

CanAlaska Uranium Ltd.

Toronto Stock Exchange (TSX): CVV

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NEWS RELEASE

Winter Drilling at West McArthur and Cree East Uranium Projects Hit Graphitic Target Zones and Strong Alteration Systems

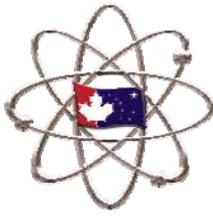
Vancouver, Canada, April 13th, 2012 - CanAlaska Uranium Ltd. (TSX – CVV) (“CanAlaska” or the “Company”) is pleased to announce a preliminary summary of drilling for its two winter drill programs in the Athabasca Basin. Drilling was undertaken at both the West McArthur and Cree East projects. The West McArthur Project is a 50/50 joint venture between the Company and MC Resources Canada Ltd., a subsidiary of Japan’s Mitsubishi Corporation. The Cree East Project is a 50/50 joint venture between the Company and a consortium of S. Korean companies, comprising Hanwha Corp., KEPCO, KORES and SK Networks,

Drill core samples are currently awaiting geochemical analyses. Crews are departing the field, and detailed data interpretation is due to commence. The two programs comprised over Cdn\$6 million in exploration expenditures with 12,434 metres of drilling.

West McArthur Project:

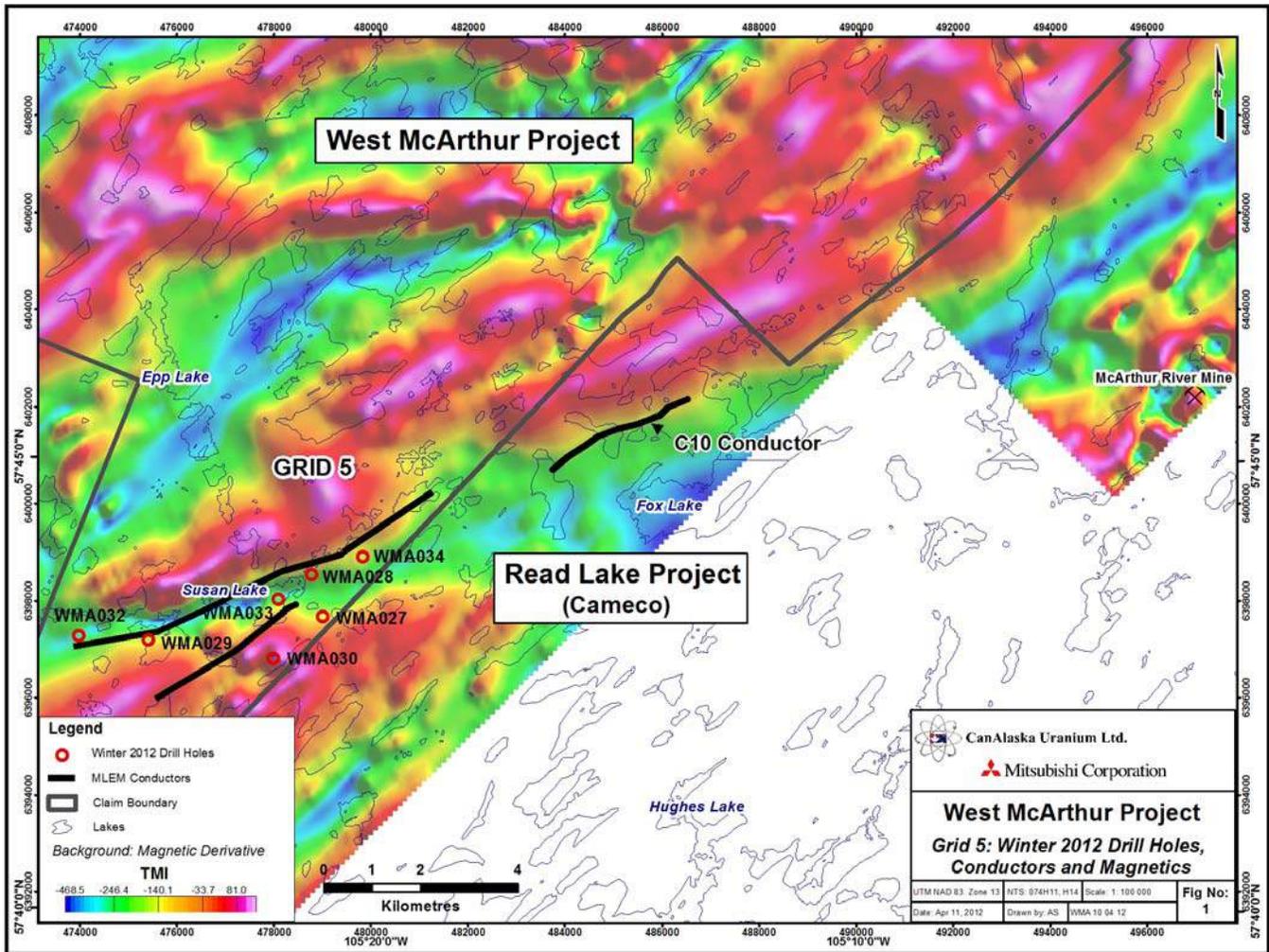
Seven diamond drill holes (WMA 028 to 034) were completed in February-March 2012, to test a series of individual zones where the resistivity lows were coincident with the EM conductors within the Grid 5 area. Total meterage drilled in the season was 6,422 metres, including one abandoned drill hole WMA031. The winter 2012 drill programme has demonstrated on Grid 5 the presence of requisite geological environment for unconformity uranium deposits. Significant faulting and fracturing are present in a number of drill holes, with individual radioactive spikes or elevated radioactivity in zones of hydrothermal alteration.

