

New Gold Inc. /FI
Form 40-F
March 29, 2019

U.S. SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 40-F

☐ Registration statement pursuant to Section 12 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

or

☒ Annual report pursuant to Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2018

Commission File Number 001-31722

New Gold Inc.

(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)

British Columbia

(Province or other jurisdiction of
incorporation or organization)

1000

(Primary Standard Industrial
Classification Code Number)

Not Applicable

(I.R.S. Employer

Identification Number)

Suite 3510 Brookfield Place, 181 Bay Street

Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5J 2T3

(416) 324-6000

(Address and telephone number of Registrant's principal executive offices)

CT Corporation System

28 Liberty Street, New York, NY 10005

(212) 894-8940

(Name, address (including zip code) and telephone number (including area code) of agent for service in the United States)

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

<u>Title of Each Class:</u>	<u>Name of Each Exchange On Which Registered:</u>
Common Shares, no par value	NYSE American

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act: **None**

Securities for which there is a reporting obligation pursuant to Section 15(d) of the Act: **None**

For annual reports, indicate by check mark the information filed with this form:

☒ Annual Information Form

☐ Audited Annual Financial Statements

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:

At **December 31, 2018**, the Registrant had outstanding 579,115,291 common shares without par value.

Indicate by check mark whether the Registrant: (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act 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 every Interactive Data File required to be submitted 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 such files). x Yes No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is an emerging growth company as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

Emerging growth company

If an emerging growth company that prepares its financial statements in accordance with U.S. GAAP, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act.

DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE

The Annual Information Form (“AIF”) of New Gold Inc. (the “Registrant”, “New Gold” or the “Company”) for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2018 is filed as Exhibit 1 to this annual report on Form 40-F.

The audited consolidated financial statements of the Company for the years ended December 31, 2018 and 2017, including the related report of independent registered public accounting firm, are filed as Exhibit 2 to this annual report on Form 40-F.

The Company’s management’s discussion and analysis (“MD&A”) for the year ended December 31, 2018 is filed as Exhibit 3 to this annual report on Form 40-F.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Company is a Canadian issuer eligible to file its annual report pursuant to Section 13 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the “Exchange Act”), on Form 40-F. The Company is a “foreign private issuer” as defined in Rule 3b-4 under the Exchange Act. Accordingly, the Company’s equity securities are exempt from Sections 14(a), 14(b), 14(c), 14(f) and 16 of the Exchange Act pursuant to Rule 3a12-3 under the Exchange Act.

The Company is permitted, under a multi-jurisdictional disclosure system adopted by the United States, to prepare the documents incorporated by reference in this annual report on Form 40-F in accordance with Canadian disclosure requirements, which are different from those of the United States.

Information concerning the properties and operations of New Gold has been prepared in accordance with Canadian standards under applicable Canadian securities laws and may not be comparable to similar information for United States companies. The terms “Mineral Reserve”, “proven Mineral Reserve” and “probable Mineral Reserve” are Canadian mining terms defined in accordance with Canadian National Instrument 43-101 — Standards of Disclosure for Mineral Projects (“NI 43-101”) and the Canadian Institute of Mining, Metallurgy and Petroleum (the “CIM”) — CIM Definition Standards on Mineral Resources and Mineral Reserves, adopted by the CIM Council, as amended. These definitions differ from the definitions in Industry Guide 7 (“SEC Industry Guide 7”) under the U.S. Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the “U.S. Securities Act”). Under SEC Industry Guide 7 standards, mineralization may not be classified as a “reserve” unless the determination has been made that the mineralization could be economically and legally produced or extracted at the time the reserve determination is made. Also, under SEC Industry Guide 7 standards, a “final” or

“bankable” feasibility study is required to report reserves, the three-year historical average price is used in any reserve or cash flow analysis to designate reserves and the primary environmental analysis or report must be filed with the appropriate governmental authority.

