Robin Dunbar Positions Grid Metals at the Center of the Global Cesium Supply Race

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In a recent interview with Tracy Hughes, Robin Dunbar, President, CEO, and Director of Grid Metals Corp. (TSXV: GRDM | OTCQB: MSMGF), outlined the company's advancing cesium strategy at its Falcon West project in southeastern Manitoba, while also highlighting a newly signed earn-in agreement with Boliden Group and broader developments across its base metals portfolio.

The Boliden agreement allows the Swedish multinational to earn up to 80% of a Manitoba project through a minimum $10 million exploration commitment, with potential for additional expenditures depending on the structure. Dunbar described the transaction as a meaningful addition for shareholders, providing exposure to a well-funded partner while allowing Grid Metals to retain operational involvement and upside through fees and exploration success.

While the base metals portfolio provides diversification, the company's primary focus remains on cesium at Falcon West. Dunbar emphasized that cesium is among the rarest commercially viable elements, with only three deposits historically brought into production globally. He noted that the company expects to publish an initial mineral resource estimate later this year and believes the project has the potential to rank among the largest known cesium resources worldwide.

The Falcon West project is located approximately one hour east of Winnipeg and sits roughly 500 meters from the Trans-Canada Highway, providing logistical advantages uncommon in early-stage

exploration projects. Drilling to date has been concentrated on near-surface mineralization, with cesium encountered at depths generally less than 40 meters. The company completed approximately 135 drill holes in its most recent campaign, focusing on a relatively small footprint while continuing to define the extent of mineralization.

Dunbar explained that cesium at Falcon West is hosted within a pegmatite system approximately 10 meters wide, with a central zone containing cesium, lithium, and tantalum. The mineralization currently extends roughly 120 meters along strike, and drilling indicates continuity, though the full extent remains undefined. The current phase is focused on delineating material that could be mined via open pit methods before evaluating deeper potential that may require underground extraction.

He also underscored the geological complexity of cesium exploration, noting that economic mineralization depends on the presence of pollucite within highly fractionated lithium-cesium-tantalum pegmatites. Even within prospective systems, pollucite occurrences can be inconsistent, with mineralization appearing and disappearing over short distances. This variability contributes to the rarity of viable deposits and underscores the significance of Falcon West’s drilling results to date.

From a development perspective, Dunbar highlighted that cesium projects differ materially from conventional mining operations. Processing does not require tailings facilities or complex chemical plants. Instead, mined rock can be crushed and processed through an ore sorting system to produce a high-value concentrate in a dry process. This approach reduces infrastructure requirements and may allow for faster timelines and lower capital intensity relative to traditional mining projects.

Cesium’s end-use profile spans several high-value applications. It is used in optical systems, including military-grade night vision technologies, as well as in atomic clocks, positioning systems, advanced electronics, and medical isotopes. Currently, one of the primary commercial uses is cesium formate, which is utilized in high-density drilling fluids for offshore oil and gas operations. Dunbar noted that broader adoption could occur if additional supply were available to the market.

Beyond Falcon West, Grid Metals continues to advance its base metals assets in Manitoba, including joint venture arrangements and exploration initiatives in regions east of Thompson. The Boliden earn-in agreement represents a key component of this strategy, providing external capital to advance exploration while allowing the company to maintain focus on its cesium development pathway.

The company’s board includes Constantine Karayannopoulos, former CEO and Chairman of Neo Performance Materials Inc. (TSX: NEO | OTCQX: NOPMF), who joined Grid Metals following his retirement. Dunbar noted that Karayannopoulos has been an active contributor and brings significant experience in critical materials and global supply chains.

Looking ahead, Dunbar indicated that Grid Metals expects to release additional drill results from approximately 50 remaining holes from its recent program, alongside progress on its mineral resource estimate, targeted for the third quarter. The company is also advancing early-stage development activities, including engagement with First Nations and preliminary planning work associated with potential project development.

Grid Metals is scheduled to provide further updates on its cesium strategy and market outlook at the upcoming Critical Minerals Institute Summit in Toronto on May 13-14, 2026 – where

Dunbar will present on both company progress and broader developments within the cesium sector.

In a market where many critical minerals projects face extended timelines, high capital requirements, and complex processing challenges, Dunbar's comments position Falcon West as a project with a different set of parameters—defined by rarity, relatively simple processing, and the potential for accelerated development if resource definition continues to advance as expected.

To access the complete interview, click here

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