**Sprott Physical Gold Trust** 

**Interim financial statements** 

March 31, 2010



Ernst & Young LLP Chartered Accountants Ernst & Young Tower 222 Bay Street, P.O. Box 251 Toronto, Ontario M5K 1J7 Tel: 416 864 1234 Fax: 416 864 1174 ey.com/ca

## **REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM**

To the Trustee of the Sprott Physical Gold Trust (the "Trust")

We have audited the statement of financial position of the Trust as at March 31, 2010 and the statement of comprehensive income, the statement of changes in equity and the statement of cash flows for the period from February 25, 2010 to March 31, 2010. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Trust's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards and the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. We were not engaged to perform an audit of the Trust's internal control over financial reporting. Our audit included consideration of internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Trust's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements, assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, and evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Trust as at March 31, 2010 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the period from February 25, 2010 to March 31, 2010, in conformity with International Financial Reporting Standards as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board.

Toronto, Canada May 25, 2010

Crnst + young LLP

Chartered Accountants Licensed Public Accountants

# Sprott Physical Gold Trust Interim statements of financial position

	As at March 31, 2010	As at February 24, 2010
	2010 US\$	2010 US\$
Assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	13,583,071	10
Gold bullion	403,929,152	-
Total assets	417,512,223	10
Liabilities		
Due to brokers	4,897,721	-
Management fees payable (note 9)	24,841	-
Accounts payable	198,967	-
Total liabilities	5,121,529	-
Equity		
Unitholder capital	442,500,000	10
Deficit	(7,684,221)	-
Underwriting commissions and issue expenses	(22,425,085)	-
Total equity (note 4)	412,390,694	10
Total liabilities and equity	417,512,223	10
Total equity per unit	9.32	10.00

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

On behalf of the Manager, Sprott Asset Management LP, by its General Partner, Sprott Asset Management GP Inc.:

(signed) Eric Sprott Director (signed) Steven Rostowsky Director

# Sprott Physical Gold Trust Interim statement of comprehensive income For the period from February 25, 2010 to March 31, 2010

Income	
Unrealized losses on gold bullion	(7,493,453)
	(7,493,453)
Expenses	
Management fees (note 9)	139,841
Bullion storage fees	15,534
Listing and regulatory filing fees	12,824
Audit fees	10,548
General and administrative	7,676
Unitholder reporting costs	1,439
Independent Review Committee fees	1,138
Legal fees	959
Trustee fees	479
Net foreign exchange losses	330
	190,768
Net loss for the period	(7,684,221)
Other comprehensive income	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Total comprehensive loss for the period	(7,684,221)
<b>Basic and diluted loss per Unit</b> (note 5)	\$ (0.22)

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

US\$

# Sprott Physical Gold Trust Interim statement of changes in equity For the period from February 25, 2010 to March 31, 2010

	Number of Units		Underwriting commissions and		
	outstanding	Unitholder capital US\$	Deficit US\$	issue expenses US\$	Total Equity US\$
Balance at February 25, 2010	1	10	-	-	10
Cancellation of units	(1)	(10)	-	-	(10)
Proceeds from issue of units	44,250,000	442,500,000	-	-	442,500,000
Net loss for the period	-	-	(7,684,221)	-	(7,684,221)
Underwriting commissions and issue expenses	-	-	-	(22,425,085)	(22,425,085)
Balance at March 31, 2010	44,250,000	442,500,000	(7,684,221)	(22,425,085)	412,390,694

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

# Sprott Physical Gold Trust Interim statement of cash flows For the period from February 25, 2010 to March 31, 2010

	US\$
Cash flow from operating activities	
Net loss for the period	(7,684,221)
Adjustments to reconcile net loss for the period to net cash from operating activities	
Unrealized losses on gold bullion	7,493,453
Net changes in operating assets and liabilities	
Increase in due to brokers	4,897,721
Increase in management fees payable	24,841
Increase in accounts payable	198,967
Net cash used in operating activities	4,930,761
<b>Cash flow from investing activities</b> Purchase of gold bullion	(411,422,605)
Net cash used in investing activities	(411,422,605)
Cash flow from financing activities	
Proceeds from issuance of units	442,500,000
Payments on cancellation of units	(10)
Underwriting commissions and issue expenses	(22,425,085)
Net cash provided by financing activities	420,074,905
Net increase in cash	13,583,061
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	10
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	13,583,071