In addition, the terms “Mineral Resource”, “measured Mineral Resource”, “indicated Mineral Resource” and “inferred Mineral Resource” are defined in and required to be disclosed by NI 43-101; however, these terms are not defined terms under SEC Industry Guide 7 and are normally not permitted to be used in reports and registration statements filed with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission (the “SEC”). Investors are cautioned not to assume that any part or all of the mineral deposits in these categories will ever be converted into reserves. “Inferred Mineral Resources” have a great amount of uncertainty as to their existence and as to their economic and legal feasibility. It cannot be assumed that all or any part of an inferred Mineral Resource will ever be upgraded to a higher category. Under Canadian rules, estimates of inferred Mineral Resources may not form the basis of feasibility or pre-feasibility studies, except in rare cases. Investors are cautioned not to assume that all or any part of an inferred Mineral Resource exists or is economically or legally mineable. Mineral resources that are not mineral reserves do not have demonstrated economic viability. Disclosure of “contained ounces” in a resource is permitted disclosure under Canadian regulations; however, the SEC Industry Guide 7 normally only permits issuers to report mineralization that does not constitute “reserves” by SEC Industry Guide 7 standards as in place tonnage and grade without reference to unit measures.

Accordingly, information contained in this annual report on Form 40-F describes the Company's mineral deposits may not be comparable to similar information made public by United States companies subject to reporting and disclosure requirements under United States federal securities laws and the rules and regulations thereunder.

Unless otherwise indicated, all dollar amounts are reported in U.S. dollars.

FORWARD LOOKING STATEMENTS

Certain information contained in this annual report on Form 40-F, including any information relating to New Gold's future financial or operating performance are "forward looking". All statements in this annual report on Form 40-F, other than statements of historical fact, which address events, results, outcomes or developments that New Gold expects to occur are "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of the U.S. Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 and applicable Canadian Securities laws. Forward-looking statements are statements that are not historical facts and are generally, but not always, identified by the use of forward-looking terminology such as "plans", "expects", "is expected", "budget", "scheduled", "targeted", "estimates", "forecasts", "intends", "anticipates", "projects", "potential" or variations of such words and phrases or statements that certain actions, events or results "may", "could", "would", "should", "might" or "will be taken", "occur" or "be achieved" or the negative connotation of such terms. Forward-looking statements in this annual report on Form 40-F include those under the headings "General Developments of the Business", "Description of the Business" and "Mineral Properties" and include, among others, statements with respect to: guidance for production, operating expenses per gold ounce sold, total cash costs, all-in sustaining costs and capital costs, and the factors contributing to those expected results, as well as expected capital expenditures; mine life; Mineral Reserve and Mineral Resource estimates; grades expected to be mined at the Company's operations; the expected production, costs, economics and operating parameters of Blackwater and New Afton C-zone; planned activities for 2019 and beyond at the Company's operations and projects, as well as planned exploration activities; and targeted timing for permits.

All forward-looking statements in this annual report on Form 40-F are based on the opinions and estimates of management as of the date such statements are made and are subject to important risk factors and uncertainties, many of which are beyond New Gold's ability to control or predict. Certain material assumptions regarding such forward-looking statements are discussed in this annual report on Form 40-F, New Gold's latest annual MD&A, AIF and its Technical Reports filed on SEDAR at www.sedar.com and at www.sec.gov. In addition to, and subject to, such assumptions discussed in more detail elsewhere, the forward-looking statements in this annual report on Form 40-F are also subject to the following assumptions: (1) there being no significant disruptions affecting New Gold's operations; (2) political and legal developments in jurisdictions where New Gold operates, or may in the future operate, being consistent with New Gold's current expectations; (3) the accuracy of New Gold's current Mineral Reserve and Mineral Resource estimates; (4) the exchange rate between the Canadian dollar, U.S. dollar and, to a lesser extent, the Mexican peso being approximately consistent with current levels; (5) prices for diesel, natural gas, fuel oil, electricity and other key supplies being approximately consistent with current levels; (6) equipment, labour and material costs increasing on a basis consistent with New Gold's current expectations; (7) arrangements with First Nations and other indigenous groups in respect of Rainy River and Blackwater being consistent with New Gold's current expectations; (8) all required permits, licenses and authorizations being obtained from the relevant governments and other relevant stakeholders within the expected timelines; (9) the results of the feasibility studies for

the New Afton C-zone and Blackwater being realized; (10) and in the case of production, cost and expenditure outlooks at operating mines for 2019, commodity prices and exchange rates being consistent with those estimated for the purposes of 2019 guidance.

