

Kainantu Resources Discovers 1.55 G/t Gold, 0.39% Copper, 20.8 G/t Silver At Krl South - Confirms High Grade Results At Ontenu Prospect

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VANCOUVER, March 3, 2023 - [Kainantu Resources Ltd.](#) (TSXV: KRL) (FSE: 6J0) ("KRL" or the "Company"), the Asia-focused gold mining company, is pleased to announce encouraging initial results from the Ontenu Prospect at KRL South (including consistently high grade results of up to 1.55 g/t Au, 0.39% Cu, 20.8 g/t Ag and 460ppm Mo from surface).

The KRL South claims are located 27 km southwest of the K92 Mining (KNT:TSX) operations and are also situated on the Transfer Structure.

Key Highlights:

- Significant high grade reports from 0.37 g/t Au, 0.39% Cu, 20.8 g/t Ag and 460ppm Mo from surface over a 2,300m area.
- Two distinct mineralized (Cu-Au-Ag-Mo) porphyry complex; group of historic sample results of up to 15.0g/t Au, 3.17% Cu 960g/t Ag, and 170ppm Mo have been verified.
- Favourable geology indicative of the edges of porphyry style mineralization was mapped above and below the underlying O6 anomaly.

Matthew Salthouse, CEO of KRL, commented: "KRL is pleased to announce exceptional exploration sampling from the Ontenu prospect in our KRL South project; including consistently high grade results of up to 1.55 g/t Au, 0.39% Cu, 20.8 g/t Ag and 460ppm Mo from surface over a 2,300m area."

This supports our view that the Ontenu area is highly prospective area for Au, Cu and Ag mineralization. Further work is planned to move the area towards a targeted drilling programme in the near term."

0.37 g/t Au

0.39% Cu, 20.8 g/t Ag and 460ppm Mo from surface over a 2,300m area.

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Background

As previously announcement by the Company on 14th September, 2022, KRL has focused exploration activities at the Ontenu Prospect in KRL South (contained within EL2660). This area was identified as a priority area of interest following analysis of geology, historic exploration and the Company's MobileMT survey results (with further background set out below). It is situated along the world renowned Kainantu Transfer Structure, in a district associated with highly successful mining projects, including K92 Mining (KNT: TSX).

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Background

The Ontenu Prospect has emerged as a stand-out prospect and is ranked as a priority for the Company in the highly prospective KRL South project (with potential to accelerate a focussed drill programme at Ontenu). Ontenu is approximately 15 kilometres from the Tirokave area of interest (where KRL continues exploration activities) and 27 kilometres south-southwest of the K92 Mining operations, transecting the

Geology and Geophysical Signatures at the Ontenu Prospect

A work programme was undertaken and completed in H2 2022. Initial results have now been received and are detailed in KRL's ongoing field work and analysis has identified a cluster of interpreted mineralized porphyry and intrusion related targets at Ontenu, a highly Au-Cu fertile area demonstrated by historic exploration results. Encouraging geophysical survey results support the potential of Ontenu for extensive bulk grade with attendant higher-grade mineralization, making this an area of heightened focus for the Company:

- Cu (up to 733ppm) and Mo (up to 310ppm) display a close correlation with Au values;

In relation to the Company's geophysical survey, strongly anomalous areas were highlighted around the Ontenu Prospect. Specifically, several discrete zones of high apparent conductivity along both NW and NE trends were apparent, as set out

1 below. A central zone at the intersection of the most prominent NW and NE trending structures coincides with a stockwork in a landslide exposure returning highly anomalous Au geochemistry; historically reported by Barrick. Further zones in both NW and NE directions appearing to be prospective and underlain by discrete magnetic highs.

Figure 1 also demonstrates the apparent conductivity anomalies from the MMT survey with historic data from past exploration with the outlines of KRL targets identified for more detailed work. Two prominent apparent conductivity anomalies (O5 and O6) at the tops of both interpreted as ~200m below surface), in addition to a curvilinear conductor (O7), all occur in the vicinity of the prospects historically defined. While not the focus of previous operators' exploration activities, O5 is the strongest and most depth-persistent conductor in all areas surveyed by the Company and may represent a significant under-explored shallow mineralization system.