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

### 1. ORGANIZATION OF THE TRUST

Sprott Physical Gold Trust (the "Trust") is a closed-end mutual fund trust created under the laws of the Province of Ontario, Canada, pursuant to a trust agreement dated as of August 28, 2009, as amended and restated as of December 7, 2009 and as further amended and restated as of February 1, 2010 (the "Trust Agreement"). The Trust's initial public offering was priced on February 25, 2010 and closed on March 3, 2010. The Trust is authorized to issue an unlimited number of redeemable, transferable trust units (the "Units"). The beneficiaries of the Trust are the holders of Units that were issued on March 3, 2010, March 8, 2010 and March 25, 2010 in connection with the Trust's initial public offering of 44,250,000 Units for gross proceeds of \$442,500,000.

The investment objective of the Trust is to seek to provide a secure, convenient and exchangetraded investment alternative for investors interested in holding physical gold bullion without the inconvenience that is typical of a direct investment in physical gold bullion. As part of its investment strategy, the Trust invests and holds substantially all of its assets in physical gold bullion. The Trust invests and intends to continue to invest primarily in long-term holdings of unencumbered, fully allocated, physical gold bullion and does not speculate with regard to shortterm changes in gold prices.

The Trust's registered office is located at Suite 2700, South Tower, Royal Bank Plaza, 200 Bay Street, Toronto, Ontario, Canada, M5J 2J1.

Sprott Asset Management LP (the "Manager") acts as the manager of the Trust pursuant to the Trust Agreement and the management agreement. RBC Dexia Investor Services Trust, a trust company organized under the laws of Canada, acts as the trustee of the Trust. RBC Dexia Investor Services Trust also acts as custodian for the Trust's assets other than physical gold bullion on behalf of the Trust. The Royal Canadian Mint acts as custodian on behalf of the Trust for the physical gold bullion owned by the Trust.

The financial statements of the Trust for the period ended March 31, 2010 were authorized for issue by the Manager on May 11, 2010.

## 2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

## 2.1 BASIS OF PREPARATION

The financial statements have been prepared on a historical cost basis, except for physical gold bullion which is measured at fair value and certain financial assets and financial liabilities which are required to be measured at fair value.

The financial statements are presented in U.S. dollars.

Comparative figures have not been presented for the interim statements of comprehensive income, changes in equity and cash flows because the Trust had no operations prior to the initial

public offering which was priced on February 25, 2010 closed on March 3, 2010 other than the issuance of 1 unit for proceeds of U.S.\$10.

The interim financial statements have been prepared in accordance with International Accounting Standard ("IAS") 34 *Interim Financial Reporting* and should be read in conjunction with the Trust's opening financial statements as at February 24, 2010.

# 2.2 SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING JUDGEMENTS AND ESTIMATES

The preparation of the Trust's financial statements requires management to make judgments, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts recognized in the financial statements. However, these assumptions and estimates are uncertain and could result in outcomes that may require a material adjustment to the carrying amount of the asset or liability.

# 2.3 FUNCTIONAL AND PRESENTATION CURRENCY

The primary objective of the Trust is to generate returns in U.S. dollars. The liquidity of the Trust is managed on a day-to-day basis in U.S. dollars in order to facilitate redemptions of the Trust's Units. Transactions in physical gold bullion are denominated in U.S. dollars. The Trust's performance is evaluated in U.S. dollars. Therefore, management considers the U.S. dollar as the currency that most faithfully represents the economic effect of the underlying transactions, events and conditions.

# 2.5 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

## (i) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents consist of cash on deposit with the Trust's custodian, which is not subject to restrictions and short-term interest bearing notes and treasury bills with a term to maturity of 90 days or less from the date of purchase. Investment transactions in cash equivalents are accounted for on the date the order to buy or sell is executed.

## (ii) Gold bullion

Investments in gold bullion are measured at fair value determined by reference to published price quotations, with unrealized and realized gains and losses recorded in income based on the IAS 40 *Investment Property* fair value model as IAS 40 *Investment Property* is the most relevant IFRS to apply. Investment transactions in physical gold bullion are accounted for on the date the order to buy or sell is executed.

## (iii) Other financial liabilities

This category includes all financial liabilities, other than those classified at fair value through profit and loss. The Trust includes in this category management fees payable, due to brokers and other short-term accounts payable.

