



# DURANGO'S AI-POWERED EXPLORATION STUDY REVEALS NEW DRILL TARGETS AT BABINE WEST COPPER GOLD PROJECT

Vancouver, BC / TheNewswire / January 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025 – Durango Resources Inc. (TSX.V: DGO) (Frankfurt: 86A1) (OTCQB - ATOXF) ("Durango" or the "Company") is pleased to announce that its artificial intelligence ("AI") powered property exploration study has completed computation in the first of three prospective study areas of the Company's 100% owned Babine West Copper Gold exploration project located in the Babine Porphyry District north of Smithers, British Columbia. Upon the completion of this work, it is the consensus findings of the software, exploration partners, and technical exploration team that the Babine West property contains mineralized geological features possibly related to a nearby buried intrusion.

# **About The AI-Powered Study and New Thesis**

To come to this hypothesis, the Company reconciled all available data of the region including from publicly available information regarding the nearby NAK (American Eagle) and Duke (Amarc) copper gold porphyry discoveries, historical work and mapping, and raw government airborne geophysical data. Upon interpretation, the Company's technical team and partners then submitted these inputs to ExploreTech's AI exploration software, generating and evaluating thousands of possible deposit scenarios (if they should exist) for the property.

Upon completion of this process, the AI software has suggested that a large subhorizontal structure potentially crosscuts a significant area of the eastern claim block of the Company's Babine West claims from the southeast to northwest. This structure coincides with a moderate magnetic anomaly that has been overlooked in the regional magnetics data until now. The moderate magnetism is hypothesized to be a widespread zone of early-stage alteration, causing elevated magnetite occurrence. From all publicly known geological data of the area, the hypothesized mineralization may be related to the system at the adjacent NAK copper gold project, the Duke project, or intrusions that have yet to be identified. The structure appears to cover a large portion of the central and eastern side of the Company's Babine West block claims target area. Areas with relatively thick portions of the structure may be prospective for intrusion-driven mineralization, and the study indicates two such possible areas to test this hypothesis. Maps of the target areas and findings are included below:

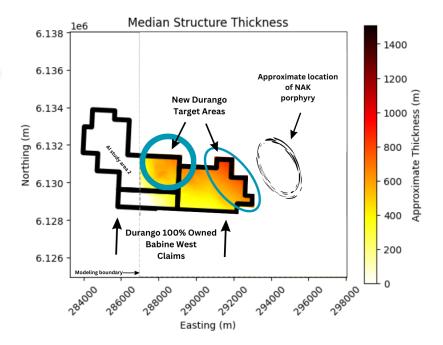


Fig. 1 Map of median thickness of the sill-structure, overlain with Company claims and modeling boundary. Target exploration areas indicated.

# **About the Babine West Copper Gold Project**

The Babine West property covers three mineral claims and is bordering the west side of American Eagle's NAK property (TSXV-AE) and borders Amarc Resources' Duke Property (TSXV-AHR).

American Eagle has encountered significant drill intervals of high-grade gold and copper mineralization at NAK. Notably, drill hole 23-17 returned 302m @ 1.09% CuEq on the western portion of the property not far from the eastern border of Durango's Babine West Property.

Amarc's Duke Property covers 722km<sup>2</sup> in the "DUKE District", which hosts the DUKE Deposit, which is open to expansion, and includes a series of deposit-scale exploration targets.

The geology of the Babine West claims consists of a granodiorite stock containing phases of quartz monzonite and hornblende biotite feldspar porphyry of the Eocene Babine Intrusion. These cut grey, locally graphitic siltstones of the Middle to Upper Jurassic Ashman Formation. Stratified intermediate composition tuffs and/or greywacke and mudstone with minor silicification and some graded sandstones occur locally. The units are locally and strongly fractured and cemented with quartz and/or pyrite. Thus far pyrite has been identified in six outcrops and chalcopyrite in one.

For more information on the Company's entire Babine portfolio, please visit: https://durangoresourcesinc.com/projects/babine-copper-projects/

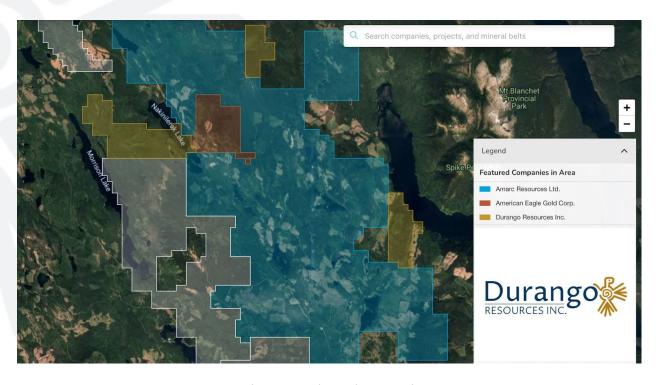


Fig. 2 - Babine West and Immediate Area Claim Map

None of the historical information in the release has been verified yet by the Company and should not be relied upon.

