Iconic Gold Provides Corporate Update

VANCOUVER, BRITISH COLUMBIA, CANADA, August 19, 2026 /EINPresswire.com/ -- International Iconic Gold Exploration Corp. ("Iconic Gold" or the "Company") provides the following corporate update regarding the Company's voluntary delisting from the TSX Venture Exchange (the "TSXV"), recent developments across its mineral exploration property portfolio and the Company's plans for debt restructuring and future capital-raising initiatives.

Voluntary Delisting

As previously announced on July 29, 2026, the Company's Board of Directors (the "Board") approved the voluntary delisting of the Company's common shares (the "Shares") from the TSXV (the "Delisting"). Following TSXV acceptance, the Exchange issued a bulletin confirming the Delisting, which became effective at the close of trading on August 11, 2026. The Company's Shares are no longer listed for trading on the TSXV.

The Board's decision to pursue the Delisting followed a comprehensive review of the Company's financial position, trading activity and strategic alternatives. The Board concluded that the costs associated with maintaining a public listing on the TSXV, combined with limited trading liquidity in the Shares and a market capitalization that, in the Company's view, did not reflect the underlying value of its mineral property portfolio, had constrained the Company's ability to pursue debt restructuring and other initiatives intended to improve its financial position.

In reaching its decision, the Board considered that the Company faced a cycle in which reducing debt, advancing its exploration assets and maintaining ongoing operations each required additional capital, while the Company's market valuation, trading liquidity and existing debt burden made raising such capital on reasonable terms extremely difficult.

The Delisting was approved by the Board and by written consent of holders of more than 50% of the Company's disinterested common shares, in accordance with applicable corporate and securities laws and TSXV Policy 2.9. No alternative trading facility, liquidity mechanism, issuer bid or other exit mechanism has been or is being arranged by the Company in connection with the Delisting.

The Company believes that removing the direct costs and administrative burden associated with a TSXV listing will allow management and the Board to devote greater attention and resources to restructuring the Company's outstanding liabilities, improving its balance sheet, and advancing its portfolio of exploration properties. Without these mandatory costs, review delays and other such exchange-listed issuer specifics, such as maintaining exchange-mandated minimum listing requirements, market making and trading-related compliance, and other administrative and financial obligations tied specifically to the Company's status as a listed issuer, the Company believes it will be able to more efficiently complete transactions that will help improve its financial position, alleviate its significant debts and ultimately raise capital to advance its exploration projects.

The Company remains a reporting issuer in the applicable Canadian jurisdictions and will continue to comply with its continuous disclosure obligations under applicable Canadian securities laws, including the filing of material change reports, financial statements and other required disclosure.

Exploration Property Updates

The Company provides the following summary of recent developments across its mineral property portfolio in Argentina:

Ginette: On March 30, 2026, the Company entered into an arm's length option and exploration agreement (the "Ginette Agreement") with various holders, including SAMCO S.A. ("Samco"), pursuant to which the Company was granted the exclusive right to explore, and an option to acquire a 100% interest in, the Ginette mining property ("Ginette"), a project covering over 4,951 hectares located in the Province of Santa Cruz, Argentina.

Under the terms of the Ginette Agreement, the Company was granted the right to explore the property at its own cost and risk for a term of three years from the date of the agreement, in consideration for the issuance to the optionors of an aggregate of 3,950,000 common shares of the Company (the "Consideration Shares") at a deemed price of $0.15 per share, for a total deemed value of $592,500. The Consideration Shares are subject to staged release conditions, with 50% subject to a four-month-and-one-day hold period, 25% subject to a six-month hold period, and the remaining 25% subject to an eight-month hold period.

The Ginette Agreement also granted the Company an option (the "Purchase Option") to acquire 100% of the mining rights to the property upon payment of US$1,000,000 in cash to Samco within the first three years of the effective date of the agreement, payable as US$5,000 within 12 months, US$5,000 within 24 months, and US$990,000 within 36 months. If the Purchase Option is exercised, the optionors will retain a 1% net smelter return royalty on minerals produced from the property for the life of the deposit, subject to the Company's right to acquire the royalty for US$1,000,000 within the first two years of commercial production.