The O6 anomaly partially underlies the most focussed and successful exploratory work undertaken by prior explorers and is associated with a coincident NW trending linear conductivity and magnetic anomaly (O2), which appears to represent a controlling structure. Coincidentally, this is the same orientation as the high-grade Kora-Irumafimpa-Judd epithermal vein system underlying K92's operations.

The O1 feature in the southern part of the survey area comprises broken magnetic anomalies interpreted as an intrusive or volcanoclastic sediments, likely the Yaveufa Formation. Shallow linear asymmetric conductivity anomalies (O3 and O4) represent sediments thickening towards significant NE trending structures. Quartz-limonite stockwork veining hosted by conglomerates immediately overlying a regional unconformity with basal Mesozoic metamorphics support the area around the O1 termed the Onerunka anomaly. This is a location for further field work investigation (noting artisanal miners are active here).

Field work and analysis

Work focussed on implementing a planned programme over the O6 target and surrounds that included verification of previous exploration (DDH pads and trench excavations), mapping and re-sampling selected trenches, gridded soil sampling (14 lines with 100m NS spacing and 50m E-W sampling interval), and 19.5km of creek traversing, mapping, and sampling, focus on identification of lithologies, alteration and mineralization styles, and controlling structures. The surface projection of the conductivity high can be identified in Figure 2 by the pink dashed oval shape towards the bottom right of the chart area.

Intrusive lithologies, including ultramafics, microdiorite, andesite, and dacite are hosted by siltstone, likely the Omapura Formation (which is hornfelsed and occasionally skarnified). Hydrothermal alteration mapped within the prospect affects all observed lithologies to some degree.

Mineralization is present in all lithologies, but found to be more prevalent in the intrusives, particularly within the microdiorite and andesite, as moderately disseminated pyrite-chalcocite±bornite±covellite and occasional sheeted and stockwork quartz veins/veinlets. Of particular interest is one rock float sample (interpreted close to source and assaying 1.06ppm Au) exhibiting vuggy residual quartz hosting enargite mineralization, suggesting the remnants of a mineralized lithocap remaining in situ.

The structures identified within the prospect indicate a complex regime comprising NW trending (fault breccias and fault zones) and NE trending (faults, shear zones) and late NNW-N and NNE-E trending displacement faults. These faults act as major controlling structures to alteration and mineralization and as openings for the emplacement of younger intermediate and mafic porphyry intrusions and associated contact brecciation.

During the mapping and sampling programme, a total of two E-W grid soil lines across the center of the Priority 1 area were completed with 95 soil samples taken from the C horizon, varying from 0.8m to 2.1m depth. Outcrop, trench, and traverse mapping and sampling saw a total of 63 largely mineralized rock chip samples taken.

Rock Geochemistry

Gold results from fire assay, along with ICP results of 52 elements recently became available for the 63 rock chip samples. The Au results of these samples taken over the Priority 1 target area (3.8km², Figure 1 above) are remarkably consistent in a narrow range up to 1.55ppm Au, with only 2 of the samples falling below the detection limit of 0.005ppm Au; of these, 2 are above an arbitrary limit of 0.2ppm Au average 0.45ppm Au.

The highest Cu value is 3,893ppm with 17 out of the 63 samples submitted returning >800ppm Cu; The highest Mo is 4,277ppm with 27 samples from the 63 returning >10ppm Mo; highest Ag values, up to 20.8ppm, are mainly associated with the highest Au values.

A 1.2km² area within the middle of the Priority 1 target, designated "P1 Central", Figure 2, encompasses the western portion of the target area.

surface projection of the O6 apparent conductivity target and exhibits moderate to strong Au-Ag-Cu-Mo anomalism through. Most of these samples represent channel/continuous chip samples taken by past explorers over mainly stockwork vein exposures and/or within trenches with the multi-element tenor confirmed by KRL's sampling programme, as set out in Figure 2 below. The area is largely underlain by strong to extremely weathered bedrock and residual soil cover.

Descriptions of sampling and assay procedures by prior explorers' annual reports of Ontenu and other areas in the Kairua appear to follow industry standards. Based on this, together with the initial favourable comparison of the geological descriptions and geochemical results from the P1 area, lead KRL to view the prior explorers' geochemical results as reliable for the further work.

