

Coast Copper Highlights its Northern Vancouver Island Projects and Congratulates Northisle

14:48 Uhr | [CNW](#)

[Coast Copper Corp.](#) ("Coast Copper" or the "Company") (TSX-V: COCO) is pleased to highlight its mineral claim holding northern Vancouver Island and wishes to congratulate its neighbor [Northisle Copper and Gold Inc.](#) ("Northisle") on the announcement made by the B.C. provincial government on February 23, 2026 noting that its North Island project² will receive Critical Minerals Office support as an advanced project¹.

The Ministry of Mining and Critical Minerals of the Province of B.C. has selected Northisle's North Island project to work with the Critical Minerals Office to support early co-ordination as the project prepares for environmental assessment and future permitting processes. The Critical Minerals Office works with selected advanced project proponents to accelerate their permitting by helping co-ordinate First Nations and community engagement, identify regulatory requirements early, align permitting and support readiness for future environmental assessment and regulatory processes.

Adam Travis, CEO, comments: "I grew up on Vancouver Island and have explored it since the early 1990s when BHP's Island Copper mine was still in production and was Canada's second largest copper mine at the time. I have been watching Northisle advance its project in the same belt. This announcement highlights the importance of these projects for critical minerals exploration commitments to modern exploration, community engagement and collaboration with all levels of government and First Nations which we also share. Coast Copper's 2026 exploration programs are expected to commence this spring, starting with a Polarization geophysical survey at our Copper Kettle project which sits between Northisle's North Island project and BHP's Island Copper mine. Coast Copper is well-funded to undertake this work because of its business model which generates cash from the optimization and sale of non-core projects for cash and shares. Planning is also underway for more extensive exploration in 2026."

NORTHERN VANCOUVER ISLAND PORPHYRY Copper ("Cu") - Molybdenum ("Mo") +/- Gold ("Au") and Massive Sulphide Au - Magnetite

On northern Vancouver Island, a 50-kilometer ("km") east-west trending corridor hosts a series of Early Jurassic mineralized Au - Mo porphyry systems, mostly held by Northisle². However, at its western end, Coast Copper owns the Knob Hill Northisle project which abuts Northisle's Hushamu and Red Dog and NW Expo deposits and at the eastern end, Coast Copper owns the Copper Kettle property, which sits adjacent to BHP's Island Copper mine lease². Coast Copper's Empire Mine project is the most advanced brownfield high-grade Cu-Au-magnetite massive sulphide deposit project on northern Vancouver Island and is located approximately 30 km south-southeast of the Island Copper Mine (see Figure 1).

Copper Kettle Project Porphyry Cu - Mo +/- Au Target

The 5,225-hectare ("ha") Copper Kettle property (see Figure 1) hosts the NW Zone, one of the six genetically related Jurassic calc-alkaline porphyry systems that form the "Island Copper Cluster" which occupies a 10 km long structural-magnetic zone with the NW Zone being the only member located outside BHP's Island Copper mining lease⁴. From 1983 to 1989 BHP drilled 10 diamond holes (9,072 meters ("m")) and 10 percussion holes (789.5 m), outlining a buried system 1.8 km long and 800 m wide. Seventeen drillholes returned significant copper and molybdenum values; nine of which ended in mineralization, confirming the system remains open to depth (see news release dated September 8, 2025). Highlights from BHP's previous drilling include 100 m assaying 0.20% Cu and 0.018% Mo in hole E-64, 91.5 m assaying 0.57% Cu and 0.017% Mo in hole E-69 and 88.4 m assaying 0.38% Cu and 0.029% Mo in hole W-6.

Recent work by the Company included surface rock and soil sampling and an Audio Magnetotellurics ("AMT") survey which highlighted that previous BHP drilling has potentially only tested a small area of a much larger porphyry system (see news release dated February 18, 2026).

Empire Mine Project High-Grade Massive Cu-Au-Magnetite Deposits

The Empire Mine project now totals approximately 17,186 ha over a 25 km prospective trend covering 30 Minfile occurrences, of which 3 of them are past producing open pit mines and 2 of them are past producing underground mines for copper, gold, magnetite and silver (see Figure 1).

In May 2023, Coast Copper published a high-grade, starter mineral resource estimate for the Merry Widow pit which the Company believes can be expanded with further drilling. The Merry Widow inferred resource hosts 594,019 tonnes grading 0.51% Cu and 3.52 grams per tonne ("g/t") Au (see press release dated May 23, 2023). Historical records and maps from Cominco Ltd. indicate the Benson Lake mine (1 km east of the Merry Widow pit) hosts 454,500 tonnes at 0.59 g/t Au and 1.3% Cu classified as "measured and indicated" and a further 2,700,000 tonnes at 1.7% Cu⁵ (no gold grade estimated) to the 2100 level as of March 31, 1972 classified as "inferred". While Coast Copper notes that Cominco's historical results are not NI 43-101 compliant, as they have not been verified by the Company's QP, these combined historical Benson Lake resources total approximately 3.154 million tonnes and will help guide Coast Copper's exploration programs.

In 2025 the Company conducted modest surface exploration programs and continued to consolidate holdings in the area in the addition of 3 claims (61.8 ha) covering the Clancy and Pilgrim minfile occurrences.

