

ALMADEN MINERALS LTD  
Form 20-F  
April 01, 2014

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UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 20-F

REGISTRATION STATEMENT PURSUANT TO SECTION 12(b) OR (g) OF THE SECURITIES  
EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

OR

ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15 (d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF  
1934 FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2013

OR

TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT  
OF 1934

OR

SHELL COMPANY REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE  
ACT OF 1934

Date of event requiring this shell company report .....

For the transition period from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

Commission file number 001-32702

ALMADEN MINERALS LTD.  
(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)

British Columbia, Canada  
(Jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

750 West Pender Street, #1103, Vancouver, British Columbia V6C 2T8  
(Address of principal executive offices)

Korm Trieu, ktrieu@almadenminerals.com, 750 West Pender Street, #1103, Vancouver, BC V6C 2T8  
(Name, Telephone, E-mail and/or Facsimile number and Address of Company Contact Person)

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Title of each class	Securities registered or to be registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act. Name of each exchange on which registered
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Common Stock without Par Value	NYSE MKT
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Securities registered or to be registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act.

None  
(Title of Class)

Securities for which there is a reporting obligation pursuant to Section 15(d) of the Act.

None

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Indicate the number of outstanding shares of each of the issuer's classes of capital or common stock as of the close of the period covered by the annual report.

64,578,321

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is a well-known seasoned issuer, as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act.  
( ) Yes (X) No

If this report is an annual or transition report, indicate by check mark if the registrant is not required to file report pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

( ) Yes (X) No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days.

(X) Yes ( ) No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Web site, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T (§232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the Registrant was required to submit and post such files).

( ) Yes ( ) No

As a foreign private issuer that prepares its financial statements in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards ("IFRS") as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board ("IASB"), the Registrant is required to submit to the SEC and post on its corporate website Interactive Data Files (as defined by Item 11 of Regulation S-T) pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T.

However, it is the view of the SEC's Division of Corporation Finance and Office of the Chief Accountant that the Registrant is not required to submit to the SEC and post on its corporate website Interactive Data Files until the SEC specifies on its website an IFRS taxonomy for use by foreign private issuers in preparing their Interactive Data Files.

As of the submission date of this Annual Report on Form 20-F, the SEC has not specified an IFRS taxonomy for the Registrant to use in preparing its Interactive Data Files.

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer or a non-accelerated filer. See definition of "accelerated filer and large accelerated filer" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

Large accelerated filer ( ) Accelerated filer  
( ) Non-accelerated filer (X)

Indicate by check mark which basis of accounting the registrant has used to prepare the financial statements included in this filing:

U.S. GAAP (  )                      International Financial Reporting Standards as  
issued    Other (  )  
by the International Accounting Standards Board (X)

If "Other" has been checked in response to the previous question, indicate by check mark which financial statement item the registrant has elected to follow.

Item 17  Item 18

If this is an annual report, indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act).

Yes  No

(APPLICABLE ONLY TO ISSUERS INVOLVED IN BANKRUPTCY PROCEEDS DURING THE PAST FIVE YEARS)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has filed all documents and reports required to be filed by Section 12, 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 subsequent to the distribution of securities under a plan confirmed by a court.

Yes  No

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## Glossary of Geologic and Mining Terms

**Adularia:** A colourless, moderate to low-temperature variety of orthoclase feldspar typically with a relatively high barium content. It is a prominent constituent of low sulphidation epithermal veins.

**Alkalic Intrusive:** An igneous rock emplaced below ground level in which the feldspar is dominantly sodic and or potassic.

**Alkalinity:** The chemical nature of solutions characterized by a high concentration of hydroxyl ions.

**Alteration:** Usually referring to chemical reactions in a rock mass resulting from the passage of hydrothermal fluids.

**Andesite:** A dark-coloured, fine-grained extrusive rock that, when porphyritic, contains phenocrysts composed primarily of zoned sodic plagioclase (esp. andesine) and one or more of the mafic minerals (eg. Biotite, horn-blende, pyroxene), with a ground-mass composed generally of the same minerals as the phenocrysts; the extrusive equivalent of diorite. Andesite grades into latite with increasing alkali feldspar content, and into dacite with more alkali feldspar and quartz. It was named by Buch in 1826 from the Andes Mountains, South America.