Forward-looking statements are necessarily based on estimates and assumptions that are inherently subject to known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that may cause actual results, level of activity, performance or achievements to be materially different from those expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. Such factors include, without limitation: significant capital requirements and the availability and management of capital resources; additional funding requirements; price volatility in the spot and forward markets for metals and other commodities; fluctuations in the international currency markets and in the rates of exchange of the currencies of Canada, the United States and, to a lesser extent, Mexico; discrepancies between actual and estimated production, between actual and estimated Mineral Reserves and Mineral Resources and between actual and estimated metallurgical recoveries; changes in national and local government legislation in the countries in which New Gold does or may in the future carry on business; taxation; controls, regulations and political or economic developments in the countries in which New Gold does or may in the future carry on business; the speculative nature of mineral exploration and development, including the risks of obtaining and maintaining the validity and enforceability of the necessary licenses and permits and complying with the permitting requirements of each jurisdiction in which New Gold operates, including, but not limited to: in Canada, obtaining the necessary permits for the New Afton C-zone and Blackwater Projects; the uncertainties inherent to current and future legal challenges to which New Gold is or may become a party; diminishing quantities or grades of Mineral Reserves and Mineral Resources; competition; loss of key employees; rising costs of labour, supplies, fuel and equipment; actual results of current exploration or reclamation activities; uncertainties inherent to mining economic studies including the feasibility studies for the New Afton C-zone and Blackwater Projects; the uncertainty with respect to prevailing market conditions necessary for a positive development or construction decision for the Blackwater Project; changes in project parameters as plans continue to be refined; accidents; labour disputes; defective title to mineral claims or property or contests over claims to mineral properties; unexpected delays and costs inherent to consulting and accommodating rights of First Nations and other indigenous groups; uncertainties and unanticipated delays associated with obtaining and maintaining necessary licenses, permits and authorizations, complying with permitting requirements, and receiving the environmental assessment approval for the Blackwater Project. In addition, there are risks and hazards associated with the business of mineral exploration, development and mining, including environmental events and hazards, industrial accidents, unusual or unexpected formations, pressures, cave-ins, flooding and gold bullion losses (and, in each case, the risk of inadequate insurance or inability to obtain insurance to cover these risks) as well as “Risk Factors” included or incorporated in this annual report on Form 40-F. Forward-looking statements are not guarantees of future performance, and actual results and future events could materially differ from those anticipated in such statements. All the forward-looking statements included or incorporated in this annual report on Form 40-F are qualified by these cautionary statements. New Gold expressly disclaims any intention or obligation to update or revise any forward-looking statements whether as a result of new information, events or otherwise, except in accordance with applicable securities laws.

DISCLOSURE CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES

The Company’s President and Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer have evaluated the effectiveness of the Company’s disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) under the Exchange Act) as of December 31, 2018. Based on the evaluation, the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer concluded that, as of December 31, 2018 the Company’s disclosure controls and procedures were effective to provide assurance that the information required to be disclosed by the Company in reports it files or submits under the Exchange Act, is recorded, processed, summarized and reported on a timely basis in accordance with applicable time

periods specified by the Commission rules and forms and to ensure that information required to be disclosed by the Company in reports that it files or submits under the Exchange Act is accumulated and communicated to the Company's management, including its principal executive and financial officers, or persons performing similar functions, as appropriate, to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure.

MANAGEMENT'S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING

The Company's management, including the President and Chief Executive Officer and the Chief Financial Officer, is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting. Internal control over financial reporting is defined in Rule 13a-15(f) and Rule 15d-15(f) promulgated under the Exchange Act as a process designed by, or under the supervision of, a company's principal executive and principal financial officers and effected by the company's board of directors, management and other personnel, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. The Company's internal control over financial reporting includes those policies and procedures that:

- pertain to the maintenance of records that, in reasonable detail, accurately and fairly reflect the transactions and dispositions of the assets of the Company;

- provide reasonable assurance that transactions are recorded as necessary to permit preparation of financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, and that receipts and expenditures of the Company are being made only in accordance with authorizations of management and directors of the Company; and

- provide reasonable assurance regarding prevention or timely detection of unauthorized acquisition, use or disposition of the Company's assets that could have a material effect on the financial statements.

The Company's management, under the supervision of the President and Chief Executive Officer and the Chief Financial Officer, assessed the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting as defined in Rule 13a-15(f) and Rule 15d-15(f) under the Exchange Act as of December 31, 2018. In making this assessment, it used the criteria set forth in the Internal Control – Integrated Framework (2013) issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO). Based on this assessment, management has concluded that, as of December 31, 2018, the Company's internal control over financial reporting is effective based on those criteria. There are no material weaknesses that have been identified by management.

The effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2018 has been audited by Deloitte LLP, the Company's independent registered public accounting firm. As stated in their report immediately preceding the Company's audited consolidated financial statements for the years ended December 31, 2018 and 2017, filed as Exhibit 2 to this annual report on Form 40-F, Deloitte LLP expressed an unqualified opinion on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting.

ATTESTATION REPORT OF THE REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

The report immediately precedes the Company's audited consolidated financial statements for the years ended December 31, 2018 and 2017, which are filed as Exhibit 2 to this annual report on Form 40-F.

CHANGES IN INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING

During the fiscal year ended December 31, 2018, there were no changes in the Company's internal control over financial reporting that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, the Company's internal control over financial reporting.

LIMITATIONS ON DISCLOSURE CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES AND INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING

The Company's management, including the President and Chief Executive Officer and the Chief Financial Officer, believe that any disclosure controls and procedures or internal control over financial reporting, no matter how well conceived and operated, can provide only reasonable, not absolute, assurance that the objectives of the control system are met. Further, the design of a control system must reflect the fact that there are resource constraints, and the benefits of controls must be considered relative to their costs. Because of the inherent limitations in all control systems, they cannot provide absolute assurance that all control issues and instances of fraud, if any, within the Company have been prevented or detected. These inherent limitations include the realities that judgments in decision making can be faulty and breakdowns can occur because of simple error or mistake. Additionally, controls can be circumvented by the individual acts of some persons, by collusion of two or more people, or by unauthorized override control. The design of any system of controls also is based in part upon certain assumptions about the likelihood of future events, and there can be no assurance that any design will succeed in achieving its stated goals under all potential future conditions. Accordingly, because of the inherent limitations in a cost effective control system, misstatements due to error or fraud may occur and not be detected.

AUDIT COMMITTEE IDENTIFICATION AND FINANCIAL EXPERT

The Company has an Audit Committee established by its board of directors for the purpose of overseeing the accounting and financial reporting processes of the Company and audits of the financial statements of the Company, in accordance with Section 3(a)(58)(A) of the Exchange Act. The members of the Audit Committee are Marilyn Schonberner (Chair), James Gowans and Margaret Mulligan. Each of Ms. Schonberner, Mr. Gowans and Ms. Mulligan is "independent" as that term is defined under the rules of the NYSE American.

The Board has determined that Marilyn Schonberner and Margaret Mulligan are each an "Audit Committee Financial Expert" as that term is defined under Section 407 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 and paragraph (8) of General Instruction B of Form 40-F.

PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTANT FEES AND SERVICES

The information provided under the headings "Pre-Approval Policies and Procedures" page 62 and "External Auditor Service Fees (by category)" page 62 contained in the AIF is incorporated by reference.

CODE OF ETHICS

In connection with a comprehensive review of the Company's corporate governance policies, on August 13, 2008, the Board of Directors of the Company (the "Board") approved the adoption of a code of business conduct and ethics ("Code"). The Code has been reviewed and updated annually since its adoption, with the most recent review by the Board on December 7, 2018. The Code is applicable to all directors, officers and employees of the Company, including its President and Chief Executive Officer, Chief Financial Officer and principal accounting officer. The Code was adopted to, among other things, update and clarify the duties, obligations and responsibilities that are imposed upon the persons subject to its provisions. A copy of the amended Code is filed as Exhibit 4 to this annual report on Form 40-F. Additionally, on July 8, 2008, the Board approved the adoption of a Whistleblower Policy ("Whistleblower Policy"). The Whistleblower Policy has been reviewed and ratified or updated annually since its adoption, with the most recent review by the Board on December 7, 2018. The Whistleblower Policy outlines the principles and commitments that the Company has made with respect to the treatment of complaints by its personnel. Copies of the Code and the Whistleblower Policy are available on the Company's website at www.newgold.com.

There were no waivers of the Code in the past fiscal year.

OFF-BALANCE SHEET ARRANGEMENTS

The Company has no off-balance sheet arrangements that have, or are reasonably likely to have, a current or future material effect on the Company's financial condition, changes in financial condition, revenues or expenses, results of operations, liquidity, capital expenditures or capital resources.

