



SilverCrest Acquires Mexican Silver-Gold Project

TSX-V: SVL

For Immediate Release

VANCOUVER, B.C. December 15, 2005 – SilverCrest Mines Inc. (“the “Company”) is pleased to announce that it has entered into an option agreement with the property owners, effective December 8, 2005, to acquire 100% of the Santa Elena Project located approximately 150 kilometres northeast of Hermosillo, Sonora, Mexico. Access and infrastructure for the project are considered excellent.

The Santa Elena Project is a historic silver-gold producer located within a 600-hectre concession. Previous production from both open-cut and underground mining has been estimated at approximately 100,000 ounces of gold and an unrecorded amount of silver. This historic production included 45,000 tonnes grading 3.5 gpt gold (0.102 opt) and 60 gpt silver (1.7 opt) mined from an open cut during the 1980’s. The project currently has four accessible underground levels at 15-metre intervals, totalling approximately 1,500 metres of development. There are reportedly five additional levels that are currently inaccessible and their condition is unknown. Access to the lower levels was via a 450-metre shaft used for development and production between 1900 and 1910. Mining of the lower levels was presumably halted due to the Mexican Revolution of 1910.

The historical unclassified resource at Santa Elena has been estimated at approximately 1 million tonnes grading 102 gpt (3.0 opt) silver and 3.5 gpt (0.102 opt) gold. This resource contains an estimated 3.3 million ounces of silver and 112,288 ounces of gold. The resource was estimated by a geologist employed by the vendor of the property prior to 1990 and is based on channel sampling of accessible workings along a strike length of 400 metres (half the length of the mineralized surface exposure) and to a depth of 100 metres. No modern exploration drilling has been completed on the project. This resource is considered historic in nature, does not comply with NI 43-101 standards, has not been verified by the Company and therefore should not be relied upon.

The Company’s target for the Santa Elena Project is to expand the silver and gold resource by increasing the strike length and depth of the mineralization (“Main Zone”) and developing resources in the untested footwall zone. The recent discovery of silver mineralization in the footwall of the Main Zone (“Footwall Zone”) shows significant potential with true widths up to 18.5 metres grading 316 gpt (9.2 opt) silver and 0.4 gpt (0.01 opt) gold.

The Company plans a Phase I drill program consisting of approximately 20 core holes (2,500 metres) during the first quarter 2006 as a first step towards defining the target resource.

Professional geologists, including Company qualified personnel, have recently completed extensive mapping and sampling for both surface exposures and underground workings. A total of 76 channel samples show ranges of values from trace to 603 gpt (17.5 opt) silver and trace to 78.3 gpt (2.28 opt) gold. Composites of sample intervals within the mineralization are as follows:

Channel Sample Composites from the Santa Elena Project

| Location | From (metres) | To (metres) | Interval (metres) | True Thickness (metres) | True Thickness (feet) | Silver (gpt) | Gold (gpt) | Silver (opt) | Gold (opt) |
|------------|---------------|-------------|-------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|--------------|------------|--------------|-------------|
| 1st Level* | 0.0 | 15.8 | 15.8 | 14.2 | 46.6 | 23.0 | 4.00 | 0.7 | 0.12 |
| 1st Level | 0.0 | 16.8 | 16.8 | 15.1 | 49.6 | 77.0 | 4.00 | 2.2 | 0.12 |
| 2nd Level | 0.0 | 11.6 | 11.6 | 10.4 | 34.2 | 91.0 | 3.30 | 2.7 | 0.10 |
| 2nd Level | 0.0 | 5.0 | 5.0 | 4.5 | 14.8 | 102.0 | 3.50 | 3.0 | 0.10 |
| 2nd Level | 0.0 | 12.1 | 12.1 | 10.9 | 35.7 | 49.0 | 3.70 | 1.4 | 0.11 |
| 2nd Level | 0.0 | 3.4 | 3.4 | 3.1 | 10.0 | 168.0 | 12.50 | 4.9 | 0.36 |
| 2nd Level | 0.0 | 7.8 | 7.8 | 7.0 | 23.0 | 29.0 | 1.50 | 0.8 | 0.04 |
| 2nd Level | 0.0 | 14.5 | 14.5 | 13.1 | 42.8 | 72.0 | 1.50 | 2.1 | 0.04 |
| 2nd Level | 0.0 | 11.6 | 11.6 | 10.4 | 34.2 | 91.0 | 3.30 | 2.7 | 0.10 |
| 2nd Level | 0.0 | 2.5 | 2.5 | 2.3 | 7.4 | 184.0 | 3.70 | 5.4 | 0.11 |
| 2nd Level | 0.0 | 3.4 | 3.4 | 3.1 | 10.0 | 168.0 | 12.60 | 4.9 | 0.37 |
| 3rd Level | 0.0 | 19.0 | 19.0 | 17.1 | 56.1 | 38.0 | 0.80 | 1.1 | 0.02 |
| 3rd Level | 0.0 | 13.5 | 13.5 | 12.2 | 39.9 | 53.0 | 1.20 | 1.5 | 0.04 |
| 3rd Level | 0.0 | 12.8 | 12.8 | 11.5 | 37.8 | 15.0 | 1.20 | 0.4 | 0.04 |
| 3rd Level | 0.0 | 3.6 | 3.6 | 3.2 | 10.6 | 155.0 | 6.20 | 4.5 | 0.18 |
| 3rd Level | 0.0 | 2.3 | 2.3 | 2.1 | 6.8 | 106.0 | 13.50 | 3.1 | 0.39 |
| 4th Level | 0.0 | 4.7 | 4.7 | 4.2 | 13.9 | 278.0 | 30.40 | 8.1 | 0.89 |
| 4th Level | 0.0 | 9.4 | 9.4 | 8.5 | 27.7 | 145.0 | 1.80 | 4.2 | 0.05 |
| 4th Level | 0.0 | 8.9 | 8.9 | 8.0 | 26.3 | 36.0 | 1.20 | 1.1 | 0.04 |
| 4th Level | 0.0 | 7.4 | 7.4 | 6.7 | 21.8 | 13.0 | 0.70 | 0.4 | 0.02 |
| 4th Level | 0.0 | 3.6 | 3.6 | 3.2 | 10.6 | 98.0 | 2.10 | 2.9 | 0.06 |
| 4th Level | 0.0 | 4.5 | 4.5 | 4.1 | 13.3 | 119.0 | 7.40 | 3.5 | 0.22 |
| 4th Level | 0.0 | 17.3 | 17.3 | 15.6 | 51.1 | 13.0 | 0.40 | 0.4 | 0.01 |
| 4th Level | 0.0 | 3.6 | 3.6 | 3.2 | 10.6 | 98.0 | 2.10 | 2.9 | 0.06 |
| 4th Level | 0.0 | 5.6 | 5.6 | 5.0 | 16.5 | 103.0 | 6.00 | 3.0 | 0.18 |
| Surface** | 0.0 | 20.5 | 20.5 | 18.5 | 60.5 | 316.0 | 0.40 | 9.2 | 0.01 |
| Surface | 0.0 | 18.0 | 18.0 | 16.2 | 53.1 | 149.0 | 0.30 | 4.3 | 0.01 |
| Surface | 0.0 | 4.4 | 4.4 | 4.0 | 13.0 | 69.0 | 1.40 | 2.0 | 0.04 |

