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Court Reserves Judgement on both Judicial Review Petition and Injunction Application Relating to Mount Polley Tailings Storage Facility

VANCOUVER, British Columbia, June 30, 2025 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- Imperial Metals Corporation (TSX:III) (the "Company" or "Imperial") announces that, further to the Company's news release dated May 9, 2025, following a four-day hearing, the Supreme Court of British Columbia has reserved judgment on the judicial review petition and injunction application filed by the Xatśūll First Nation ("Xatśūll") that challenged two provincial decisions authorizing a four-metre raise of the tailings storage facility embankment at the Mount Polley mine (the "TSF Raise") until the Court issues its reasons for decision, expected on August 6, 2025.

MPMC is permitted to continue construction of the four-metre raise as planned and operations at the mine continue in accordance with the permits granted by the Ministry of Mining and Critical Minerals and the Environmental Assessment Office. In the interim, MPMC has provided a voluntary undertaking to refrain from depositing tailings that rely on the TSF Raise until August 7, 2025 to allow the Court time to consider the matter.

The petition and injunction were heard together on June 24-27, 2025. At the hearing, counsel for Mount Polley Mining Corporation ("MPMC"), Imperial's wholly owned subsidiary, and counsel for the Province of British Columbia argued the decisions are valid and were issued through the proper process with adequate consultation.

Imperial and MPMC are committed to transparent engagement with Indigenous communities and environmental responsibility. Maintaining a meaningful relationship with Xatśūll and Williams Lake First Nation is important to the Company, including supporting sustainable development through meaningful dialogue.

"We appreciate the Court taking its time to carefully consider this matter and await its decision on the interlocutory injunction application and petition. We are committed to working collaboratively with Xatśūll and other Indigenous communities to address their concerns," stated Brian Kynoch, President of Imperial. "Our goal is to ensure that all operations at Mount Polley mine are conducted in an environmentally responsible manner that respects the rights of Indigenous peoples." Imperial and MPMC will continue to work with provincial regulators and Indigenous communities to ensure future actions align with regulatory requirements and community expectations.

About Imperial

Imperial is a Vancouver-based exploration, mine development and operating company with holdings that include the Mount Polley mine (100%), the Huckleberry mine (100%), and the Red Chris mine (30%). Imperial also holds a portfolio of 23 greenfield exploration properties in British Columbia.

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Cautionary Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements

Certain information contained in this news release are not statements of historical fact and are "forward-looking" statements. Forward-looking statements relate to future events or future performance and reflect Imperial management's expectations or beliefs regarding future events, and include, but are not limited to statements regarding: Imperial's expectations and timing with respect to the construction and operation of the tailings storage facility at the Mount Polley mine, including the four-meter lift currently under construction; the anticipated progress and outcome of any remaining or future legal or regulatory processes; the possibility that future legal or regulatory developments could result in material changes to the provincial permitting process; the Company's and MPMC's expectations regarding their relationships with Indigenous communities, including Xatsūll; expectations regarding ongoing engagement with Xatsūll and other Indigenous communities during the permitting process; and other risks outlined in statements made by Imperial from time to time in the filings made by Imperial with securities regulators. Imperial disclaims any intention or obligation to update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events, or otherwise, except as required by applicable securities legislation.

In certain cases, forward-looking statements can be identified by the use of words such as "plans", "expects" or "does not expect", "is expected", "is targeted", "targets", "outlook", "budget", "scheduled", "estimates", "forecasts", "intends", "anticipates" or "does not anticipate", or "believes", or variations of such words and phrases or statements that certain actions, events or results "may", "could", "would", "might" or "will be taken", "occur" or "be achieved" or the negative of these terms or comparable terminology. By their very nature forward-looking statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors which may cause the actual results, performance or achievements of Imperial to be materially different from any future results, performance or achievements expressed or implied by the forward-looking statements.

In making the forward-looking statements in this news release, Imperial has applied certain factors and assumptions that are based on information currently available to Imperial as well as Imperial's current beliefs and assumptions. These factors and assumptions and beliefs and assumptions include, the risk factors detailed from time to time in Imperial's interim and annual financial statements and management's discussion and analysis of those statements, and the Company's current Annual Information Form, all of which are filed and available for review on SEDAR+ at www.sedarplus.com. Although Imperial has attempted to identify important factors that could cause actual actions, events or results to differ materially from those described in forward-looking statements, there may be other factors that cause actions, events or results not to be as anticipated, estimated or intended, many of which are beyond Imperial's ability to control or predict. There can be no assurance that forward-looking statements will prove to be accurate, as actual results and future events could differ materially from those anticipated in such statements. Accordingly, readers should not place undue reliance on forward looking statements and all forward-looking statements in this news release are qualified by these cautionary statements.