The addition of Ginette formed part of the Company's broader strategy of maintaining a diversified portfolio of gold and silver exploration properties in proven mining jurisdictions, complementing the Company's existing assets without diverting attention from its more advanced projects.

The Company believes that the Delisting will assist in advancing Ginette by allowing management to focus its efforts on capital-raising initiatives structured around the Company's actual asset value and financing needs, rather than around requirements specific to maintaining a TSXV listing.

San Roque: The Company has entered into a Share Purchase Agreement dated August 17, 2026 (the "Agreement") with Aurum Terra Exploration Corp. ("Aurum"), and Marifil S.A. joining for limited purposes specified therein, pursuant to which Aurum will acquire 100% of the issued and outstanding shares of Minas San Roque S.A., the Company's Argentine subsidiary holding the San Roque Project in the Province of Río Negro, Argentina, for an aggregate purchase price of CAD$4,350,000. The purchase price is being satisfied through Aurum assuming CAD$4,350,000 of the Company's outstanding debt (the "Consideration Debt"), with the Company to be irrevocably released from the Consideration Debt at closing, rather than through the payment of cash consideration to the Company. A 1.0% net smelter return royalty in favour of Avidity over the San Roque Project will remain in place following closing and is not affected by the transaction.

This transaction is expected to eliminate approximately 60% of the Company's outstanding liabilities, while the Company still retains the majority of its exploration mineral properties, including the recently acquired Ginette project. The Board considered the purchase price and debt-assumption structure of the transaction in the context of the Company's overall financial position, including the size of its outstanding liabilities and the practical challenges the Company faced in accessing capital markets to service or refinance that debt. Having regard to those factors, the Board determined that the terms of the Agreement, and the corresponding reduction of the Company's debt load, represent a very favourable outcome for the Company and are in its best interests. With the Company's significantly reduced debt profile following the transaction, the Company believes it will be better positioned to secure the financing required to fund a meaningful exploration program at Ginette.

Castaño: The Castaño project is an epithermal gold-silver-base metals property located on the eastern front of the Andes Mountains in the historic Castaño gold mining district. The Company currently controls approximately 2,739 hectares of mining rights in the district, comprising 54 hectares of granted mining concessions (Minas) and 2,685 hectares under exclusive exploration rights (cateos), with the potential to add a further approximately 586 hectares depending on the outcome of pending claim applications. A major international mining company previously explored the district and defined a prospective zone for gold deposits approximately 10 kilometres long before discontinuing operations in Argentina; the Company's geological staff have since confirmed this zone to be part of a broader complex of hydrothermally altered intrusives and associated breccias containing anomalous gold and copper values. The Company has identified a hydrothermally altered, gold-bearing breccia pipe as a priority drill target and intends to advance a drilling campaign at Castaño as funding becomes available.

Lago Fontana: The Lago Fontana property consists of 16 mining rights covering approximately 17,498 hectares, including 14 granted mining concessions (Minas) comprising 83 individual claims over 498 hectares, together with one Manifestation of Discovery of 7,000 hectares and a temporary exploration permit (cateo) of 10,000 hectares. The property hosts historic, non-NI 43-101 compliant mineral resource estimates on two veins – Veta Ferrocarrilera and Veta Cerro Cuchi – which the Company's geological consultants believe could potentially be expanded with further work. Mining activity in the relevant districts of Chubut Province has been suspended since 2007 pending the outcome of provincial ecological zoning studies, and the Company currently has no active work plans for Lago Fontana. The Company continues to maintain its mining rights over the property and will assess its options for advancing or otherwise dealing with Lago Fontana once the applicable provincial legislative and regulatory matters are resolved.

Capital Raises and Debt Restructuring

Once its debt position has been further improved, the Company intends to pursue a capital raise to fund exploration across its remaining property portfolio all currently located in Argentina.

The Company's debt load has been a persistent constraint on its business for a number of years. This debt burden has limited the Company's ability to fund exploration programs at the pace and scale needed to advance its properties, has made it more difficult to negotiate financing on acceptable terms, and is a factor the Board believes has weighed on the trading price of the Shares, given the extent to which the Company's cash flow and balance sheet capacity have been directed toward servicing existing obligations rather than exploration or corporate development. As discussed above, this created a self-reinforcing cycle in which the Company's debt burden made it more difficult to raise the capital needed to advance its properties and demonstrate their underlying value, while the resulting lack of exploration activity and market attention made it correspondingly more difficult to raise capital to reduce that same debt.