TABULAR DISCLOSURE OF CONTRACTUAL OBLIGATIONS

U.S. dollars in million

	Payments due by period				
	Total	Less than 1 year	1 - 3 years	4 - 5 years	After 5 years
Contractual obligations					
Long-term debt	\$ 800	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 500.0	\$ 300.0
Interest payable on long-term debt	\$ 242.9	\$ 50.3	\$ 100.8	\$ 65.5	\$ 26.3
Finance lease obligations	\$ 1.5	\$ 1.0	\$ 0.3	\$ 0.2	\$ -
Operating lease commitments	\$ 18.4	\$ 8.3	\$ 6.3	\$ 3.8	\$ -
Capital expenditure commitments	\$ 27.2	\$ 26.9	\$ 0.2	\$ 0.1	\$ -
Reclamation and closure cost obligations	\$ 116.6	\$ 6.6	\$ 21.8	\$ 9.8	\$ 78.4
Gold stream obligation	\$ 267.5	\$ 19.2	\$ 43.5	\$ 55.2	\$ 149.6
Total contractual obligations	\$ 1,474.1	\$ 112.3	\$ 172.9	\$ 634.6	\$ 554.3

MINE SAFETY DISCLOSURE

On October 30, 2018 the Company sold the Mesquite mine in southern California, which it indirectly held through its former subsidiary Western Mesquite Mines, Inc., to Equinox Gold Corp. The information concerning mine safety violations and other regulatory matters required by Section 1503(a) of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act and Item 16 of General Instruction B to Form 40-F- in respect of the Mesquite Mine for the period in which it was owned by the Company is filed as Exhibit 5 to this annual report on Form 40-F.

NYSE AMERICAN CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

The Company's common shares are listed on the NYSE American. Section 110 of the NYSE American company guide permits NYSE American to consider the laws, customs and practices of foreign issuers in relaxing certain NYSE American listing criteria, and to grant exemptions from NYSE American listing criteria based on these considerations. A company seeking relief under these provisions is required to provide written certification from independent local counsel that the non-complying practice is not prohibited by home country law. A description of the significant ways in which the Company's governance practices differ from those followed by domestic companies pursuant to NYSE American standards is contained on the Company's website at www.newgold.com.

UNDERTAKINGS

The Company undertakes to make available, in person or by telephone, representatives to respond to inquiries made by the Commission staff, and to furnish promptly, when requested to do so by the Commission staff, information relating to: the securities registered pursuant to Form 40-F; the securities in relation to which the obligation to file an annual report on Form 40-F arises; or transactions in said securities.

CONSENT TO SERVICE OF PROCESS

The Company has filed with the Commission a written consent to service of process and power of attorney on Form F-X and amendments thereto. Any change to the name or address of the Company's agent for service shall be communicated promptly to the Commission by amendment to the Form F-X referencing the file number of the Company.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Exchange Act, the Registrant certifies that it meets all of the requirements for filing on Form 40-F and has duly caused this annual report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereto duly authorized.

NEW GOLD INC.

By: /s/ Robert Chausse
Name: Robert Chausse
Executive Vice
Title: President and Chief
Financial Officer

Date: March 29, 2019

EXHIBIT INDEX

The following documents are being filed with the Commission as exhibits to this annual report on Form 40-F.

Exhibit Description

1. Annual Information Form for the year ended December 31, 2018
2. Audited Consolidated Financial Statements for the years ended December 31, 2018 and 2017, including the report of independent registered public accounting firm with respect thereto
3. Management's Discussion and Analysis for the year ended December 31, 2018
4. New Gold's Code of Business Conduct and Ethics, as approved by the Company's board of directors on December 7, 2018
5. Report on Mine Safety as required by section 13 of the Exchange Act
6. Certification of President and Chief Executive Officer as Required by Rule 13a-14(a) under the Exchange Act
7. Certification of Chief Financial Officer as Required by Rule 13a-14(a) under the Exchange Act
8. Certification of President and Chief Executive Officer Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as Adopted Pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002
9. Certification of Chief Financial Officer Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as Adopted Pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002
10. Consent of Deloitte LLP
11. Consent of Mark Petersen
12. Consent of Nicholas Kwong
13. Consent of Eric Vinet
101. Interactive data file