

# **Equity Research**

# **Americas Silver Corporation**<sup>6</sup>

**BUY** 

**USA-TSX** 

April 4, 2019 Last: **C\$2.23**Target: **C\$5.50** 

# Financing package de-risks Relief Canyon and brings Sandstorm as strategic equity partner

Last night, Americas Silver announced the closing of the Pershing transaction and a financing package provided by Sandstorm Gold to fund the construction of the Relief Canyon heap leach gold mine in Nevada.

# Sandstorm provides funding and becomes strategic partner

Sandstorm is providing construction financing of \$42.5mm by way of a \$25mm precious metals delivery and stream agreement, a \$10mm convertible debenture which converts at a 35% premium to the 5-day VWAP, and a \$7.5mm equity placement done at the 5-day VWAP. With the equity placement and convertible, Sandstorm will own ~6% of USA shares.

The \$25mm gold purchase/stream entails fixed delivery of 33 koz over the first 5.5 years of the mine life, and a 4% gold and silver stream afterwards in exchange for between 30-65% of spot price. At spot prices, it looks to be around ~18% IRR for Sandstorm, in line with recent peer transactions.

The company is also selling its San Felipe property option to Premier Gold for \$10.8mm, \$7mm of which will be paid now and the remainder is dependent on future construction/production milestones. This is a positive development as it both reduces exposure to zinc and provides non-dilutive cash to the balance sheet.

# San Rafael Zone 120/El Cajón PFS results

The company also released the results of a PFS on the EC120 project, which would see an additional 2.5 Moz of silver and 4.6 Mlbs copper production annually over a 5-year mine life. While the initial reserves came in a bit lighter than we modeled, most study metrics were in line with our model.

#### Recommendation

The financing package has de-risked the Relief Canyon development plan and also brings Sandstorm as a strategic equity partner. Management is targeting first gold pour by late 4Q19/early 1Q20, and we believe the financing package removes the balance sheet risk in the construction phase.

We reiterate our BUY recommendation and maintain our target of C\$5.50, derived from a P/NAV multiple of 1.0x and a CAD/USD assumption of 0.75.

| What's Changed                             |          | Old     | New       |
|--|----------|---------|-----------|
| Rating                                     |          | BUY     | n.c.      |
| Target                                     |          | C\$5.50 | n.c.      |
| Silver Equivalent Production 2019          | E (kSEO) | 7,262   | 7,210     |
| Silver Equivalent Production 2020          | E (kSEO) | 14,376  | 13,263    |
| Silver Equivalent Production 2021          | E (kSEO) | 16,953  | 18,130    |
| Share Data                                 |          |         |           |
| Share o/s (mm, basic/f.d. f.f itm)         |          |         | 52/87     |
| 52-week high/low                           |          | C\$5.3  | 7/C\$1.66 |
| Market cap (\$mm)                          |          |         | \$128     |
| EV (\$mm)                                  |          |         | \$96      |
| Net debt (\$mm)                            |          |         | (\$32)    |
| Projected return                           |          |         | 147%      |
| NAV/share                                  |          |         | \$4.14    |
| P/NAV                                      |          |         | 0.40x     |
| P/NAV at spot                              |          |         | 0.43x     |
| Financial Data                             |          |         |           |
| YE Dec. 31                                 | 2019E    | 2020E   | 2021E     |
| Silver Eq. Production (kSEO)               | 7,210    | 13,263  | 18,130    |
| Total cash costs (\$/SEO)                  | \$9.42   | \$8.50  | \$8.16    |
| AISC (\$/SEO)                              | \$11.96  | \$9.91  | \$9.36    |
| FCF to equity (\$mm)                       | (\$37)   | \$24    | \$75      |
| EPS  | \$0.13   | \$0.39  | \$0.58    |
| CFPS                                       | \$0.34   | \$0.70  | \$1.10    |
| P/E  | 13.3 x   | 4.3 x   | 2.9 x     |
| P/CF                                       | 4.9 x    | 2.4 x   | 1.5 x     |
| EV/EBITDA                                  | 3.4 x    | 1.7 x   | 1.0 x     |
| All figures in US\$ unless otherwise noted |          |         |           |