**Anomalous:** A geological feature, often subsurface, distinguished by geological, geochemical or geophysical means, which is detectably different than the general surroundings and is often of potential economic value.

**Anomaly:** Any concentration of metal noticeably above or below the average background concentration.

**Argillic:** A form of alteration characterised by the alteration of original minerals to clays.

**Arsenopyrite:** A sulphide of arsenic and iron with the chemical composition FeAsS.

**Assay:** An analysis to determine the presence, absence or quantity of one or more components.

**Axis:** An imaginary hinge line about which the fold limbs are bent. The axis of a fold can be at the top or bottom of the fold, can be tilted or horizontal.

**Batholith:** An intrusion, usually granitic, which has a large exposed surface area and no observable bottom. Usually associated with orogenic belts.

**Bathymetry survey:** A geophysical survey that uses echo sounding to determine water depth.

**Breccia:** Rock consisting of more or less angular fragments in a matrix of finer-grained material or cementing material.

**Brecciated:** Rock broken up by geological forces.

**Bulk sample:** A very large sample, the kind of sample to take from broken rock or of gravels and sands when testing placer deposits.

**Calc-silicate:** Calcium-bearing silicate minerals. These minerals are commonly formed as a result of the interaction of molten rock and its derived, hot hydrothermal fluids with very chemically reactive calcium carbonate (limestone). Calc-silicate minerals include garnet, pyroxene, amphibole and epidote. These minerals are commonly described as skarn and are genetically and spatially associated with a wide range of metals



Carbonate replacement deposit: A style of silver lead zinc mineralization in limestones.

Chert: A very fine grained siliceous rock. Many limestones contain nodules and thin lenses of chert.

Chip sample: A sample composed of discontinuous chips taken along a surface across a given line.

**Claim:** That portion of public mineral lands, which a party has staked or marked out in accordance with provincial or state mining laws, to acquire the right to explore for the minerals under the surface.

**Clastic:** Consisting of rock material that has been mechanically derived, transported, and deposited. Such material is also called detrital.

**Cleavage:** The tendency of a crystal to split, or break, along planes of structural weakness.

**Columnar Jointing:** A pattern of jointing that breaks rock into rough, six-sided columns. Such jointing is characteristic of basaltic flows and sills and is believed to result from shrinkage during cooling.

**Concordant Bodies:** Intrusive igneous bodies whose contacts are parallel to the bedding of the intruded rock.

**Conglomerate:** Rock composed of mostly rounded fragments which are of gravel size or larger in a finer grained matrix.

**Craton:** A central stable region common to nearly all continents and composed chiefly of highly metamorphosed Precambrian rocks.

**Cretaceous:** Geological time period between 136 and 64 million years ago.

**Crystalline:** Means the specimen is made up of one or more groups of crystals.

**Cut-off grade:** The minimum grade of mineralization used to establish quantitative and qualitative estimates of total mineralization.

**Dacite:** A fine grained acid volcanic rock, similar to rhyolite in which the feldspar is predominantly plagioclase.

**Degradation:** The ongoing process of erosion in a stream.

**Diabase:** Igneous hypabyssal rocks. The name is applied differently in different parts of the world leading to considerable confusion.

**Diagenesis:** The changes that occur in a sediment during and after lithification. These changes include compaction, cementation, replacement, and recrystallization.

**Diamond drill:** A type of rotary drill in which the cutting is done by abrasion using diamonds embedded in a matrix rather than by percussion. The drill cuts a core of rock which is recovered in long cylindrical sections.

**Dilution:** Results from the mixing in of unwanted gangue or waste rock with the ore during mining.

**Dip:** Geological measurement of the angle of maximum slope of planar elements in rocks. Can be applied to beddings, jointing, fault planes, etc.

**Discordant Bodies:** Intrusive igneous bodies whose contacts cut across the bedding, or other pre-existing structures, to the intruded rock.

