

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Metalero Mining (TSXV: MLO) Initiates Fall Exploration Program and Announces an Expansion of the Land Package at Benson

Edmonton, AB, October 21, 2026 – **Metalero Mining Corp.** (TSXV: MLO) (“Metalero” or the “Company”) is pleased to announce that field crews have mobilized to the Benson Project to initiate exploration at the Bollos and Pinnacle porphyry copper-gold targets (Figure 1). This program represents the first systematic exploration ever undertaken on these two targets identified by Geoscience BC’s QUEST Artificial-Intelligence (AI) Project designed to highlight copper-gold porphyry targets within the Quesnel Trough.

“The Bollos and Pinnacle targets have seen very little exploration despite being highly prospective geophysical anomalies adjacent to a highway so we are excited to get boots on the ground with some systematic soil grids as a first pass.”, stated **Rob L’Heureux, President & CEO of Metalero Mining**, “These targets represent magnetic highs similar to Cantin which has produced encouraging soil numbers for gold and copper, so we are eager to start exploring them.”

MULTIPLE PORPHYRY TARGETS AT BENSON

The Bollos and Pinnacle prospects are less than 25 km east of the city of Quesnel and are easily accessed by highways 97 and 26, respectively. Similar to the other targets at Benson, Bollos and Pinnacle share the same regional geology and structural setup as the Mount Polley Mine which is 75 km to the southeast.

The 2025 field programs at Benson collected soil samples from the Cantin and Sundberg prospects and generated copper and gold anomalies which cover a total of 23 km² and 5 km² respectively. The Cantin soil anomaly is open towards the southwest within the newly acquired 7km² mineral claim. These prospects were initially identified by the QUEST AI Project which used regional-scale geological and geophysical data to identify copper-gold porphyry prospects in the Quesnel terrane, comparable to Mount Polley and Mount Milligan, which were hidden by overburden. The Cantin and Sundberg prospects were flagged as potential targets because of the high magnetic susceptibility anomaly (approx. 54×10^{-3} SI) and high density (2.70-2.73 g/cm³). The Bollos and Pinnacle targets area, each >3 km² in size, are very comparable with a magnetic susceptibility of approximately 35×10^{-3} SI and a density of 2.72 g/cm³.