Financings completed by the Company in recent periods reflect the Company's ongoing efforts to manage this burden. The Board has concluded, however, that a more fundamental reduction of the Company's liabilities – of the kind achieved through the San Roque transaction described above – is required to break this cycle and position the Company for future growth.

The Company will continue to prioritize the reduction of its remaining outstanding liabilities, working with its creditors on further debt restructuring where appropriate, with the objective of establishing a clean and manageable balance sheet. The Company believes that a substantially delevered balance sheet will materially improve its ability to negotiate future financings on terms that are less dilutive to shareholders and better position the Company to demonstrate the underlying value of its remaining mineral property portfolio.

The Company views the steps described in this news release – the Delisting, the reduction of the Company's debt load through the San Roque transaction, and the retention and prioritization of

Ginette and the Company's other exploration assets – as the foundation for its next phase of development. Once the Company has meaningfully reduced its liabilities and secured the capital required to advance its portfolio, it intends to evaluate a return to a public listing when conditions are appropriate to do so, although there can be no assurance as to the timing or outcome of any such process.

The Company will provide further updates as material developments occur.

On behalf of the Company,

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About International Iconic Gold Exploration Corp.

International Iconic Gold Exploration Corp. is a Canadian precious metals exploration company focused on the acquisition, exploration and development of gold and silver assets. The Company is managed by an experienced team of mining and capital markets professionals committed to creating shareholder value through disciplined asset selection, responsible exploration and transparent corporate governance.

For further information regarding International Iconic Gold Exploration Corp., please refer to the Company's filings available on SEDAR+ or the Company's website.

Forward-Looking Statements

This news release contains forward-looking statements and forward-looking information within the meaning of applicable Canadian securities legislation. All statements other than statements of historical fact are forward-looking statements, and are frequently, but not always, identified by words such as "expects", "believes", "intends", "plans", "will" or similar expressions.

Forward-looking statements in this news release include statements regarding: the anticipated benefits of the Delisting, including the Company's ability to more efficiently restructure its debt, improve its balance sheet and advance its exploration properties; the Company's ability to remain a reporting issuer following the Delisting; the completion of the San Roque transaction, including the assumption and release of the Consideration Debt at closing, the resulting elimination of approximately 60% of the Company's outstanding liabilities, and the Company's retention of the majority of its exploration properties following completion; the Board's determination that the San Roque transaction is favourable to, and in the best interests of, the Company; the Company's belief that its reduced debt profile will improve its ability to finance exploration at Ginette; the Company's plans to advance a drilling campaign at Castaño as funding permits, and the outcome of pending claim applications there; the potential to expand the historic mineral resource estimates at Lago Fontana with further work, and the Company's plans for that property pending resolution of provincial regulatory matters in Chubut Province; the Company's intention to pursue a capital raise to fund exploration across its property portfolio; the Company's belief that a delevered balance sheet will enable less dilutive future financings; the Company's ongoing debt restructuring efforts; and the Company's intention to evaluate a future public listing, the timing and outcome of which are uncertain.

These statements are based on management's current assumptions and expectations, including as to the completion of the San Roque transaction on the terms described, the availability of financing, and the political and economic environment in Argentina, where all of the Company's properties are located, and are subject to change.

Actual results may differ materially due to known and unknown risks, including: the risk that the San Roque transaction, or the anticipated benefits of the Delisting, are not realized or completed as described; the Company's inability to restructure its debt or raise capital on acceptable terms, and resulting dilution to shareholders; delays to exploration or drilling programs due to a lack of funding; an unfavourable outcome of the Castaño claim applications; the fact that the Lago Fontana resource estimates are historical only, have not been verified by a qualified person under National Instrument 43-101, and should not be relied upon; unresolved regulatory matters in Chubut Province; risks inherent to mineral exploration generally, including the absence of mineral reserves; political, economic, regulatory and currency risks associated with operations in Argentina; and fluctuations in gold and silver prices.

Readers should not place undue reliance on forward-looking statements, which are made as of the date hereof. The Company undertakes no obligation to update them except as required by applicable securities laws.

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