

First Cobalt Begins Drilling in Cobalt North

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TORONTO, Feb. 21, 2018 /CNW/ - [First Cobalt Corp.](#) (TSX-V: FCC, ASX: FCC, OTCQB: FTSSF) (the "Company") is pleased to announce it has begun drilling in Cobalt North, near the historic Drummond, Kerr and Conisil mines. This new program follows the completion of a maiden drill program in Cobalt South that identified three distinct mineralized areas that will require follow-up.

Highlights

- Three distinct mineralized areas identified in Cobalt South to date: Woods Extension Zone, Keeley South Zone and Conisil Mine
- Initial Cobalt North drill program to consist of 16 holes for 3,500m to follow up on polymetallic mineralization found in Cobalt South grab samples that returned grades of up to 0.65% cobalt with 4,990 g/t silver and up to 1.79% copper with 56 g/t gold
- Drill hole targeting in Cobalt North guided by new 3D geological model based on extensive historic data compilation and regional field mapping

Trent Mell, President & Chief Executive Officer, commented:

"In our first drill campaign, we successfully identified three distinct cobalt mineralized zones in Cobalt South that warrant further exploration. As we focus on Cobalt North for the second leg of the winter drill campaign, we have combined a rich set of historical data with our own field work to build a 3D geological model. In Cobalt North, we have several opportunities to identify resources in different styles of mineralization that would not have been considered historically. We believe this program will increase our optionality for new cobalt resources in the Camp."

Following a successful maiden drill program in Cobalt South, First Cobalt has initiated drilling in Cobalt North, with the focus on an area near the Drummond, Kerr and Conisil mines. Historic records indicate these three mines produced nearly one million tonnes of cobalt and over 36 million ounces of silver in an era when silver was the primary focus.

Drummond, Kerr and Conisil Program

The initial drill program in Cobalt North will consist of 16 drill holes for a total of 3,500 metres designed to test trends in mineralization found in historic drilling and major structures interpreted to be associated with mineralization (Figure 1). Disseminated polymetallic cobalt-silver-copper-zinc-lead mineralization has been recognized in samples from underground material in muckpiles from the Drummond mine showing a wide range of styles occur in this area (October 26, 2017 press release).

Holes were targeted using a new 3D geological model prepared with the support of InnovExplo of Val d'Or, Quebec. The model incorporates 2017 regional field mapping information and extensive historic data from more than 100km² and to a depth of 1,000m, integrating information from twelve historic mines in the area and from government and unpublished surface geology maps. Structures controlling known silver-cobalt-nickel mineralization throughout the area are reflected in the model.

The drill program will test structural interpretation of faults and folds considered to be associated with mineralization. At the Frontier and Bellelles mines in Cobalt South, breccia zones develop along the major structures hosting cobalt-silver mineralization. Broad zones of disseminated and fracture-controlled cobalt-nickel-silver-copper mineralization are developed along these structures as well.

Drilling will also test mineralized trends based on historic drill holes with calcite veins containing silver mineralization to cobalt, which was not typically assayed with silver. Depth extensions to mineralization will also be tested where appropriate.

Cobalt South Drill Results

Results from the 2017 drill program in Cobalt South successfully identified three target areas: the Woods Extension Zone, the Keeley South Zone and the Bellellen Mine (Figure 2). The program focused on a two kilometre strike length of the Keeley-Frontier vein system and was designed to test the wallrocks hosting silver-rich mineralization as well as areas known to be cobalt-rich. Holes were drilled from 30m to 300m deep to establish variable vein orientations and to determine the Co-Ni-Ag grades in the host rocks to the known Ag-Co calcite veins.

(1) Woods Extension Zone

The Woods Extension Zone was identified from assay results at the northern extent of the Frontier mine. Assays from a hole near the historic Frontier mine drilled in 2017 have now been received. Early assay results from the Frontier mine include the intersection of 0.83% Co and 30 g/t Ag over 0.48 metres (November 2, 2017), which was the first indication of a possible extension of the Woods Vein system.

Most cobalt-rich veins intersected demonstrate that mineralization extends outside of the silver-bearing veins. A new cobalt vein was found between the Woods and Watson veins, grading 0.57% Co and 1.40% Ni over 0.40m (January 10, 2018), suggesting a network may exist where faults and folds converge. The highest grade cobalt veins occur at the north end of the Frontier mine, specifically along the Watson Vein.

(2) Keeley South Zone

Broad zones of disseminated silver and cobalt in altered mafic volcanic rocks were found near the Keeley Mine confirming the vein-style of mineralization is present over significant widths and may be found where vein networks converge. Over 70 metres of anomalous cobalt grading 0.043% Co as disseminated mineralization was identified in drill hole KF-WV-0013 in the southern portion of the historic Keeley mine, starting 15 metres from surface. Drilling in the Keeley South Zone intercepted cobalt veins including the Woods Vein as well as two additional cobalt intercepts, the KeeleyCo#1 vein and the KeeleyCo#2 vein, indicating that several veins exist in this area. Assays included 15.7m of 0.12% Co, including 6.2m at 0.21% Co and 0.68% Co over 0.34m in the Woods Vein and 1.15% Co over 0.42m in the KeeleyCo#1 vein and 0.60% Co over 0.38m in the KeeleyCo#2 vein (December 2017).

Limited workings were developed into the KeeleyCo#1 and KeeleyCo#2 veins historically for test mining and it is believed these were abandoned due to the low silver, high cobalt nature of the veins. The grades in these new cobalt veins are consistent with other known veins in Cobalt South such as Haileybury and Frontier 1.

(3) Bellellen Mine

Drilling at the Bellellen Mine began in January 2018 and the program was designed to confirm the presence of cobalt-nickel mineralization away from historic mining and to identify the distribution of both vein-style and disseminated-style mineralization previously sampled from underground material. Drill holes targeted the north-south trending Bellellen Vein and the north-south trending Frontier 2 Vein.

Initial assays from this program returned 0.78% Co and 0.83% Ni over 2.0m, including 1.1m of 1.35% Co and 1.47% Ni over 0.34m in the Bellellen Vein system that extends for approximately 300 metres of strike length (February 13, 2018 press release). Several veins and disseminated zones of mineralization were also intersected.

Qualified and Competent Person Statement

Dr. Frank Santaguida, P.Geo., is the Qualified Person as defined by National Instrument 43-101 who has reviewed and approved the contents of this news release. Dr. Santaguida is also a Competent Person (as defined in the JORC Code, 2012 edition) and a practicing member of the Association of Professional Geologists of Ontario (being a 'Recognised Professional Organization' for the purposes of the ASX Listing Rules). Dr. Santaguida is employed on a full-time basis as Vice President, Exploration at First Cobalt. He has sufficient experience that is relevant to the activity being undertaken to qualify as a Competent Person as defined in the JORC Code.

About First Cobalt

First Cobalt is the largest land owner in the Cobalt Camp in Ontario, Canada. The Company controls over 10,000 hectares of land.

prospective land and 50 historic mines as well as a mill and the only permitted cobalt refinery in North America capable producing battery materials. First Cobalt began drilling in the Cobalt Camp in 2017 and seeks to build shareholder value through new discovery and growth opportunities.

On behalf of [First Cobalt Corp.](#)

Trent Mell
President & Chief Executive Officer

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