Previous Research

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| AMERICAS SILVER CORP. |         | IERIC     |         |         |           |
|-----------------------|---------|-----------|---------|---------|-----------|
| Ticker (TSX)          | SILVE   | R CORPORA | TION    |         | USA       |
| Current price         |         |           |         |         | C\$2.23   |
| 52-week high/low      |         |           |         | C\$5.3  | 7/C\$1.66 |
| Market cap (\$mm)     |         |           |         |         | \$128.2   |
| Net debt (\$mm)       |         |           |         |         | (\$31.9)  |
| EV (\$mm)             |         |           |         |         | \$96.3    |
| GMP MACRO ASSUMPTIONS | 2018A   | 2019E     | 2020E   | 2021E   | 2022E     |
| Gold price (\$/oz)    | \$1,272 | \$1,301   | \$1,300 | \$1,300 | \$1,300   |
|                       |         |           |         |         |           |

| 2018A   | 2019E                                  | 2020E  | 2021E  | 2022E  |
|---------|--|--|--|--|
| \$1,272 | \$1,301                                | \$1,300  | \$1,300  | \$1,300  |
| \$15.72 | \$16.14                                | \$16.25  | \$16.25  | \$16.25  |
| \$2.94  | \$2.88                                 | \$3.10   | \$3.10   | \$3.10   |
| \$1.33  | \$1.28                                 | \$1.30   | \$1.30   | \$1.10   |
| \$1.02  | \$0.98                                 | \$1.00   | \$1.00   | \$1.00   |
|         | \$1,272<br>\$15.72<br>\$2.94<br>\$1.33 | \$1,272 \$1,301<br>\$15.72 \$16.14<br>\$2.94 \$2.88<br>\$1.33 \$1.28 | \$1,272 \$1,301 \$1,300<br>\$15.72 \$16.14 \$16.25<br>\$2.94 \$2.88 \$3.10<br>\$1.33 \$1.28 \$1.30 | \$1,272 \$1,301 \$1,300 \$1,300<br>\$15.72 \$16.14 \$16.25 \$16.25<br>\$2.94 \$2.88 \$3.10 \$3.10<br>\$1.33 \$1.28 \$1.30 \$1.30 |

| OPERATIONS SUMMARY                     | 2018A   | 2019E   | 2020E  | 2021E  | 2022E  |
|--|---------|---------|--------|--------|--------|
| Gold production (koz)                  | -       | -       | 64     | 82     | 83     |
| Silver production (koz)                | 1,418   | 1,889   | 2,620  | 5,167  | 5,166  |
| Copper production (klbs)               | -       | -       | -      | 4,623  | 4,623  |
| Zinc production (klbs)                 | 34,219  | 40,109  | 41,913 | 41,913 | 38,251 |
| Lead production (klbs)                 | 30,467  | 35,170  | 35,862 | 35,862 | 34,502 |
| Silver equivalent production (kSEO)    | 6,287   | 7,210   | 13,263 | 18,130 | 17,392 |
| Total cash costs (\$/SEO) - co-product | \$10.43 | \$9.42  | \$8.50 | \$8.16 | \$8.75 |
| AISC (\$/SEO) - co-product             | \$13.91 | \$11.96 | \$9.91 | \$9.36 | \$9.83 |

| FINANCIAL STATEMENTS             | 2018A    | 2019E    | 2020E    | 2021E    | 2022E    |
|----------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Income statement (\$mm)          |          |          |          |          |          |
| Revenue                          | \$68.4   | \$88.9   | \$178.9  | \$249.3  | \$240.4  |
| Operating costs                  | \$52.1   | \$51.6   | \$110.3  | \$144.2  | \$142.5  |
| EBITDA                           | \$5.6    | \$28.0   | \$58.1   | \$94.0   | \$86.7   |
| Depreciation                     | \$10.6   | \$14.9   | \$22.9   | \$40.7   | \$37.0   |
| Adj. net income                  | (\$6.1)  | \$9.5    | \$32.0   | \$47.4   | \$37.2   |
| Weighted average shares out (mm) | 43.6     | 71.9     | 81.7     | 81.7     | 81.7     |
| Cash flow statement (\$mm)       |          |          |          |          |          |
| Operating cash flow              | \$9.0    | \$20.3   | \$52.9   | \$90.0   | \$76.3   |
| Investing cash flow              | (\$19.2) | (\$40.2) | (\$23.3) | (\$15.0) | (\$12.0) |
| Financing cash flow              | \$4.3    | \$32.7   | (\$5.5)  | (\$0.1)  | \$0.0    |
| Net change in cash               | (\$5.9)  | \$12.9   | \$24.1   | \$74.9   | \$64.3   |
| Ending cash balance              | \$3.5    | \$16.3   | \$40.4   | \$115.3  | \$179.6  |