#### (iv) Due to brokers

Amounts due to brokers are payables for physical gold bullion purchased that have been contracted for but not yet delivered on the reporting date. Refer to accounting policy for Other financial liabilities for recognition and measurement.

## (v) Fees and commissions

Fees and commissions are recognized on an accrual basis.

#### (vi) Unit issue costs

Unit issue costs, including underwriting commissions and issue expenses, are recorded as a reduction to unitholder equity in the period they are incurred.

#### (vii) Income taxes

In each taxation year, the Trust will be subject to income tax on taxable income earned during the year, including net realized taxable capital gains. However, the Trust intends to distribute its taxable income to unitholders at the end of every fiscal year and therefore the Trust itself would not have any income tax liability.

## (viii) Future changes in accounting policies

The following standards and amendments were issued by the IASB but are not yet effective; these standards are not expected to have a material impact on the financial position or performance of the Trust.

#### IFRS 9 Financial Instruments

The revised standard was issued in November 2009 and will become effective on January 1, 2013. The new standard enhances the ability of investors and other users of financial information to understand the accounting of financial assets and reduces complexity by using a single approach to determine whether a financial asset is measured at amortized cost or fair value, replacing the many different rules in IAS 39 – Financial Instruments: *Recognition and Measurement*.

## IAS 24 Amendment to *Related Party Disclosures*

The revised standard was issued in November 2009 and is effective for annual periods beginning on or after January 1, 2011. The revised standard simplifies the disclosure requirements for entities that are controlled, jointly controlled or significantly influenced by a government and clarifies the definition of a related party.

#### 3. SEGMENT INFORMATION

The Trust is organized into one main operating segment, which invests in physical gold bullion. All of the Trust's activities are interrelated, and each activity is dependent on the others. Accordingly, all significant operating decisions are based upon an analysis of the Trust as one segment. The financial results from this segment are equivalent to the financial statements of the Trust as a whole.

The Trust's operating income is earned entirely in Canada primarily from its investment in physical gold bullion.

# 4. UNITHOLDERS' CAPITAL

The Trust is authorized to issue an unlimited number of redeemable, transferrable Trust Units in one or more classes and series of Units. All issued Units are fully paid for, listed and traded on the New York Stock Exchange Arca (the "NYSE Arca") and the Toronto Stock Exchange (the "TSX") under the symbols "PHYS" and "PHY.U", respectively. The Trust's capital is represented by these redeemable participating Units. Quantitative information about the Trust's capital is provided in the Statement of Changes in Equity.

## (i) Classification of Units

Units of the Trust are considered puttable financial instruments and are classified as equity because they meet all of the following criteria: (a) Units entitle the holder to a pro rata share of the Trust's net assets, as defined below, in the event of the Trust's liquidation; (b) Units are subordinate to all other classes of instrument; (c) all financial instruments in the class of instruments that are subordinate to all other classes of instrument have identical features; more specifically, the Trust currently only has one class of such instruments (the Units); (d) apart from the obligation for the Trust to repurchase or redeem the Units for cash or gold under the Trust Agreement, as described below, the Units do not require the delivery of cash or another financial instrument to another entity under conditions that are potentially unfavourable to the Trust, and the obligation may not be settled in the Trust's own equity instruments and (e) the total expected cash flows attributable to the Units over the life of the Units are based substantially on the profit or loss, the change in the recognized net assets or the change in the fair value of the recognized and unrecognized net assets of the Trust over the life of the Units. Furthermore, the Trust has no other financial instrument or contract that has (a) total cash flows based substantially on the profit or loss, the change in the recognized net assets or the change in the fair value of the recognized and unrecognized net assets of the Trust and (b) the effect of substantially restricting or fixing the residual return to the puttable instrument holders.

## (ii) Net Asset Value

Net Asset Value (NAV) is defined as the Trust's net assets (fair value of total assets less fair value of total liabilities, excluding all liabilities represented by outstanding Units, if any) calculated using the value of physical gold bullion based on the end of day price provided by a widely recognized pricing service.

