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CONROY'S LATEST SAMPLING PROGRAMME ENHANCES DIAMOND TARGETS IN FINLAND

- **More G9 And G10 Garnets Found "Up Ice" From Earlier Discoveries**
- **Indicator Minerals Recovered In Larger Numbers Than Previous Programme**
- **Karelian Craton Has Characteristics Needed To Host Diamondiferous Kimberlites**

AIM-listed Conroy Diamonds and Gold P.l.c says that further kimberlitic and diamond indicator minerals have been recovered in its latest till sampling programmes in the Kuhmo district of eastern Finland. Significantly, the total number of indicator minerals recovered is higher than from the previous programmes completed last year. This suggests the latest sampling points are located closer to possible kimberlitic sources, the company states.

Once again the sampling was undertaken on behalf of Conroy by the Geological Survey of Finland. Further G9 and G10 garnets were recovered, thus both confirming and enhancing the previous anomalies identified by Conroy in the Kuhmo district. Such garnets are formed under the same temperature and pressure conditions as diamonds and are considered to be particularly good indicators of the likely presence of diamonds.

In order to follow the previously identified indicator trains back to their possible kimberlitic sources, the latest sampling programmes were targeted "up ice" from the earlier work. The main ice flow direction in the area is well established as having been from the NW. Since studies have shown that the glacial tills in this part of Finland have been transported only a relatively short distance, the source of the indicator minerals is thought to be nearby.

Conroy's licence areas in eastern Finland are underlain by the Karelian Craton, a block of ancient Archaean crustal rocks stretching from Finland into Russia where it hosts the Grib kimberlite pipe containing an estimated resource of 67 million carats of diamonds. Diamondiferous kimberlites are largely confined to stable cratons of Archaean age which exhibit low heat flow and a thick crustal zone. The Karelian Craton in Finland is known to have such characteristics.

Commenting today, Conroy chairman Professor Richard Conroy said: " Our exploration strategy is based on the belief that world-class diamond deposits similar to those found in Russia may also be present in the Karelian Craton on the Finnish side of the border. Although it is early days, these latest results suggest our strategy is valid and we are moving in the right direction."

Further Information:

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