

22 March 2012

## **GOOD POTENTIAL NICKEL RECOVERY FOR DISSEMINATED HANGING WALL MINERALISATION AT SLEEPING GIANT, NACHINGWEA JV**

### **Highlights**

- Good potential nickel recoveries indicated by low average non-sulphide nickel for Sleeping Giant disseminated hanging wall (HW) mineralisation
- HW mineralisation likely to be amenable to conventional floatation processes
- Sleeping Giant disseminated HW results are similar to main Sleeping Giant zone, and other disseminated nickel sulphide projects such as the Kevitsa Copper Nickel Project in Finland and Rönnbäcken Nickel Project in Sweden.

**Joint Venture Project Update:-** IMX Resources Limited (ASX: IXR; 'IMX') reports that good recovery of nickel by conventional flotation should be possible from the disseminated HW mineralisation at Sleeping Giant based on recent assay analysis completed by joint venture partner Continental Nickel Limited (TSXV:CNI). These results are particularly significant as preliminary estimates indicate that the disseminated HW mineralisation represents approximately 50% of the contained nickel in the mineral resource estimate for the Sleeping Giant zone at the Ntaka Hill Nickel Project (ASX: 5 March 2012).

The Ntaka Hill Nickel Project is part of the larger Nachingwea Nickel - Copper JV Project in southern Tanzania, which is operated and managed CNI of Canada.

Full details including a full technical discussion of these latest results can be viewed in the CNI release to the TSXV attached below.

### **Nachingwea Holding Structure**

IMX's 53% beneficial interest in the Nachingwea Nickel - Copper JV Project is held through a direct 25% interest in the Tanzanian joint venture company, Ngwena Limited, and indirectly through a 37.2% equity interest in CNI. IMX funds its joint venture interest on a pro rata basis.



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## Competent Persons

Information in this announcement relating to technical data is based on data collected under the supervision of, or compiled by Patricia Tirschmann, P. Geo., who holds the position of Vice President, Exploration and is a full time employee of Continental Nickel Limited. Ms. Tirschmann is a registered member of the Association of Professional Geoscientists of Ontario and has sufficient relevant experience to qualify as a Competent Person under the 2004 Edition of the Australasian Code for the Reporting of Exploration Results, Mineral Resources and Ore Reserves. The analysis of the data and conclusions drawn on metallurgical performance were made or reviewed by Mr. Peter Munro a Senior Principal Consulting Engineer with Mineralogy Pty Ltd. an independent consultant. Mr Munro is a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy and has sufficient relevant experience to qualify as a Competent Person under the 2004 Edition of the Australasian Code for the Reporting of Exploration Results, Mineral Resources and Ore Reserves. Ms. Tirschmann and Mr Munro consent to the inclusion of the data in the form and context in which it appears.

## About IMX Resources Limited

IMX Resources Limited (ASX: IXR) is an ASX listed company headquartered in Perth, Western Australia.

IMX is a mining and mineral exploration company with an iron ore mining operation in South Australia, and a portfolio of advanced exploration projects in Australia and Africa, focusing on iron ore, nickel, copper and gold.

IMX operates and owns 51% of the Cairn Hill Iron Ore Mining Operation, located 55 kilometers south-east of Coober Pedy in South Australia, where it produces a premium coarse-grained magnetite–copper-gold DSO product with a clean saleable Cu / Au concentrate, at a rate of 1.7Mtpa.

IMX is actively exploring the Mt Woods Magnetite Project on the highly prospective Mt Woods Inlier in South Australia. IMX owns 100% of the iron ore rights of the Mt Woods tenement package, where it currently has a JORC Inferred Resource of 569Mt @ 27% Fe at the Snaefell Magnetite Deposit and a Global Exploration Target of between 200-380Mt @ 25-35% Fe elsewhere in the project.

IMX has also entered into a joint venture with OZ Minerals (the Mt Woods Copper-Gold JV Project) to explore the Mt Woods tenements for copper and gold. OZ Minerals is spending a minimum of \$20M for a 51% interest in the non-iron rights, with IMX retaining a 49% interest in the non-iron rights.

