Benton's Prospecting and Trenching Program Returns High-Grade Copper and Gold Results at the South Pond Zone within the Great Burnt Project

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Thunder Bay, November 17, 2023 - <u>Benton Resources Inc.</u> (TSXV: BEX) ("Benton" or the "Company") is pleased to announce that its first pass trenching and prospecting program has returned multiple high-grade copper and gold zones at surface up to 14km north from the Great Burnt Main Zone, all part of the Company's recently acquired Great Burnt Copper-Gold Project in Newfoundland (the "Project").

Multiple surface grab samples located on or near airborne electromagnetic (AEM) conductors have outlined three significant mineralized areas near the north end of the Project, approximately 14km north of the main Great Burnt Main Zone. The surface zones were uncovered by new trenching in the vicinity of 1970's drilling that previously identified copper mineralization. Highlights of selective individual grab samples from three zones were as follows:

- Zone 1 graded up to 5.51% copper, 5.03g/t gold, 14.6g/t silver and 0.076% cobalt and 5.67% copper, 2.65g/t gold, 12.6g/t silver and 0.063% cobalt.
- Zone 2, approximately 40m southeast in the same trench, graded 2.74% copper, 6.34g/t gold, 10.4g/t silver and 0.02% cobalt and 4.86% copper, 1.64g/t gold, 11.0g/t silver and 0.030% cobalt.
- Zone 3, approximately 35m south, graded 1.64% copper, 5.92g/t gold, 2.0g/t silver and 0.023% cobalt.

Several other samples have identified highly anomalous copper zones along a 4.0km trend with grades up to 1.26% copper.

A table of the significant results (see Table 1) from the three exposed zones is shown below along with a map showing sample locations (see Figure 1 and Figure 2). The Company will proceed to enlarge the exposures of selected mineralized zones to permit geological mapping and channel sampling as much as possible as weather permits.

The Company has also increased its ongoing drill program from 4,000m to a minimum of 5,000m and continues its extensive compilation of historical data, ongoing prospecting and soil geochemical sampling to the north of the Great Burnt Main Zone.

Table 1: Samples from Prospecting/Trenching

Sample # Easting	Northing	Target	Zone Type	Cu (%) Au (g/t) Ag (g/t) Co (%)
138772 563709.04	5363900.388	3 Trench 4	Zone 1 outcrop	2.45	0.05	2.90	0.008
138773 563709.67	1 5363903.619	Trench 4	Zone 1 outcrop	0.3	0.00	0.50	0.012
138774 563715.318	35363901.459	Trench 4	Zone 1 outcrop	0.1	0.01	<0.2	0.002
138775 563714.79	5363902.343	3 Trench 4	Zone 1 outcrop	0.19	0.02	0.30	0.006
138776 563716.098	35363897.91	1 Trench 4	Zone 1 outcrop	2.44	2.82	6.70	0.029
138777 563716.393	35363898.02	5 Trench 4	Zone 1 outcrop	0.69	0.62	1.60	0.015
138778 563716.245	5363898.024	4 Trench 4	Zone 1 outcrop	1.75	0.41	3.30	0.013
138779 563721.167	7 5363894.522	2 Trench 4	Zone 1 outcrop	2.39	1.35	5.50	0.016
138780 563721.899	5363895.197	7 Trench 4	Zone 1 outcrop	1.96	0.69	5.60	0.013
138781 563724.15	5363892.443	3 Trench 4	Zone 1 outcrop	5.51	5.03	14.60	0.076
138782 563724.82	5363892.117	7 Trench 4	Zone 1 outcrop	4.93	2.20	10.40	0.032