## (iii) Redemptions

Under the Trust Agreement, Units may be redeemed at the option of the unitholder on a monthly basis for physical gold bullion or cash. Units redeemed for physical gold bullion will be entitled to a redemption price equal to 100% of the NAV of the redeemed Units on the last business day of the month in which the redemption request is processed. A unitholder redeeming Units for physical gold bullion will be responsible for expenses in connection with effecting the redemption and applicable delivery expenses, including the handling of the notice of redemption, the delivery of the physical bullion for Units that are being redeemed and the applicable gold storage in-and-out fees. Units redeemed for cash will be entitled to a redemption price equal to 95% of the lesser of (i) the volume-weighted average trading price of the Units traded on the NYSE Arca, or, if trading has been suspended on the NYSE Arca, on the TSX, for the last five business days of the month in which the redemption request is processed and (ii) the NAV of the redeemed Units as of 4:00 p.m., Toronto time, on the last business day of the month in which the redemption request is processed.

When Units are redeemed and cancelled and the cost of such Units is either above or below their stated or assigned value, the cost is allocated to unitholder capital in an amount equal to the stated or assigned value of the Units and any difference is allocated to the Unit premiums and reserves account.

## (iv) Capital management

As a result of the ability of the Trust to issue and repurchase Units, the capital of the Trust can vary depending on the demand for redemptions and subscriptions to the Trust. The Trust is not subject to externally imposed capital requirements and has no restrictions on the repurchase of Units. The Trust may not issue additional Units except (i) if the net proceeds per Unit to be received by the Trust are not less than 100% of the most recently calculated NAV immediately prior to, or upon, the determination of the pricing of such issuance or (ii) by way of Unit distribution in connection with an income distribution.

The Trust's objectives for managing capital are:

- To invest and hold substantially all of its assets in physical gold bullion; and
- To maintain sufficient liquidity to meet the expenses of the Trust and to meet redemption requests as they arise.

As at March 31, 2010, the amount classified as equity is U.S. \$412,390,694. The Manager of the Trust does not expect material redemptions of Units, as an exchange listing provides a liquid market for the trading of the Units. Risks associated with an investment in financial instruments are described in Note 8.

#### 5. EARNINGS PER UNIT

Basic earnings per unit (EPU) is calculated by dividing the net profit (loss) for the period attributable to the Trust's unitholders by the weighted average number of Units outstanding during the period.

The Trust's diluted EPU is the same as basic EPU, since the Trust has not issued any instruments with dilutive potential.

Net loss for the period attributable to the holders<br/>of the Trust's UnitsU.S.(\$7,684,221)Weighted average number of Units outstanding<br/>Basic and diluted loss per Unit34,185,714<br/>U.S.(\$0.22)

# 6. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

As at March 31, 2010, cash and cash equivalents consisted entirely of cash on deposit.

# 7. FAIR VALUE OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

As at March 31, 2010, due to the short term nature of financial assets and financial liabilities recorded at amortized cost, it is assumed that the carrying amount of those instruments approximate their fair value.

## 8. FINANCIAL RISK AND MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES

The Trust is exposed to market risk, credit risk and liquidity risk arising from the investments that it holds. Market risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of the Trust's investments will fluctuate due to changes in market variables, such as the price of gold, interest rates and foreign exchange rates. The maximum risk relating to the Trust's investments equals their fair value.

The Trust segregates market risk into three categories: price risk, interest rate risk and foreign exchange risk.

#### **Price risk**

Price risk arises from the possibility that changes in the price of the Trust's investments, which consist almost entirely of gold bullion, will result in changes in carrying value. As at March 31, 2010, investments in physical gold bullion were approximately 97% of total assets.

If the market value of gold increased by 5%, with all other variables held constant, this would have decreased comprehensive loss by approximately \$20,197,000; conversely, if the value of gold bullion decreased by 5%, this would have increased comprehensive loss by the same amount.

#### Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk arises from the possibility that changes in interest rates will affect the value of financial instruments. The Trust does not hedge its exposure to interest rate risk as such risk is minimal. The Trust invests in short-term debt securities issued by the Government of Canada with maturities of less than 90 days from the date of purchase. Due to the short term duration of these instruments, they have minimal interest rate risk.

#### Foreign exchange risk

Foreign exchange risk arises from the possibility that changes in the price of foreign currencies will result in changes in carrying value. The Trust's assets, substantially all of which consist of an investment in gold bullion, are priced in U.S. dollars. Some of the Trust's expenses are payable in Canadian dollars. Therefore, the Trust is exposed to currency risk, as the value of its liabilities denominated in Canadian dollars will fluctuate due to changes in exchange rates. Most of such liabilities, however, are short term in nature and are not material in relation to the net assets of the Trust, and, as such, exposure to foreign exchange risk is limited. The Trust does not enter into currency hedging transactions.