In Tanzania, IMX holds a 53% beneficial interest in the Nachingwea Nickel – Copper JV Project in southern Tanzania, which is managed and operated by 75% JV partner, Continental Nickel Limited (TSXV:CNI). IMX has a 37.2% direct equity investment in CNI and a 25% interest in the Nachingwea Nickel - Copper JV project.

IMX owns 25.5% of Uranex (ASX:UNX), which is a dedicated uranium exploration company, which is developing the Mkuju Uranium project in southern Tanzania

Visit: [www.imxresources.com.au](http://www.imxresources.com.au)

## **Press Release**

### **Continental Nickel Announces Potential for Good Nickel Recovery for Disseminated Hanging Wall Mineralization at Sleeping Giant**

**TORONTO, ONTARIO (March 21, 2012)** - Continental Nickel Limited (TSXV:CNI) ("CNI" or the "Company") is pleased to announce that, based on analysis of recently received assays by CNI's consulting metallurgist, good recovery of nickel by conventional flotation is currently anticipated from the disseminated hanging wall mineralization in the Sleeping Giant zone at the Ntaka Hill Nickel Project (the "Project"). This analysis was based on nickel assays conducted on samples from drilling of mineralization included in the recently announced mineral resource update (CNI press release of March 2, 2012).

Based on preliminary work it is estimated that the disseminated hanging wall mineralization represents approximately 50% of the contained nickel in the mineral resource estimate for the Sleeping Giant zone. Evaluation work to further define the amount of the resource attributable to the hanging wall will continue over the next year. The Project is part of the larger 75:25 joint venture between CNI and IMX Resources Limited covering the Nachingwea property in Southern Tanzania.

#### **Highlights**

- Average estimate of non-sulphide nickel from 116 representative samples was 0.072% nickel ("Ni") and remained largely constant across the range of nickel grades and was consistent with similar analysis on samples from the main body of the Sleeping Giant zone.
- The low estimate of non-sulphide nickel mineralization combined with the low levels of MgO-bearing minerals prevalent at Ntaka Hill provides support for expected good nickel recovery by conventional flotation from the disseminated hanging wall mineralization in the Sleeping Giant zone.
- These results are similar to those reported from other disseminated nickel sulphide projects such as the Kevitsa copper nickel project in Finland and the Rönnebäcken nickel project in Sweden.

Mr. Stewart Watkins, Vice President Projects, commented: *"The low level of non-sulphide nickel is a good indication that the Sleeping Giant disseminated hanging wall mineralization is amenable to conventional flotation processes and should demonstrate good metallurgical performance in line with our expectations from the flotation test work already carried out on samples from the main body of the Sleeping Giant zone."*

*"These results show that the inclusion of the disseminated hanging wall mineralization in the estimated mineral resource and proposed processing plan will have a positive impact on the Ntaka Hill project as highlighted in the Upside Sensitivity Case presented in the October 2011 PEA (CNI press releases of October 5 and November 15, 2011)."*

#### **Samples and Assay Techniques**

A total of 116 representative samples were selected from 2010 and 2011 drill core to provide a range of nickel grades for analysis and to spatially represent the disseminated hanging wall mineralization at the

Sleeping Giant zone. The range of total nickel grades for the samples ranged between 0.02%Ni and 2.35%Ni with the average being 0.36%Ni.

The samples were assayed at ALS Minerals laboratory in Canada using their ME-ICP81 and Ni-ICP05 methods. The ME-ICP81 technique is designed to assay for total nickel using a sodium peroxide fusion followed by hydrochloric acid digest and an ICP-AES finish. This is the assay method used to date to analyse geological samples from the Project, which in turn was used in the preparation of mineral resource estimates. The Ni-ICP05 technique is designed to only assay for nickel contained in sulphide minerals, such as pentlandite, using an ammonium citrate and hydrogen peroxide digest followed by an ICP-AES finish. The assay of non-sulphide nickel was then calculated by using the difference between the two assay techniques.