Knob Hill NW Project Porphyry Cu - Au +/- Mo Target

The Company has continued to maintain and advance its Knob Hill NW property located at the western end of Northisle and within 4 km of Northisle's NW Expo Deposit (see Figure 1). Coast Copper completed modest stream sediment, soil sampling programs in 2025. This work along with previous work by the Company has highlighted elevated copper in soil samples in the southwest area of the property around magnetic highs and strongly anomalous gold-in-stream sediment samples such as KH2024MM-006 which returned 1,400 ppb Au draining the eastern side of the property (see press release dated September 23, 2024).

NEXT STEPS

Copper Kettle Project - The Company is planning to conduct a 25 km detailed Induced Polarization survey, followed by a conditional 10-site diamond drill program based on the exciting results of its surface and AMT survey work indicating that earlier drill programs only tested a small portion of the overall much larger porphyry system.

Empire Mine Project - The Company anticipates conducting further Controlled Source Audio-frequency Magnetotelluric ("C.S.M.A.T.") ground geophysical surveys (see news release dated January 23, 2024) to refine drill targets on its Benson Lake Sport mine high-grade Cu - Au - magnetite horizons.

Knob Hill NW Project - The Company is planning on conducting further surface programs to test the elevated copper-in-soil anomalies associated with magnetic highs in the southwestern portion of the property as well as continuing to refine and test the significant gold-in-stream sediment anomalies along the eastern side of the property.

Qualified Persons

The technical information contained in this news release has been prepared, reviewed, and approved by Wade Barnes (BC), Coast Copper's geological consultant and a Qualified Person within the context of the Canadian Securities Administration NI 43-101; Standards of Disclosure for Mineral Projects.

About Coast Copper Corp.

Coast Copper's flagship projects are the Copper Kettle post-discovery Cu-Au-Mo project located in the Island Copper region of northern Vancouver Island, the former producing Cu-Au Empire mine also located on northern Vancouver Island and the producing Emerald and Virginia Silver mines located near the Huckleberry mine and Smithers in northern B.C. Coast Copper has additional 18 projects in B.C. that are available for acquisition, partnering or option that are strategically located in several mining camps that include the Toadogone, Golden Triangle Anyox, Goliath Resources (Golddigger), Babine, Bralorne and Sullivan camps providing exposure and leverage to millions of dollars being spent on neighboring properties. Coast Copper's strategy is to optimize the value of each mineral property within our portfolio through a combination of prospect generation

discovery focused, high-impact exploration while minimizing share dilution through active deal-making.

On Behalf of the Board of Directors:

"Adam Travis"

Adam Travis, Chief Executive Officer and Director

For further information, please contact:

Adam Travis, CEO

Coast Copper Corp.

409 Granville Street, Suite 904

Vancouver, BC, V6C 1T2, Canada

P: 877-578-9563

E: adamt@coastcoppercorp.com

NR26-06

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1. Source: <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2026MCM0010-000179>
2. This news release may contain information about adjacent properties on which Coast Copper has no right to explore. Investors are cautioned that mineral deposits on adjacent properties are not indicative of mineral deposits on the properties.
3. Historical information, maps or figures contained in this release regarding the Property or adjacent properties cannot be relied upon as the Company's QP, as defined under NI-43-101 has not prepared nor verified the historical information.
4. Perello J.A., Fleming J.A., O'Kane K.P., Burt P.D., Clakre G.A., Himes M.D. and Reeves A.T. (1995) Porphyry copper-gold-molybdenum deposits in the Island Copper Cluster, northern Vancouver Island, British Columbia: CIPRI Volume 46, Part 2, p. 214-238.
5. Cominco Resources, Drill Section Maps "Plan of Cominco's Benson Lake Operations on Empire Claims Showing Reserves & Proposed Exploration Program", 1970, Private Files. While Coast Copper notes that Cominco's historical resources are not NI 43-101 compliant and have not been verified by the Company's QP, these combined historical resources are estimated to contain nearly 3.154 million tonnes and will help guide Coast Copper's exploration programs. Benson lake Mine historical resources recorded by Cominco Resources (1972) report a non NI 43-101 resource of 454,000 tonnes grading 0.59 g/t Au and 0.01% Cu and in Inferred resource of 2.7 million tonnes of 1.7% Cu with no Au grade calculated.

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CAUTIONARY STATEMENT REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING INFORMATION

Certain information contained or incorporated by reference in this press release, including any information regarding the Transaction, private placement, board and management changes, as to our strategy, projects, plans or future financial performance, constitutes "forward-looking statements." All statements, other than statements of historical fact, are to be considered forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements are necessarily based on a number of estimates and assumptions while considered reasonable by Coast Copper, are inherently subject to significant business, economic, geological and other uncertainties and contingencies. Although Coast Copper believes the expectations expressed in such forward-looking statements are based on reasonable assumptions, such statements are not a guarantee of future performance. Known and unknown factors could cause actual results to differ materially from those projected in the forward-looking statements. Such factors include, but are not limited to: fluctuations in market prices, exploration and exploitation successes, continued availability of capital and changes in national and local government legislation, taxation, controls, regulations, expropriation or nationalization of property, general political, economic, market or business conditions. Many of these uncertainties and contingencies can affect our results and could cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed or implied in any forward-looking statement made by, or on behalf of, us. Readers are cautioned that forward-looking statements are not guarantees of future performance and therefore, readers are advised to rely on their own evaluation of such uncertainties. All of the forward-looking statements in this press release, or incorporated by reference, are qualified by these cautionary statements. We do not assume any obligation to update any forward-looking statements.

SOURCE Coast Copper Corp.

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Die URL für diesen Artikel lautet:

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