As at March 31, 2010, approximately U.S. \$159,870 of the Trust's liabilities were denominated in Canadian dollars.

## Credit risk

Credit risk arises from the potential that counterparties will fail to satisfy their obligations as they come due. The Trust primarily incurs credit risk when entering into and settling gold bullion transactions. It is the Trust's policy to only transact with reputable counterparties. The Manager closely monitors the creditworthiness of the Trust's counterparties, such as bullion dealers, by reviewing their financial statements, when available, regulatory notices and press releases. The Trust seeks to minimize credit risk relating to unsettled transactions in gold bullion by only engaging in transactions with bullion dealers with high creditworthiness. Payment for securities purchased, such as treasury bills, is only made against the receipt of the securities by the custodian. The Trust has only purchased and expects only to own "good delivery bars" as defined by the London Bullion Market Association (LBMA), with each bar purchased being verified against the LBMA source.

## Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is defined as the risk that the Trust will encounter difficulty in meeting obligations associated with financial liabilities. Liquidity risk arises because of the possibility that the Trust could be required to pay its liabilities earlier than expected. The Trust is exposed to redemptions for both cash and gold bullion on a regular basis. The Trust manages its obligation to redeem Units when required to do so and its overall liquidity risk by allowing for redemptions only monthly and requiring a 15-day notice period for redemptions. The Trust's liquidity risk is minimal since its primary investment is physical gold bullion, which trades in a highly liquid

market. All of the Trust's financial liabilities, including due to brokers, accounts payable and management fees payable have maturities of less than 3 months.

# 9. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

#### (a) Management fees and other expenses

The Trust pays the Manager a monthly management fee equal to 1/12 of 0.35% of the value of net assets of the Trust (determined in accordance with the Trust Agreement) plus any applicable Canadian taxes, calculated and accrued daily and payable monthly in arrears on the last day of each month. For the period ended March 31, 2010, the Trust incurred U.S.\$139,841 in management fees, of which U.S.\$24,841 remained payable at period end.

Also, the Manager has agreed that if the expenses of the Trust, including the management fee, at the end of any month exceed an amount equal to 1/12 of 0.65% of the value of the net assets of the Trust, the management fee payable to the Manager for such month will be reduced by the amount of such excess up to the gross amount of the management fee earned by the Manager from the Trust for such month. Any such reduction in the management fee will not be carried forward or remain payable to the Manager in future months.

In calculating the expenses of the Trust for purposes of the expense cap, the following will be excluded: any applicable taxes payable by the Trust or to which the Trust may be subject; and any extraordinary expenses of the Trust.

## (b) Ownership

As at March 31, 2010, Eric Sprott, CEO and Senior Portfolio Manager of the Manager, Sprott Foundation, a charitable organization established by Mr. Sprott's family and Charles Oliver, a Senior Portfolio Manager of the Manager owned 13.56%, 4.52% and 0.12% of the units of the Trust, respectively.

# **10. INDEPENDENT REVIEW COMMITTEE (IRC)**

In accordance with National Instrument 81-107, Independent Review Committee for Investment Funds (NI 81-107), the Manager has established an IRC for a number of funds managed by it, including the Trust. The mandate of the IRC is to consider and provide recommendations to the Manager on conflicts of interest to which the Manager is subject when managing certain funds, including the Trust. The IRC is composed of three individuals, each of whom is independent of the Manager and all funds managed by the Manager, including the Trust. Each fund subject to IRC oversight pays a share of the IRC member fees, costs and other fees in connection with operation of the IRC. The IRC reports annually to unitholders of the funds subject to its oversight on its activities, as required by NI 81-107.

## 11. PERSONNEL

The Trust did not employ any personnel during the period, as its affairs were administered by the personnel of the Manager and/or the Trustee, as applicable.

## 12. SUBSEQUENT EVENT

On May 25, 2010, the Trust filed a final base prep prospectus with the Ontario Securities Commission and a Form F-1 Registration Statement with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission to obtain required regulatory approvals for a follow-on offering of units. The units are expected to be listed on both the TSX and NYSE Arca.

