. Chen and his research group have made significant advances in the development of new graphene-based nanomaterials from Albany Graphite. Prof. Chen and his team have also developed a novel one-pot synthesis of fluorine functionalised graphene oxide (F-GO) which was reported in a March 1, 2017 news release. A patent was filed for this invention and a paper describing the process in more detail was published in the Electrochemistry Communications journal.

Since late 2017, Dr. Chen has been a Professor of Chemistry, and the Director of the Electrochemical Technology Centre at the University of Guelph. His research interests span the areas of electrochemistry, biosensors, green chemistry, materials science and nanotechnology.

About Zenyatta

Zenyatta's Albany Graphite Project hosts a large and unique quality deposit of highly crystalline graphite. Independent labs in Japan, UK, Israel, USA and Canada have demonstrated that Zenyatta's Albany Graphite/Naturally Pure™ easily converts (exfoliates) to graphene using a variety of simple mechanical and chemical methods. The deposit is located in

northern Ontario just 30 km north of the Trans-Canada Highway, near the communities of Constance Lake First Nation and Hearst. Important nearby infrastructure includes hydro-power, a natural gas pipeline, a rail line 50 km away and an all-weather road just 10 km from the deposit.

To find out more on Zenyatta Ventures Ltd., please visit our website at www.zenyatta.ca

A copy of this press release and all material documents with respect of the Company may be obtained on Zenyatta's SEDAR profile at www.sedar.ca.

Mr. Peter Wood, P.Eng, P.Geo., President and COO of Zenyatta, is the "Qualified Person" for the purposes of National Instrument 43-101 and has reviewed, prepared and supervised the preparation of the technical information contained in this news release.

For further information:

Dr. Francis Dubé, Co-CEO & Head of Business Development and Technology

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cautions readers that forward looking information is based on certain assumptions and risk factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from the expectations of Zenyatta included in this news release. This news release includes certain “forward-looking statements”, which often, but not always, can be identified by the use of words such as “potential”, “believes”, “anticipates”, “expects”, “estimates”, “may”, “could”, “would”, “will”, or “plan”. These statements are based on information currently available to Zenyatta and Zenyatta provides no assurance that actual results will meet management’s expectations. Forward-looking statements include estimates and statements with respect to Zenyatta’s future plans, objectives or goals, to the effect that Zenyatta or management expects a stated condition or result to occur, including the expected uses for graphite or graphene in the future, and the future uses of the graphite from Zenyatta’s Albany deposit. Since forward-looking statements are based on assumptions and address future events and conditions, by their very nature they involve inherent risks and uncertainties. Actual results relating to, among other things, results of metallurgical processing, ongoing exploration, project development, reclamation and capital costs of Zenyatta’s mineral properties, and Zenyatta’s financial condition and prospects, could differ materially from those currently anticipated in such statements for many reasons such as, but are not limited to: failure to convert estimated mineral resources to reserves; the preliminary nature of metallurgical test results; the inability to identify target markets and satisfy the product criteria for such markets; the inability to complete a prefeasibility study; the inability to enter into offtake agreements with qualified purchasers; delays in obtaining or failures to obtain required governmental, environmental or other project approvals; political risks; uncertainties relating to the availability and costs of financing needed in the future; changes in equity markets, inflation, changes in exchange rates; fluctuations in commodity prices; delays in the

development of projects; capital and operating costs varying significantly from estimates and the other risks involved in the mineral exploration and development industry; and those risks set out in Zenyatta's public documents filed on SEDAR. This list is not exhaustive of the factors that may affect any of Zenyatta's forward-looking statements. These and other factors should be considered carefully and readers should not place undue reliance on Zenyatta's forward-looking statements. Although Zenyatta believes that the assumptions and factors used in preparing the forward-looking information in this news release are reasonable, undue reliance should not be placed on such information, which only applies as of the date of this news release, and no assurance can be given that such events will occur in the disclosed time frames or at all. Zenyatta disclaims any intention or obligation to update or revise any forward-looking information, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise, other than as required by law.