### **Analysis of Data**

The assay dataset was analyzed with outliers (two samples) and samples with a total nickel assay of below 0.15%Ni or above 1.0%Ni (36 samples) removed. Non-sulphide nickel versus total nickel was then plotted from the dataset. The plot of this data may be viewed using the link provided with this release.

The plotted data shows that there is no significant correlation between the assay of non-sulphide nickel and total nickel across the range of total nickel assays analyzed. Variability in the non-sulphide nickel assay increased with increasing total nickel.

This data was also compared to similar data for the main body of the Sleeping Giant zone (47 samples), which had a higher average total nickel grade of 0.89%Ni. This showed that the average estimate of non-sulphide nickel was similar for these samples when compared to the disseminated hanging wall samples.

### **Indications of Metallurgical Performance**

CNI's metallurgical consultant, Mr. Peter Munro of Mineralurgy Pty Ltd, assessed the nickel assay data as an indicator of expected nickel recovery by conventional flotation. He concluded that, since the estimate of non-sulphide nickel was essentially constant with total nickel, and there were low levels MgO-bearing minerals requiring depression during flotation, the nickel recovery by conventional flotation from all mineralization included in the resource estimate for the Sleeping Giant zone should conform to a "constant tailing" model. A "constant tailing" model was the assumption proposed by Mr. Munro and used in the Upside Sensitivity Case in the October 2011 PEA (CNI press releases of October 5 and November 15, 2011) to estimate nickel recovery from the assumed disseminated mineralization.

In addition, Mr. Munro carried out a literature review of public documents on current and proposed lower grade nickel operations. He found that the analysis of the samples from the disseminated hanging wall mineralization fell within the expected range of average non-sulphide nickel when compared to other lower grade nickel projects such as the Kevitsa copper nickel project in Finland (0.292%Ni average resource grade) and the Rönnebäcken nickel project in Sweden (0.177% Ni average resource grade).

### **Next Steps**

A second phase of metallurgical characterization is planned to determine the final metallurgical parameters for the Project. Approximately 12 tonnes of drill core samples are currently being shipped to G & T Metallurgical Services Ltd in Kamloops, British Columbia. Test work will specifically include quantitative mineralogical examination of the disseminated hanging wall mineralization by QEMSCAN and bench scale flotation testing. This study will be completed during the first half of 2012 for inclusion in the Project development plan.

## Qualified Persons

The quality control, technical information and all aspects of the exploration program, including sample selection and assaying, were supervised by Ms. Patricia Tirschmann, P. Geo., Vice President, Exploration, for CNI. The analysis of the data and conclusions drawn on metallurgical performance were made or reviewed by Mr. Peter Munro FAusIMM, Senior Principal Consulting Engineer with Mineralurgy Pty Ltd. an independent consultant to CNI.

Ms. Tirschmann and Mr. Munro are qualified persons as defined by National Instrument 43-101 and consent to the inclusion of the data in the form and context in which it appears.

## About Continental Nickel Limited

*Continental Nickel Limited is focused on the exploration, discovery and development of nickel sulphide deposits in geologically prospective, but under-explored regions globally. The Company's key asset is its 75% interest in the Nachingwea project in Tanzania, where measured and indicated mineral resources have been estimated at 12.8 Mt grading 1.21% nickel and inferred mineral resources have been estimated at 45 Mt grading 0.30% nickel (CNI press release March 2, 2012). The project is a 75:25 joint venture between the Company and IMX Resources Limited.*

*The Company also has an option to joint venture on the St. Stephen project in New Brunswick, Canada where the 2010 and 2011 diamond drill programs discovered new Ni-Cu sulphide zones.*

*As at the date of this release, the Company has 42,738,508 common shares issued and outstanding (51,126,914 on a fully-diluted basis) and trades on the TSX Venture Exchange under the symbol CNI. The Company remains well funded with over \$9.4 million in the treasury as at December 31, 2011.*

On behalf of

### **Continental Nickel Limited**

"Dave Massola"

President and Chief Executive Officer

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