From drill core and geophysical data, Grid 5 basement lithologies have now been confirmed to consist of mostly semi-pelitic to psammitic assemblage of rock units, containing a central unit of graphitic pelites. Locally there is alteration typical of the geological environment favourable for uranium mineralization. Two of the drill holes showed pelitic basement assemblages with graphite units. The other five holes showed metasedimentary basement rocks composed of a mix of semi-pelites and psammites. Pegmatite and granite interlayers are present in all drill holes. Frequent fracture zones and major faults were intersected in drill holes WMA028, 032, 033, and 034. Drill hole WMA029 had a broad zone of intense fracturing at 617 to 633 metres. The basement rocks are deeply altered by hydrothermal action in drill holes WMA028, 033 and 034.



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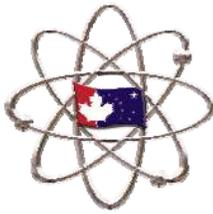
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In all drill holes which could be probed by borehole geophysics, there were indications that the drill hole unconformity intersection point was within 20 to 200 metres of the targeted conductive (graphitic) horizon. This close identification of the conductive target location nearby, either in front of, or behind, the drill intersection point is believed to be directly attributable to the greatly increased precision of geophysical targeting by the newly-developed **SQUID** (Superconducting Quantum Interfacing Device) receiver used during the 2011-2012 preparatory TDEM surveys.

Cree East Project:

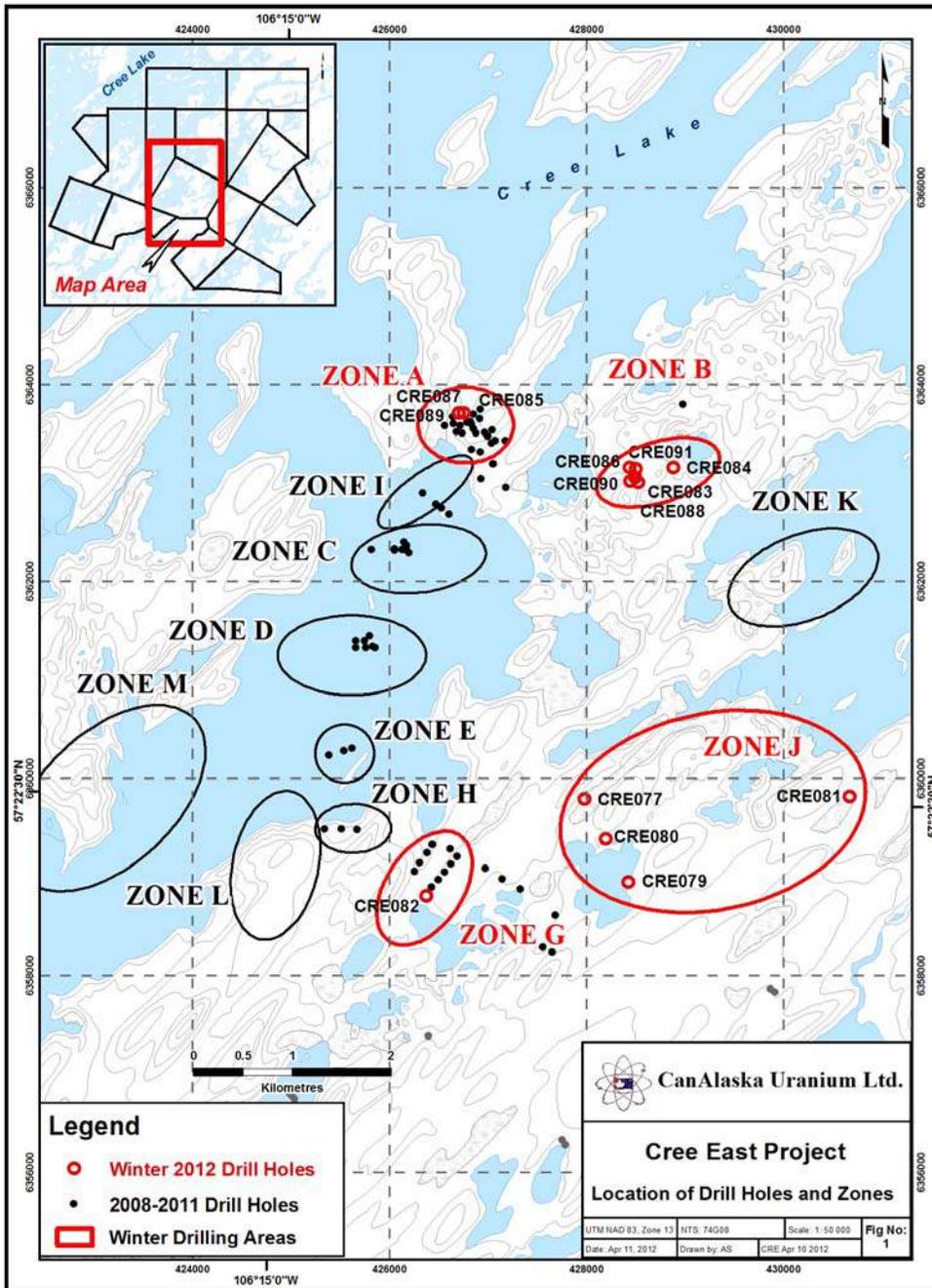
Fifteen diamond drill holes were attempted on the Cree East Project during late January, February and March 2012 with completed drilling of 6,012 metres. However, only ten drill holes reached their targeted depth in the basement. This was mostly due to extremely difficult drilling conditions related to intensely hydrothermally altered aureoles in the overlying Athabasca sandstone units within newly-targeted Zone B.