**Disseminated deposit:** Deposit in which the mineralization is scattered through a large volume of host rock, sometimes as separate mineral grains, or sometimes along joint or fault surfaces.

Dolomite: A magnesium bearing limestone usually containing at least 15% magnesium carbonate.

Dunite: An intrusive, monomineralic, ultramafic rock composed almost completely of magnesian olivine.

Dyke: A tabular, discordant, intrusive igneous body.

**Earn in:** The right to acquire an interest in a property pursuant to an Option Agreement.

**Ejecta:** Pyroclastic material thrown out or ejected by a volcano. It includes ash, volcanic bombs, and lapilli.

**Epithermal:** Epithermal deposits are a class of ore deposits that form generally less than 1 km from surface. These deposits, which can host economic quantities of gold, silver, copper, lead and zinc are formed as a result of the precipitation of ore minerals from up-welling hydrothermal fluids. There are several classes of epithermal deposits that are defined on the basis of fluid chemistry and resulting alteration and ore mineralogy. Fluid chemistry is largely controlled by the proximity to igneous intrusive rocks and as a result igneous fluid content.

**Extrusive Rock:** Igneous rock that has solidified on the earth's surface from volcanic action.

**Fault:** A fracture in a rock where there had been displacement of the two sides.

**Faults:** Breaks in rocks with noticeable movement or displacement of the rocks on either side of the break.

**Feldspar:** A group of aluminum silicate minerals closely related in chemical composition and physical properties. There are two major chemical varieties of feldspar: the potassium aluminum, or potash, feldspars and the sodium-calcium-aluminum, or plagioclase, feldspars. The feldspars possess a tetrahedral framework of silicon and oxygen, with the partial substitution of aluminum for the silicon. They make up about 60 percent of the earth's crust.

**Felsic:** Light coloured silicate minerals, mainly quartz and feldspar, or an igneous rock comprised largely of felsic minerals (granite, rhyolite).

**Fluid inclusion:** A cavity, with or without negative crystal faces, containing one or two fluid phases, and possibly one or more minute crystals, in a host crystal. If two fluid phases are present, the vapour phase (bubble) may show Brownian motion.

**Folds:** Are flexures in bedded or layered rocks. They are formed when forces are applied gradually to rocks over a long period of time.

**Fracture:** Breaks in a rock, usually due to intensive folding or faulting.

**Gabbro:** A group of dark-colored, basic intrusive igneous rocks composed principally of basic plagioclase (commonly labradorite or bytownite) and clinopyroxene (augite), with or without olivine and orthopyroxene; also, any member of that group. It is the approximate intrusive equivalent of basalt. Apatite and magnetite or ilmenite are common accessory minerals.

**Gambusino:** Small miners working without machinery.

**Gangue:** Term used to describe worthless minerals or rock waste mixed in with the valuable minerals.

**Geochemical Anomaly:** An area of elevated values of a particular element in soil or rock samples collected during the preliminary reconnaissance search for locating favourable metal concentrations that could indicate the presence of surface or drill targets.

**Geochemistry:** The study of the chemistry of rocks, minerals, and mineral deposits.

**Geophysics:** The study of the physical properties of rocks, minerals, and mineral deposits.

Gneiss: A coarse grained metamorphic rock characterized by alternating bands of unlike minerals, commonly light bands of quartz and feldspar and dark bands of mica and hornblende.

Gossan: The leached and oxidised near surface part of a sulphide mineral deposit, usually consisting largely of hydrated iron oxides left after copper and other minerals have been removed by downward leaching.

Gouge: The finely ground rock that results from the abrasion along a fault surface.

**Grade:** The concentration of each ore metal in a rock sample, usually given as weight percent. Where extremely low concentrations are involved, the concentration may be given in grams per tonne (g/t) or ounces per ton (oz/t). The grade of an ore deposit is calculated, often using sophisticated statistical procedures, as an average of the grades of a very large number of samples collected from throughout the deposit.

**Granite:** A coarse grained, plutonic igneous rock that is normally pale pink, pale pink-brown, or pale grey, and composed of quartz, alkali feldspar, micas and accessory minerals.