The top 10 rock sample results by key commodity are displayed in Figure 3 below. The table contains results from both the 2022 program (samples numbers prefixed by "E") and the prior explorer's historic sampling programs.

Sample No	Au (g/t)	Sample No	Cu (%)	Sample No	Ag (g/t)	Sample No	Mo (ppm)
19479	15.00	19509	3.17	19479	960	E00031	460
19586	4.38	19503	1.89	19481	167	19507	170
19595	3.18	19527	0.92	19503	75	19534	154
19488	2.40	19514	0.43	19488	50	19484	143
19560	2.15	E00030	0.39	19586	36	E00036	127
19220	1.91	E00016	0.35	19511	27	19526	117
19591	1.90	19484	0.29	19487	26	19643	114
19481	1.88	E00049	0.27	19658	24	E00046	112
19216	1.81	19488	0.27	19218	22	E00030	99
E00010	1.55	19568	0.25	E00047	20.8	19479	99

Figure 3: KRL and RGS Rock Sample Multi-element Result Highlights

Soil Geochemistry

Although representing a relatively limited area within P1, the results from the brief gridded soil sampling programme are highly encouraging.

From a total of 95 samples at 50m spacing from 2 E-W lines 100m apart transecting the center of the Priority 1 area, 2 groups of contiguous strongly anomalous Au (max 369ppb) are revealed: a 1,000m length averaging 101ppb Au and a 1,000m length averaging 114ppb Au, Figure 2, above. Cu (max 733ppm) and Mo (max 310ppm) display a close correlation with Au values.

The distribution of multi-element anomalous soils samples indicates at an early stage an association with the altered and mineralized microdiorite exposed along the northern edge of the surface projection of the O6 conductivity target, and extending further WNW, likely influenced by the O2 structural target. Clearly, further soil sampling may increase confidence on this observation; in addition to highlighting other prospective targets in the P1 area.

Interpretation

Based on the results set out above, a preliminary interpretation incorporating observed geology with the geochemical results (and spatially relating them to the conductivity model generated by the MobileMT survey) are set out in Figure 4 above.

The model suggests a large depth-persistent highly conductive body shallowly underlying widespread relatively consistent Au-Cu-Ag-Mo mineralization associated with a largely hydrothermally altered intrusive complex, accompanied by periplutonic and evidence of remnant mineralized lithocap. KRL is of the view that the O6 anomaly represents the core of a substantial

shallowly buried gold-rich porphyry copper body.

Next Steps

The high priority O6 target has been identified as a possible mineralized porphyry based on integrated geological, geochemical and geophysical signatures discussed above. The intention is to produce zoned geochemical and alteration maps to aid in vectoring towards drill targets (with potential to move towards a focussed drill programme in the near term).

The highly promising O5 target (very similar in character to O6), along with others identified in the Ontenu area, will also be detailed exploration during 2023. The Company views the Ontenu area as extremely encouraging for potential economic Cu-Au-Ag-Mo mineralization at KRL South.

KRL will regularly conduct social awareness and community engagement to support field work at Ontenu from H1 2023 onwards.

Qualified Person

The scientific and technical information disclosed in this release has been reviewed and approved by Graeme Fleming, MAIG, an independent "qualified person" as defined under National Instrument 43-101, Standards of Disclosure for Mineral Projects.

About Kainantu Resources (KRL)

Kainantu Resources ("KRL") is an Asia-Pacific focussed gold mining company with three highly prospective gold-copper projects: KRL South, KRL North and the May River Project. All projects are located in premier mining regions in PNG. Both KRL South and KRL North show potential to host high-grade epithermal and porphyry mineralization, as seen elsewhere in the high-grade Kainantu Gold District. The May River project is in close proximity to the world-renowned Frieda River Copper-Gold Project, with historical drilling indicating the potential for significant copper-gold projects. KRL has a highly experienced board and management team with a proven track record of working together in the region; and an established in-country partner. KRL recently entered into an agreement to acquire the Kili Teke project in the western highlands of PNG.

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required under applicable securities legislation, the Company does not assume any obligation to update or revise them in light of new events or circumstances.

SOURCE [Kainantu Resources Ltd.](#)

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