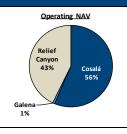
| Balance sheet (\$mm) |        |         |          |           |           |
|----------------------|--------|---------|----------|-----------|-----------|
| Cash & equivalents   | \$3.5  | \$16.3  | \$40.4   | \$115.3   | \$179.6   |
| Current assets       | \$29.4 | \$46.3  | \$74.4   | \$149.3   | \$213.5   |
| Current liabilities  | \$23.0 | \$19.9  | \$14.5   | \$14.4    | \$24.4    |
| Working capital      | \$6.4  | \$26.4  | \$59.9   | \$134.9   | \$189.2   |
| Short term debt      | \$8.6  | \$5.5   | \$0.1    | \$0.0     | \$10.0    |
| Long term debt       | \$5.5  | \$10.1  | \$10.0   | \$10.0    | \$0.0     |
| Net debt             | \$10.6 | (\$0.7) | (\$30.3) | (\$105.3) | (\$169.6) |

| FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS                  | 2018A    | 2019E    | 2020E  | 2021E  | 2022E  |
|---------------------------------------|----------|----------|--------|--------|--------|
| Adj. EPS (\$/sh)                      | (\$0.14) | \$0.13   | \$0.39 | \$0.58 | \$0.46 |
| Adj. CFPS (\$/sh)                     | \$0.16   | \$0.34   | \$0.70 | \$1.10 | \$0.93 |
| Free cash flow to firm (\$mm)         | (\$5.9)  | (\$26.9) | \$29.6 | \$75.0 | \$64.3 |
| Free cash flow to equity (\$mm)       | (\$9.8)  | (\$36.6) | \$24.1 | \$74.9 | \$64.3 |
| FCF to equity per share (\$/sh)       | (\$0.22) | (\$0.51) | \$0.30 | \$0.92 | \$0.79 |
| FCF to equity per AgEq ounce (\$/SEO) | (\$1.55) | (\$5.08) | \$1.82 | \$4.13 | \$3.70 |

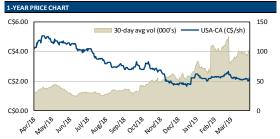
| RATIO ANALYSIS  | 2018A  | 2019E  | 2020E  | 2021E  | 2022E  |
|-----------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| P/E             | nm x   | 13.3 x | 4.3 x  | 2.9 x  | 3.7 x  |
| P/CF            | 10.6 x | 4.9 x  | 2.4 x  | 1.5 x  | 1.8 x  |
| EV/EBITDA       | 17.3 x | 3.4 x  | 1.7 x  | 1.0 x  | 1.1 x  |
| Net debt/FBITDA | 1.9 x  | (0.0)x | (0.5)x | (1.1)x | (2.0)x |

#### METAL EXPOSURE AND ASSET BREAKDOWN





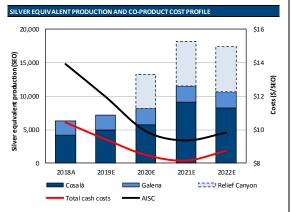
| Analyst: David Stewart, P.Eng.   | (416) 941-6781          | dstewart@gmpsecurities.com |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| Date                             |                         | 4-Apr-19                   |
| Rating                           |                         | BUY                        |
| Target                           |                         | C\$5.50                    |
| Implied return                   |                         | 147%                       |
| Current basic shares o/s (mm)    |                         | 76.8                       |
| GMP model fully diluted ITM, for | ully financed shares (n | nm) 87.0                   |

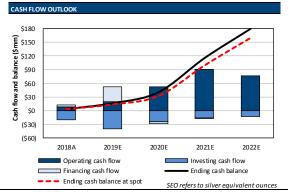


| NAV SUMMARY                 |          |          |        |          |            |  |
|-----------------------------|----------|----------|--------|----------|------------|--|
|                             |          | Discount | Value  |          | % of total |  |
| Item                        | Location | rate     | \$mm   | \$/sh    | NAV        |  |
| Cosalá                      | Mexico   | 5%       | \$183  | \$2.10   | 51%        |  |
| Galena                      | Idaho    | 5%       | \$3    | \$0.03   | 1%         |  |
| Relief Canyon               | Nevada   | 5%       | \$139  | \$1.60   | 39%        |  |
| San Felipe                  | Mexico   |          | \$11   | \$0.12   | 3%         |  |
| Working capital             |          |          | \$52   | \$0.60   | 14%        |  |
| Long term debt              |          |          | (\$6)  | (\$0.06) | (2%)       |  |
| ITM options and warrants    |          |          | \$1    | \$0.01   | 0%         |  |
| Other corporate adjustments |          | 5%       | (\$23) | (\$0.26) | (6%)       |  |
| Total NAV                   |          |          | \$360  | \$4.14   | 100%       |  |

| Total NAV at spot | \$337 | \$3.87 |
|-------------------|-------|--------|
|                   |       |        |

P/NAV at GMP metal price deck 0.40x
P/NAV at spot metal prices 0.43x







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