## **Investment Objective and Strategies**

Sprott Physical Gold Trust (the "Trust") is a closed-end mutual fund trust organized under the laws of the Province of Ontario, Canada, created to invest and hold substantially all of its assets in physical gold bullion. The Trust seeks to provide a secure, convenient and exchange-traded investment alternative for investors interested in holding physical gold bullion without the inconvenience that is typical of a direct investment in physical gold bullion.

The Trust invests primarily in long-term holdings of unencumbered, fully allocated, physical gold bullion and will not speculate with regard to short-term changes in gold prices.

#### Risks

The risks of investing in the Trust are detailed in the prospectus dated February 25, 2010. There have been no material changes to the Trust since inception that affected the overall level of risk. The principal risks associated with investing in the Trust are the price of gold, the net asset value and/or the market price of the units, the purchase, transport, insurance and storage of physical gold bullion, liabilities of the Trust, and redemption of units.

# **Results of Operations**

The following issuances of units took place during the period from February 25, 2010 to March 31, 2010:

- On March 3, 2010, the Trust sold 40,000,000 units at \$10.00 per unit, for gross proceeds of \$400,000,000 pursuant to the initial public offering.
- On March 8, 2010, the Trust issued 3,000,000 units for gross proceeds of \$30,000,000 on the exercise by the underwriters of the over-allotment option of the initial public offering.
- On March 25, 2010, the Trust issued 1,250,000 units for gross proceeds of \$12,500,000 on the final exercise by the underwriters of the over-allotment option of the initial public offering.

Of the \$442.5 million gross proceeds raised through the above transactions, the Trust paid approximately \$22.4 million in respect of underwriting commissions and other expenses related to the initial public offering, invested \$411.4 million in physical gold bullion at an average cost of \$1,133.90 per troy ounce and retained \$8.7 million in cash in order to provide available funds for the Trust's ongoing expenses and potential cash redemptions.

The value of the net assets of the Trust as of March 31, 2010 was \$412.4 million or \$9.32 per unit. The Trust held 362,838 ounces of physical gold bullion as of March 31, 2010. For the period ended March 31, 2010, total unrealized losses on physical gold bullion amounted to \$7.5 million. The units closed at \$9.89 on the NYSE Arca and \$9.98 on the TSX on March 31, 2010. The units are denominated in U.S. dollars on both exchanges.

The Trust's net asset value per unit on March 3, 2010 after payment of underwriting commissions and other expenses associated with the initial public offering was \$9.49; on March 31, 2010 the net asset value per unit was \$9.32. This decrease is primarily attributable to the decrease in the price of gold bullion from \$1,139.90 per troy ounce on March 3, 2010 to \$1,113.25 per troy ounce on March 31, 2010. During the period, the Trust's units traded on the NYSE Arca and the TSX at an average premium to net asset value of 6.9% and 6.6%, respectively.

# Sprott Physical Gold Trust Management Report of Fund Performance Recent Developments

As noted above, on March 9, 2010 and March 25, 2010, the Trust's underwriters announced the purchase of an additional 3,000,000 and 1,250,000 units, respectively, in connection with the exercises of their over-allotment option.

# **Related Party Transactions**

#### Management Fees

The Trust pays the Manager, Sprott Asset Management LP, a monthly management fee equal to 1/12 of 0.35% of the value of the net assets of the Trust (determined in accordance with the trust agreement), plus any applicable Canadian taxes. The management fee is calculated and accrued daily and payable monthly in arrears on the last day of each month. For the period ended March 31, 2010, the Trust incurred management fees of \$139,841 (including applicable Canadian taxes).

#### **Operating Expenses**

The Trust pays its own operating expenses, which include, but are not limited to, audit, legal, accounting and trustee fees, filing and listing fees payable to applicable securities regulatory authorities and stock exchanges, storage fees for the physical gold bullion and any expenses associated with the implementation and on-going operation of the Independent Review Committee of the Trust. Operating expenses for the period ended March 31, 2010 amounted to \$50,927.

#### Expense Cap

The Manager has contractually agreed that if the expenses of the Trust, including the management fees, at the end of any month exceed an amount equal to 1/12 of 0.65% of the value of the net assets of the Trust, the management fee payable to the Manager for such month will be reduced by the amount of such excess up to the gross amount of the management fee earned by the Manager for such month. For the period ended March 31, 2010, there was no such reduction in the management fee.