**Granodiorite:** A coarse grained, plutonic igneous rock that is normally pale grey, and composed of quartz, calc-alkali feldspar, micas and accessory minerals.

**Gravity survey:** A geophysical survey which measures the variations of the earth's gravitational field in order to differentiate between rocks of contrasting specific gravities.

**Grid:** A network composed of two sets of uniformly spaced parallel lines, usually intersecting at right angles and forming squares, superimposed on a map, chart, or aerial photograph, to permit identification of ground locations by means of a system of coordinates and to facilitate computation of direction and distance and size of geologic, geochemical or geophysical features.

**Hanging wall and Footwall:** Terms used in reference to faults where when mining along a fault, your feet would be in the footwall side of the fault and the other side would be "hanging" over your head.

**Hectare:** A square of 100 metres on each side.

**Host rock:** The rock within which the ore deposit occurs.

**Hydrothermal:** Of or pertaining to hot water, to the action of hot water, or to the products of this action, such as a mineral deposit precipitated from a hot aqueous solution; also, said of the solution itself. "Hydrothermal" is generally used for any hot water, but has been restricted by some to water of magmatic origin.

**Igneous:** Means a rock formed by the cooling of molten silicate material.

**Ignimbrite:** The rock formed by the widespread deposition and consolidation of ash flows and nuees ardentes. The term includes welded tuff and nonwelded but recrystallized ash flows.

**Induced polarization (I.P.) method:** The method used to measure various electrical responses to the passage of alternating currents of different frequencies through near-surface rocks or to the passage of pulses of electricity.

**Intermediate:** An igneous rock made up of both felsic and mafic minerals (diorite).

**Intrusion:** General term for a body of igneous rock formed below the surface.

**Intrusive Rock:** Any igneous rock solidified from magma beneath the earth's surface.

**Joint venture agreement:** An agreement where the parties agree to the terms on which a property will be jointly explored, developed, and mined. (See also "Option agreement" and "Earn in").

**Jurassic:** Geological time period between 195 and 136 million years ago.

Kimberlite: A kimberlite is a pipe-like volcano sourced from deep within the earth under extreme temperatures and pressures. It is the host rock for diamonds and diamond indicator minerals such as kimberlitic ilmenites and garnets.

**Kriging:** (a) A statistical technique employed in calculating grade and tonnage of ore reserves from sampling data. The data are handled by computer. (b) A technique for interpolating which honors data points exactly. An output point is calculated as a linear combination of known data points. Kriging attempts to produce the best linear unbiased estimate. Used to interpolate between drillholes.

**K-silicate:** Potassium-bearing silicates. Potassium silicates are very common rock-forming minerals, however they are also formed by the interaction of hydrothermal fluids derived from the cooling intrusive rocks that are genetically and spatially associated with porphyry and epithermal deposits. Potassium feldspar (orthoclase) and potassium mica (biotite) are both commonly closely associated with copper-molybdenum ore in porphyry copper deposits.

**K-spar:** Potassium feldspar.

**Lamprophyre:** A group of dike rocks in which dark minerals occur both as phenocrysts and in the groundmass and light minerals occur in the groundmass. Essential constituents are biotite, hornblende, pyroxene, and feldspar or feldspathoids. Most lamprophyres are highly altered. They are commonly associated with carbonatites.

**Lava:** Means an igneous rock formed by the cooling of molten silicate material which escapes to the earth's surface or pours out onto the sea floor.

**Limestone:** Sedimentary rock that is composed mostly of carbonates, the two most common of which are calcium and magnesium carbonates.

**Lithosphere:** The crust and upper mantle, located above the asthenosphere and composing the rigid plates.

**Mafic:** A general term used to describe ferromagnesian minerals. Rocks composed mainly of ferromagnesian minerals are correctly termed melanocratic.

**Magma:** Naturally occurring molten rock material, generated within the earth and capable of intrusion and extrusion, from which igneous rocks have been derived through solidification and related processes. It may or may not contain suspended solids (such as crystals and rock fragments) and/or gas phases.