Melanie Mackay, PGeo, EGBC (Engineers and Geoscientists British Columbia) 35256, APEGA (Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of Alberta 305012), is a director and qualified person for Durango and approves the technical content of this news release.

## **About This AI Powered Exploration Process**

The ExploreTech AI Exploration Software and process was developed by Stanford University PhD graduates Alex Miltenberger and Tyler Hall. The ExploreTech founders completed their PhDs in Geophysics and Geology, respectively, and have also previously worked with majors such as Freeport McMoRan, Glencore, and Rio Tinto.

Their proprietary AI technology and process leverages government geophysical data, historical property information, and thousands of potential geological scenarios to pinpoint the highest-probability deposit locations and drill targets for a project, if deemed warranted. The technology is particularly effective in porphyry exploration, making it an ideal fit for the Babine West project, but is also effective for other deposit scenarios as well. By providing precise, drill-ready targeting data, including depth, width, orientation, and optimal drill locations, this AI-powered approach significantly reduces the time, cost, and complexity associated with early-stage evaluation, targeting, and exploration. Their innovative platform has already demonstrated proof of concept, achieving significant results for other projects globally. The technology's success in delivering accurate, high-value exploration targets provides great promise in its potential to unlock further value for Durango's shareholders across the Company's portfolio and the Company intends to continue its work with ExploreTech across all of its projects.

The Company's AI study now continues to the west side of the property, where several prospective anomalies are present. The Company will report on the findings of this west area study as soon as it is completed in the coming days.

## NMX East Gallium, Rubidium + Critical Metals Project Update

The Company has also briefed ExploreTech on the Company's recent gallium, rubidium and other critical metals discovery on the NMX East property. The Company intends to engage ExploreTech to help measure the dimensional potential of the discovery pegmatite leveraging this same AI software, as well as identify and map other potential pegmatite targets on the property given the success to date of working with ExploreTech on the Babine project.

It is anticipated this work will commence as soon as this first pilot AI exploration study has been completed at Babine West. Additionally, the Company has completed its budget for further assays of the NMX drill core, mineralogy evaluation, metallurgy, and further drilling, and intends to start these next step initiatives for the project as well as soon as possible.

Meanwhile the Company will continue to prioritize and optimize its workflow and resources across its portfolio in alignment with market conditions and project demand.

Marcy Kiesman, CEO of Durango Resources, commented, "We've greatly enjoyed working with Alex and Tyler and piloting their proprietary, Al powered exploration software and process. It's truly impressive the amount of data the system can process, interpret, and reveal using existing government and other regional data. Scaling our work with our new Al exploration partners saves us time, cost, and undue speculation, while revealing bankable drill ready targets in an efficient and thorough process."

#### **About Durango**

Durango is a natural resources company engaged in the acquisition and exploration of mineral properties in Canada. The Company's holdings currently include a 100% interest in a strategically located group of properties in the Babine Copper-Gold Porphyry District, British Columbia, claims near the Troilus Gold Camp, claims in the Nemaska Camp known for lithium and high grade polymetallic nickel copper PGM, as well as claims in the Windfall Lake Gold Camp of Québec.

For further information on Durango, please visit www.durangoresourcesinc.com and www.sedar.com.

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#### **Forward-Looking Statements**

This news release contains "forward-looking information or statements" within the meaning of applicable securities laws, which may include, without limitation, statements that address the upcoming work programs, and other statements relating to the business, financial and technical prospects of the Company. All statements in this news release, other than statements of historical facts that address events or developments that the Company expects to occur, are forward-looking statements. Although the Company believes the expectations expressed in such forward-looking statements are based on reasonable assumptions, such statements are not guarantees of future performance and actual results may differ materially from those in the forward-looking statements.

Such forward-looking information reflects the Company's views with respect to future events and is subject to risks, uncertainties and assumptions, including those filed under the Company's profile on SEDAR at <a href="www.sedar.com">www.sedar.com</a>. Factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those in forward-looking statements include, but are not limited to, continued availability of capital and financing and general economic, market or business conditions. The Company does not undertake to update forward-looking statements or forward-looking information, except as required by law.

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