* Level is defined as an underground exploration drift along mineralization at a given elevation. The 1st Level is located approximately 15 metres below surface with subsequent lower levels at 15 metre intervals.

** Surface samples are from the Footwall Zone.

A weighted average for these composites is 3.45 gpt (0.10 opt) gold and 69 gpt (2.0 opt) silver over an average true width of approximately 10 metres (32.8 feet) excluding the Footwall Zone, which appears to be 5 to 20 metres wide. Currently, mineralization to a depth of approximately 100 metres is considered potentially open-pittable.

Analysis for all samples was completed by ALS-Chemex in Hermosillo, Mexico and North Vancouver, BC.

The deposit is considered a high-level low sulfidation epithermal system with bonanza grade silver and gold mineralization similar to the El Peñón deposit in Chile, and those deposits occurring in the Midas and Oatman districts of Nevada and Arizona in the USA. The ratio of gold to silver for the Santa Elena was historically estimated to be 1:20 with minor lead, zinc and copper. The mineralization in the Main Zone is associated with a structure in Tertiary felsic volcanics, which is exposed on the surface for approximately 800 metres with a true width of 1 to 30 metres, averaging 10 metres. Underground workings have confirmed mineralization along 400 metres of this strike length with an average width of 10 metres and with apparent widening at depth. The structure consists of multiple banded quartz veins and stockwork with associated adularia, fluorite, calcite and minor sulfides. High grade shoots (greater than 514 gpt silver and 34 gpt gold) appear to be present as defined by channel sampling and require compilation.

The Company has the right to acquire a 100% interest in the Santa Elena property by making staged option payments of US\$4,000,000 over a period of 5 years as follows: on signing \$10,000 (made), sixty days \$60,000, six months \$60,000, twelve months \$60,000, eighteen months \$60,000, twenty-four months \$50,000, thirty months \$500,000, thirty-six months \$500,000, forty-two months \$600,000, fifty-four months \$600,000, sixty months \$500,000 and the final US\$1,000,000 payment is conditional upon receipt of a Feasibility Study and all operating and environmental permits. Approximately 40% of the acquisition costs are payable in common shares at the Company's option. There are no applicable work commitments or underlying royalties to the property owners.

The option of the Santa Elena Project dramatically expands the Company's presence in Mexico and provides an advanced stage project that has the potential to add substantial low cost silver and gold resources. The concession is strategically located near the Company's 18,000 hectare Silver Angel Concessions where several silver exploration targets have been defined. The Santa Elena acquisition is in keeping with the Company's goal of becoming a significant silver asset based company by acquiring high grade, low cost silver/gold resources that may be expanded and properties that also have substantial blue-sky exploration potential.

The Qualified Person for this news release is N. Eric Fier, CPG, P.Eng. and Chief Operating Officer for SilverCrest Mines Inc.

This news release contains forward-looking statements, which address future events and conditions, which are subject to various risks and uncertainties. The Company's actual results, programs and financial position could differ materially from those anticipated in such forward-looking statements as a result of numerous factors, some of which may be beyond the Company's control. These factors include: the availability of funds; the timing and content of work programs; results of exploration activities and development of mineral properties, the interpretation of drilling results and other geological data, the uncertainties of resource and reserve estimations, receipt and security of mineral property titles; project cost overruns or unanticipated costs and expenses, fluctuations in metal prices; currency fluctuations; and general market and industry conditions.

Forward-looking statements are based on the expectations and opinions of the Company's management on the date the statements are made. The assumptions used in the preparation of such statements, although considered reasonable at the time of preparation, may prove to be imprecise and, as such, undue reliance should not be placed on forward-looking statements.

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