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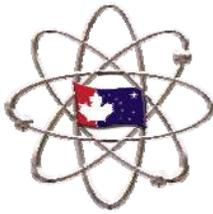
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The Zone B target became the priority drill target with the discovery, in the first drill hole, of a major hydrothermal system. In this drill hole the entire 400-metre sandstone column is heavily fractured, clay altered and friable. An additional five drill holes show a central area of at least 130 metres x 180 metres, and trending towards drill hole CRE084, which is 400 metres to the east. Drill hole CRE084 has only minor overlying sandstone alteration, but there is significant alteration in the basement within graphitic pelite units.



The last drill hole in Zone B, CRE091, was not able to be completed because of deteriorating rock and field operating conditions. The drill hole was targeting a zone of major basement offsets (at least 50 metres) in proximity of an EM basement conductor, with zones of clay alteration, desilicification and zones of rotated sandstone blocks in the sandstone. The hole was stopped at about 150 metres above the unconformity. The drill casing is in place and this hole can be completed during the next drill season.

In Zone A, where previous drill holes had indicated major basement faults, clay alteration and hydrothermal activity, drill hole CRE085 confirmed further significant faulting near drill hole CRE073, and blocks of banded iron formation within the overlying sandstone, but did not penetrate any major uranium mineralization.



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Poor field conditions prevailing at the commencement of the winter programme required that the main program was reversed in order, and two new areas were drilled initially, while ice roads and sites were being accessed. In Zone J, four drill holes were completed and in Zone G, one hole was completed. In Zone J, the targeted graphitic conductor was intercepted with the first drill hole. This successful intersection of the target is attributed to the higher precision of the SQUID geophysical surveys which were carried out prior to the drill program. Graphitic conductors and some sandstone alteration were intersected in Zones J and G, and further follow-up drilling will be required to understand the target geology.

Drill core samples from both projects are in transit to the laboratory for multi-element analyses to confirm the uranium content of intersections showing occasional radioactive spikes, or high background radioactivity.

Dr. Karl Schimann, CanAlaska's V.P. - Exploration commented: "The field crews completed the winter drill programs under difficult ground and weather conditions. These were overshadowed by the significant increase in targeting success, and geological information received. The alteration systems, which surround the typical Athabasca uranium deposits, show distinct chemical patterns and clay alteration. This winter's drill programs successfully localized targets in both projects for CanAlaska's continued exploration efforts for the discovery of a major unconformity uranium deposit."

Peter Dasler, M.Sc., P Geo. is the qualified technical person responsible for this news release.

About CanAlaska Uranium

CANALASKA URANIUM LTD. (CVV -- TSX, CVVUF -- OTCBB, DH7F -- Frankfurt) is undertaking uranium exploration in twenty one uranium projects in Canada's Athabasca Basin -- the "Saudi Arabia of Uranium". Since September 2004, the Company has aggressively acquired one of the largest land positions in the region, comprising over 2,500,000 acres (10,117 sq. km or 3,906 sq. miles). To-date, CanAlaska has expended over Cdn\$85 million exploring its properties and has delineated multiple uranium targets.

For more information, visit www.canalaska.com

On behalf of the Board of Directors

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