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138783	563724.668	5363892.449	Trench 4	Zone 1 outcrop	5.67	2.65	12.60	0.063
138784	563725.347	5363891.234	Trench 4	Zone 1 outcrop	5.81	1.48	12.20	0.031
138785	563725.823	5363888.46	Trench 4	Zone 1 outcrop	1.46	0.64	3.50	0.015
138700	563760.33	5363833.265	Trench 4	Zone 2 outcrop	0.18	0.05	< 0.2	0.012
138752	563746.195	5363859.897	Prospecting	Zone 2 sub-crop	2.74	6.34	10.40	0.016
138753	563744.921	5363861.328	Prospecting	Zone 2 sub-crop	4.86	1.64	11.00	0.030
138787	563747.988	5363851.802	Trench 4	Zone 2 outcrop	0.11	0.35	< 0.2	0.010
138788	563747.588	5363854.466	Trench 4	Zone 2 outcrop	0.17	1.71	< 0.2	0.010
138789	563749.604	5363852.821	Trench 4	Zone 2 outcrop	0.19	0.18	< 0.2	0.011
138794	563755.845	5363843.887	Trench 4	Zone 2 outcrop	0.17	1.35	0.80	0.017
138796	563758.655	5363837.471	Trench 4	Zone 2 outcrop	0.12	2.10	0.20	0.011
138750	563716.379	5363859.784	Prospecting	Zone 3 angular floa	t 1.64	5.92	2.00	0.023
138751	563716.97	5363859.902	Prospecting	Zone 3 angular floa	t 1.53	5.17	0.90	0.021
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Figure 1: Sample Location Map 1

To view an enhanced version of this graphic, please visit: https://images.newsfilecorp.com/files/3657/187818_cc372d2c3433d996_002full.jpg

Figure 2: Sample Location Map 2 (Trench 4)

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Drilling from 2016 to 2023 at Great Burnt Copper-Gold Project

The Great Burnt Main Zone has an NI 43-101 compliant resource prepared in 2022 for Spruce Ridge Resources Ltd. by P&E Mining Consultants Inc. of 667,000 Tonnes (47.2 Mlb) Cu at 3.21% (indicated) and 482,000 Tonnes (25.0 Mlb) Cu at 2.35% (inferred), contained within mining lease 211(10210M). The Copper resource remains open to the south and at depth. Highlights of the previous drill programs and previously released results from the current program include:

- GB20-05: 27.20 m of 8.06% Cu, including 7.75 m of 16.88% Cu
 GB20-20: 22.75 m of 6.89% Cu, including 12.55 m of 10.59% Cu
- GB18-05: 20.94 m of 6.21% Cu, including 6.98 m of 10.71% Cu
- GB18-06: 9.97 m of 7.45% Cu, including 5.03 m of 11.42% Cu
- GB16-08: 7.50 m of 9.45% Cu, including 3.00 m of 19.30% Cu
- GB16-09: 5.75 m of 6.68% Cu, including 1.50 m of 11.70% Cu
- GB23-01: 3.25 m of 4.13% Cu and 4.30 m of 8.01% Cu (Benton 2023 drill hole)
- GB23-02: 13.0 m of 8.31% Cu including 3.0 m of 12.80% Cu (Benton 2023 drill hole)

Exploration at the South Pond Zone has identified potential for both copper and gold along several kilometers of strike. Highlights of the 2021 drill program include:

- SP21-01: 1.69g/t Au over 51.00 m, including 3.19g/t Au over 11.00 m, within 10 m of surface
- SP21-03: 2.36g/t Au over 15.00 m, including 11.33g/t Au over 1.00 m
- SP21-08: 1.75g/t Au over 21.20 m, including 2.82g/t Au over 10.20 m
- SP21-11: 1.34g/t Au over 17.60 m, including 2.48g/t Au over 4.20 m
- SP21-14: 2.06g/t Au over 21.00 m
- SP21-16: 1.72g/t Au over 10.00 m

Note: Widths quoted are core length, true widths are estimated at approximately 70% of core lengths

QP

Stephen House (P.Geo.), Vice President of Exploration for Benton Resources Inc., the 'Qualified Person' under National Instrument 43-101, has approved the scientific and technical disclosure in this news release

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About Benton Resources Inc.

Benton Resources is a well-financed mineral exploration company listed on the TSX Venture Exchange under the symbol BEX. Following a project generation business model, Benton has a diversified, highly prospective property portfolio of gold, silver, nickel, copper, platinum group elements and, most recently, lithium and cesium assets. In addition, it currently holds large equity positions in other mining companies that are advancing high-quality assets. Whenever possible, BEX retains net smelter return (NSR) royalties with potential long-term cash flow.

On behalf of the Board of Directors of <u>Benton Resources Inc.</u>, "Stephen Stares"
Stephen Stares, President

Parties interested in seeking more information about properties available for option can contact Mr. Stares at the number below.

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