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Shares Outstanding: 150,898,545

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BUCHANS MINERALS & BENTON TO DRILL LONG RANGE BASE METAL TARGETS & CONDUCT SOIL GEOCHEM OVER GOLDQUEST

Buchans Minerals Corporation (TSXV: BMC) ("Buchans Minerals") and **Benton Resources Corp.** (TSXV: BTC) ("Benton") or the "Companies" are pleased to announce plans to commence drilling several base metal targets on the Long Range 50/50 joint venture property in the next few weeks. The program is expected to include approximately 1,000 metres of drilling in ten holes testing three priority targets including:

- The Portage Nickel prospect, where previously trenched bedrock exposures yielded grab samples assaying up to 2.70% nickel, 0.58% copper and 0.24% cobalt, and limited drilling intersected mineralized gabbro, including a section assaying 0.44% nickel, 0.22% copper and & 0.016% cobalt over 12.0 metres core length, including 1.36% nickel, 0.36% copper and 0.039% cobalt over a 1 metre core length. This prospect will be further tested as a near surface bulk tonnage target.
- The Range Copper prospect, where previous drilling returned an intersection of semi-massive to massive sulphides averaging 0.39% copper and 0.032% cobalt over a core length of 37.8 metres. Drilling will test the zone over a minimum strike length of 160 m, to a depth of 150 metres, as predicted from recent interpretation of geophysical data collected in 2010. It is hoped that the new holes will better characterize the grade and geometry of the zone, which is considered to have good potential to host higher base metal grades within what may be a large, zoned, sulphide body.
- The String anomaly, an untested conductive anomaly located approximately four kilometres southwest of the Portage Nickel prospect and potentially on strike and associated with similar, but more concentrated, gabbro-hosted nickel sulphide mineralization.

A drilling contract has been awarded to Logan Drilling of Stewiacke, Nova Scotia and drilling is expected to commence within the next few weeks and take four weeks to complete. A map showing the location of the proposed drilling is available at <http://www.buchansminerals.com>.

Goldquest Update:

Following the discovery of the Goldquest prospect at the end of 2010, the Joint Venture is currently evaluating snow conditions with a view to commencing additional work over the prospect later this month to expand the soil geochemical survey covering an expanded area measuring 1.5 x 2.0 kilometres. This survey is to be undertaken to further extend and define an open-ended, one kilometre long, prospective trend detected as anomalous gold in soils and float by preliminary surveys completed in December of 2010.

Qualified Person:

Paul Moore, M.Sc., P.Geo., (NL), Buchans Mineral's Vice President of Exploration, is acting as Qualified Person in compliance with National Instrument 43-101 with respect to this release and has reviewed the contents for accuracy. Quoted assays and QAQC procedures described in detail in previous Company press releases dated November 3 and November 18, 2009.

About Buchans Minerals:

Buchans Minerals is an Atlantic Canada based resource company that is focused on exploring and developing mineral properties in New Brunswick and the historic Buchans mining camp in central Newfoundland, Canada.

About Benton Resources:

Benton is a Canadian based junior with multiple joint ventures and a diversified property portfolio in Gold, Nickel, Copper, and Platinum group elements. The Company currently has approximately \$17 million in cash, owns approximately 55.4 million shares and 2.43 million warrants in Coro Mining Corp. (TSX.COP), holds approximately 348,000 shares of Stillwater Mining Company (NYSE:SWC), holds 782,500 shares in Marathon Gold Corp. (TSX.MOZ), holds 1.6 million shares in Puget Ventures (TSX-V.PVS), holds 4 million shares of Mineral Mountain Resources Ltd. (TSX-V.MMV), and holds 815,000 shares of Bell Copper Corporation (TSX-V.BCU).

Forward Looking Statements:

Certain information contained herein may constitute forward-looking statements within the meaning of applicable securities laws. Forward-looking statements may include estimates, plans, expectations, opinions, forecasts, projections, guidance or other statements that are not statements of fact. Although Buchans Minerals and Benton (the "Companies") believe that the expectations reflected in such forward-looking statements are reasonable, they can give no assurance that such expectations will prove to have been correct. The Companies caution that actual performance will be affected by a number of factors, many of which are beyond their control, and that future events and results may vary substantially from what the Companies currently foresee. The Companies' forward-looking statements are expressly qualified in their entirety by this cautionary statement.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:**Buchans Minerals Corporation.**

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