**Massive:** Implies large mass. Applied in the context of hand specimens of, for example, sulphide ores, it usually means the specimen is composed essentially of sulphides with few, if any, other constituents.

**Metamorphic:** Means any rock which is altered within the earth's crust by the effects of heat and/or pressure and/or chemical reactions. Pertains to the process of metamorphism or to its results.

**Metasediment:** A sediment or sedimentary rock that shows evidence of having been subjected to metamorphism.

**Metavolcanic:** An informal term for volcanic rocks that show evidence of having been subject to metamorphism.

**Mineral claim:** A legal entitlement to minerals in a certain defined area of ground.

**Mineral Deposit or Mineralized Material:** A mineralized underground body which has been intersected by sufficient closely spaced drill holes and or underground sampling to support sufficient tonnage and average grade of metal(s) to warrant further exploration-development work. This deposit does not qualify as a commercially mineable ore body (Reserves), as prescribed under Commission standards, until a final and comprehensive economic, technical, and legal feasibility study based upon the test results is concluded



**Mineral:** A naturally occurring, inorganic, solid element or compound that possesses an orderly internal arrangement of atoms and a unique set of physical and chemical properties.

**Mineralization:** Usually implies minerals of value occurring in rocks.

**Monocline:** A structure in which a bed exhibits local steepening of otherwise uniform dip.

National Instrument 43-101 or NI 43-101: A rule developed by the Canadian Securities Administrators and administered by the provincial securities commissions that govern how issuers disclose scientific and technical information about their mineral projects to the public. It covers oral statements as well as written documents and websites. It requires that all disclosure be based on advice by a "qualified person" and in some circumstances that the person be independent of the issuer and the property.

Net profits interest: A contractual granted right to some portion of the profits after deduction of expenses sometimes expressed as a form of royalty.

Net smelter returns: Means the amount actually paid to the mine or mill owner from the sale of ore, minerals and other materials or concentrates mined and removed from mineral properties. A royalty based on net smelter returns usually provides cash flow that is free of any operating or capital costs and environmental liabilities.

Option agreement: An agreement where the optionee can exercise certain options to acquire or increase an interest in a property by making periodic payments or share issuances or both to the optionor or by exploring, developing or producing from the optionor's property or both. Usually upon the acquisition of such interest, all operations thereafter are on a joint venture basis.

Ordinary kriging: The basic technique of kriging and uses a weighted average of neighbouring samples to estimate the 'unknown' value at a given location. Weights are optimized using the semi-variogram model, the location of the samples and all the relevant inter-relationships between known and unknown values. The technique also provides a "standard error" which may be used to quantify confidence levels.

Ore: A natural aggregate of one or more minerals which may be mined and sold at a profit, or from which some part may be profitably separated.

Ore reserve: The measured quantity and grade of all or part of a mineralized body in a mine or undeveloped mineral deposit for which the mineralization is sufficiently defined and measured on three sides to form the basis of at least a preliminary mine production plan for economically viable mining.

Orogeny: The process of forming mountains by folding and thrusting.

Outcrop: An in situ exposure of bedrock.

Overburden: A general term for any material covering or obscuring rocks from view.

oz/t or opt: Ounces per ton.

Paleozoic: An era of geologic time, from the end of the Precambrian to the beginning of the Mesozoic, or from about 570 to about 225 million years ago.

Panel Sample: A large volume/weight continuous rock chip sample collected over a definite area (e.g. 0.25m X 0.50m), and to a uniform depth (e.g. 2.5cm or 1 inch), on a mineral zone. Panel sampling is generally employed in a trenching program to obtain more representative grades particularly of a narrow mineralized structure such as a vein.

Peridotite: A coarse grained ultramafic rock commonly consisting of olivine and pyroxenes.

Phenocrysts: An unusually large crystal in a relatively finer grained matrix.

Phonolite: Any extrusive rock composed of alkali feldspar, mafic minerals and any feldspathoid, such as nepheline, leucite, or sodalite.

Pluton: Term for an igneous intrusion, usually formed from magma.

Porphyry: An igneous rock composed of larger crys