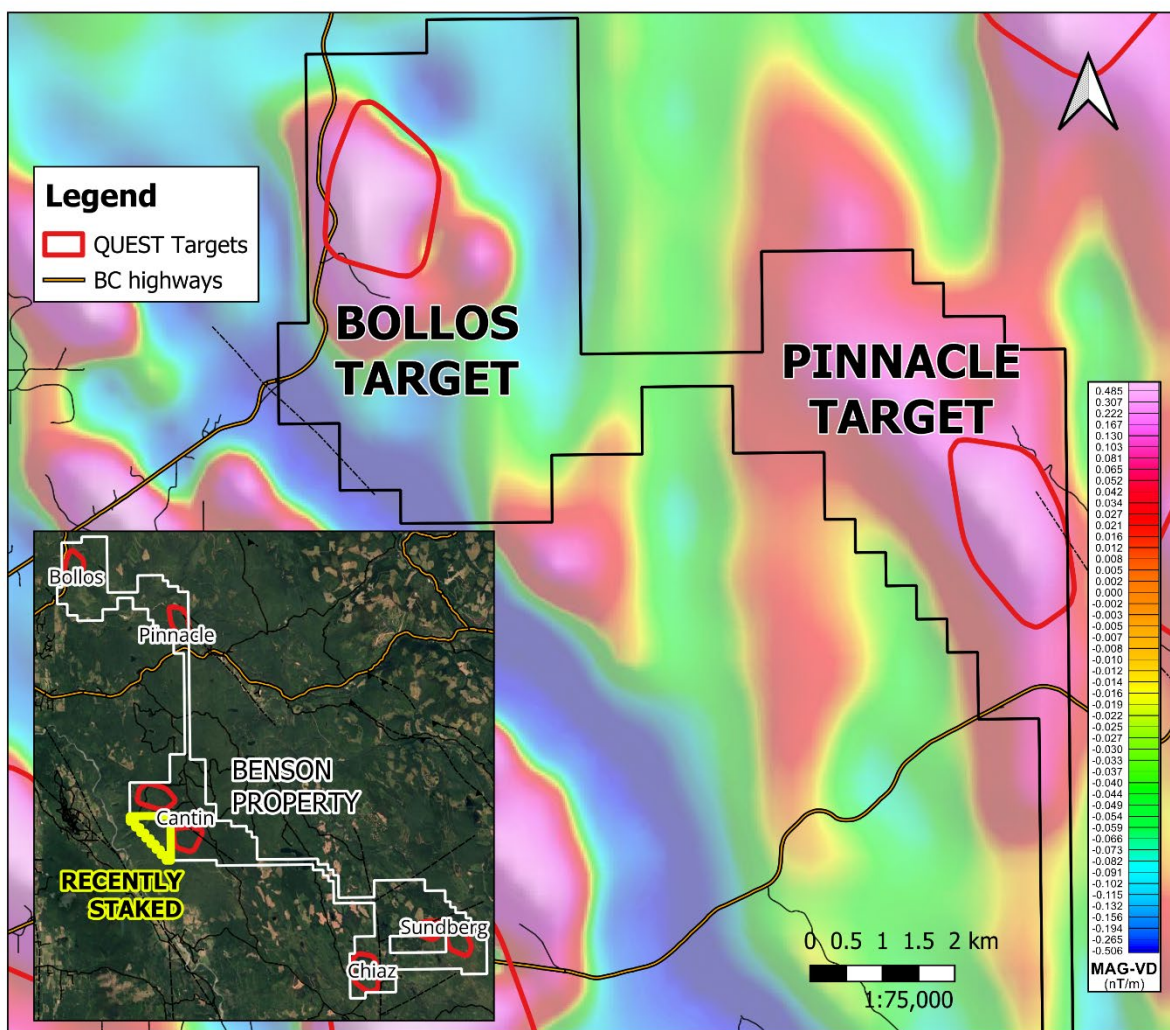


Figure 1. Map of the Benson Property with regional magnetics. The 2025 field programs collected samples at the Cantin, Sundberg, and Chiaz targets. Bollos and Pinnacle will be the focus of the 2026 fall soil sampling program. The new land package, shown in yellow on the inset map, increases Benson's footprint by 7 km².

EXPANDED LAND PACKAGE

The British Columbia Mineral Titles Branch has recently approved the application of claim #1138294 which covers 7 km² west of Cantin where Metalero has identified a large copper-gold soil anomaly open in several directions.

BENSON PROJECT BACKGROUND

The Benson Project is strategically located in the Quesnel Trough, one of Canada's most prolific mineral belts. The Quesnel Trough is a Triassic/Jurassic-age belt of volcano-sedimentary and intrusive rocks which host >360 alkalic copper-gold porphyry occurrences and deposits. The >1,500 km long Quesnel Trough runs through the middle of BC stretching from the US to the Yukon Territory and hosts several types of gold deposits and numerous major mines which produce copper and gold as well as variable amounts of silver.

High profile and long-lived mines in the Quesnel Trough include Highland Valley, Mt. Milligan, New Afton, and Kemess which are complemented by recent exploration work including AuRORA, Woodjam, MPD, Kwanika, and the extensive staking by Australian mining giant, the Fortescue Group.

The Benson Project lies close to infrastructure traversed by Highway 26 and a vast network of logging roads allowing for ready access to all parts of the Property and capital-efficient exploration. The large land package covers five different target areas illuminated by recent Artificial-Intelligence (AI) work by Geoscience BC (Mitchinson et al., Geoscience BC Report 2022-07). This AI study incorporated a wide variety of historical datasets including geophysics, geology, sampling information, and drilling data (where present) to identify high potential ("porphyry-like") anomalies with similarities to known porphyry deposits elsewhere in the belt. The limited historical exploration at Benson has identified numerous gold and copper surface geochemical anomalies while modest, historical drill programs have intersected skarn and epithermal gold and silver mineralization, which are both intrusive-related types of mineralization and are commonly associated with porphyry systems.

About Metalero Mining Corp.

Metalero Mining Corp. is a Canadian-based junior exploration company focused on silver, copper, and gold projects in the Americas including its San Cristobal properties in Bolivia which total 230 km² next to the San Cristobal Mine, a global top-5 silver producer. The 173 km², road-accessible Benson Project in central British Columbia is host to five prospects containing copper and gold within porphyry-related mineralized systems.

Qualified Person

The technical content of this news release was reviewed and approved by Michael Dufresne, M.Sc, P.Geol., P.Geo., a non-independent qualified person as defined by National Instrument 43-101.

On behalf of the Board of Directors

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