## **Financial Highlights**

The following table shows selected key financial information about the Trust and is intended to help you understand the Trust's financial performance for the period from February 25, 2010 to March 31, 2010. The pricing of the initial public offering took place on February 25, 2010 and closing took place on March 3, 2010.

# Sprott Physical Gold Trust Management Report of Fund Performance Net Assets per unit<sup>1</sup>

Net Assets per Unit, beginning of period	\$ 10.00
Increase(decrease) from operations <sup>2</sup> :	
Total revenue	\$ -
Total expenses	-
Realized gains (losses) for the period	-
Unrealized losses for the period	(0.22)
Total decrease from operations <sup>3</sup>	\$ (0.22)
Net assets per Unit, end of period	\$ 9.32

<sup>1</sup> This information is derived from the Trust's interim financial statements.

<sup>2</sup> Underwriting commissions and other expenses of the initial public offering and units issued on the exercise of two subsequent over-allotment options were recorded as a reduction to unitholder equity and amounted to \$22.4 million or \$0.51 per unit.

<sup>3</sup> Net assets is based on the actual number of units outstanding at the relevant time. The increase/decrease from operations is based on the weighted average number of units outstanding over the financial period from February 25, 2010 until March 31, 2010. This table is not intended to be a reconciliation of the beginning to ending net assets per unit.

The above decrease in net asset value from operations has been calculated by dividing the decrease from operations by the weighted average number of units outstanding in the period from February 25, 2010 to March 31, 2010. Since the Trust only had one issued and outstanding unit up until the closing of initial public offering on March 3, 2010, the weighted average number of units is lower than the number of units outstanding subsequent to the initial public offering of the Trust.

Since the initial public offering of the Trust did not close until March 3, 2010, a more meaningful measure would be dividing the decrease from operations by the weighted average number of units outstanding throughout the period from March 3, 2010 to March 31, 2010. Following this calculation, the decrease from operations would equal \$0.18 per unit.

Total net asset value (000's) <sup>1</sup>	\$4	12,391
Number of Units outstanding <sup>1</sup>	44,250,000	
Management expense ratio <sup>2</sup>		0.50%
Trading expense ratio <sup>3</sup>		nil
Portfolio turnover rate <sup>4</sup>		nil
Net asset value per Unit	\$	9.32
Closing market price - NYSE Arca	\$	9.89
Closing market price - TSX	\$	9.98

# **Ratios and Supplemental Data**

<sup>1</sup> This information is provided as at March 31, 2010.

<sup>2</sup> Management expense ratio ("MER") is based on total expenses (excluding commissions and other portfolio transaction costs) for the stated period and is expressed as an annualized

**Sprott Physical Gold Trust** 

March 31, 2010

**Management Report of Fund Performance** percentage of daily average net asset value during the period from February 25, 2010 to March 31, 2010. The pricing of the initial public offering took place on February 25, 2010 and closing took place on March 3, 2010.

- 3 The trading expense ratio represents total commissions and other portfolio transaction costs expressed as an annualized percentage of daily average net asset value during the period from February 25, 2010 to March 31, 2010. The pricing of the initial public offering took place on February 25, 2010 and closing took place on March 3, 2010. Since there are no trading costs associated with physical bullion trades, the trading expense ratio is nil.
- 4 The Trust's portfolio turnover rate indicates how actively the Trust's portfolio adviser trades its portfolio investments. A portfolio turnover rate of 100% is equivalent to the Trust buying and selling all of the securities in its portfolio once in the course of the year. The higher the Trust's portfolio turnover rate in a year, the greater the trading costs payable by the Trust in the year, and the greater the chance of an investor receiving taxable capital gains in the year. There is not necessarily a relationship between a high turnover rate and the performance of the Trust.

# **Past Performance**

In accordance with National Instrument 81-106, performance data will be shown after the Trust has been in operation for at least 12 consecutive months.

# **Summary of Investment Portfolio** As of March 31, 2010

	Ounces	Average Cost \$	Fair Value \$	% of Net Assets %
Physical gold bullion Cash and Cash	362,838	411,422,605	403,929,152	97.9
Equivalents			13,583,071	3.3
Other Net Liabilities			(5,121,529)	(1.2)
Total Net Assets			412,390,694	100.0

This summary of investment portfolio may change due to the ongoing portfolio transactions of the Trust.