Aurania Finds a New Epithermal Target and Reports on Soil Sample Results From Crunchy Hill

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TORONTO, April 26, 2018 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- Aurania Resources Ltd. (TSX-V:ARU) (“Aurania” or the “Company”) is pleased to report that reconnaissance exploration crews have found silica blocks indicative of an entirely new epithermal system, the “Charip” target, some 50 kilometres (30 miles) north of the Latorre area in its Lost Cities – Cutucu Project (the “Project”) in southeastern Ecuador. In addition, the Company has received soil geochemistry results that refine the Crunchy Hill target and move it a step closer to drill-testing.

a. Airborne magnetic data from the Charip target area after reduction to the pole processing. Areas of stro magnetism are shown in warm colours and weak magnetism in cool colours. b. Finely banded chalcedoni silica with rust-coloured oxidized iron sulphides from the Charip target area.

Gridded soil geochemical values for silver, naturally-occurring arsenic, antimony, selenium and mercury, as well as molybdenum, zinc and manganese.

Aurania’s Chairman and CEO, Dr. Keith Barron commented, “We were convinced from the outset, that in addition to gold deposits associated with the two “lost cities”, the Cutucu mountain range would reveal multiple additional gold and copper targets. Our exploration results are confirming this through the identification of a completely new area which is totally distinct from the cluster of five targets that comprise the Latorre area and is entirely separate from the Awacha porphyry copper target. In addition, analytical results of soil samples taken from Crunchy Hill define a 400-metre-long target and our teams have recently found vuggy silica – a known indicator of epithermal gold-silver systems – throughout a one-kilometre-long extension of the Crunchy Hill system.”

Charip Target
Chalcedonic silica blocks, with textures typical of modern-day geyser platforms, and a feature of the upper parts of epithermal mineralized systems, have been found by the Company’s reconnaissance exploration teams in an entirely new part of the Project. Data from the heliborne geophysical survey in that area define various strongly magnetic features that had been flagged as possible porphyry targets (Figure 1). The silica blocks were found in streams peripheral to the strongly magnetic features, which is encouraging since epithermal deposits commonly lie above deep-seated porphyries, or lateral to them. The Fruta del Norte (“FDN”) Deposit in Ecuador (being developed by Lundin Gold), for example, is located between two porphyries and a porphyry has been found beneath the giant Yanacocha gold deposit in northern Peru. Stream sediment samples from this new target area have been sent for analysis. Results will be reported as soon as they become available.

Soil Geochemistry from Crunchy Hill
Results have recently been received from soil samples that were collected over a regular grid on the recently discovered Crunchy Hill target area, identified by vuggy silica in outcrop (see press release dated April 6, 2018). The soil sample analytical results identify metal enrichment that effectively refines the size and shape of this target. Based on this, we estimate that the target could cover an area of 400 metres by 100-200 metres.

Chemical analyses show a core area in which silver, volatile elements (naturally-occurring arsenic, antimony, selenium and mercury) and base metals (molybdenum and zinc), are concentrated (Figure 2). The distribution of manganese, which occurs with the silver and volatile elements, provides an important clue as

to the type of mineralization that can be expected at Crunchy Hill: only intermediate sulphidation epithermal systems, of which FDN, is a prime example, have manganese in their core. The low gold values in the soil results are consistent with textures in the silica found at surface at Crunchy Hill that suggest that the very top of the epithermal system is exposed. The upper part of these systems is often completely barren in gold: for comparison, there was no gold at surface at FDN – where the gold-bearing zone was found at depth of 125 metres below surface.

Based on this success, the soil grid at Crunchy Hill has been extended to cover an area to the west in which vuggy silica, with cross-cutting veinlets of banded chalcedonic silica, have been discovered along a trend measuring approximately one kilometre in length.

Crunchy Hill is now one of the top targets for the initial scout-drilling program, planned for later this year. A program likely consisting of five bore holes, each of about 300 metres, would be based in part on these soil geochemistry results. However, intermediate sulphidation epithermal deposits are typically associated with abundant sulphides, which can be detected by induced polarization (“IP”) geophysical surveying. As a result, the Company is considering focused IP surveying in order to further refine the three-dimensional shape of the Crunchy Hill target. To optimize the selection of the initial drill hole locations, the team plans to integrate the results of the soil geochemistry, the distribution of specific features identified in silica, and IP results.

Soil sampling has proven highly successful at refining these epithermal targets and as a result, soil sampling over the other targets in the 100 square kilometre Latorre area will start as soon as the soil sampling of the western extension of the Crunchy Hill target has been completed.

Technical Disclosure
The technical information contained in this press release has been verified and approved by Jean-Paul Pallier, MSc., a EurGeol designated by the European Federation of Geologists. Mr. Pallier is a Qualified Person as defined by National Instrument 43-101, Standards of Disclosure for Mineral Projects of the Canadian Securities Administrators.

About Aurania
Aurania is a junior exploration mining company engaged in the identification, evaluation, acquisition and exploration of mineral property interests, with a focus on precious metals and copper. Its flagship asset, The Lost Cities – Cutucu Project, is located in the Jurassic Metallogenic Belt in the eastern foothills of the Andes mountain range of southeastern Ecuador.

Information on Aurania and technical reports are available at www.aurania.com and www.sedar.com, as well as on Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/auranialtd/, Twitter at https://twitter.com/auranialtd, and LinkedIn at https://www.linkedin.com/company/aurania-resources-ltd-.

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