

ARRAS MINERALS ANNOUNCES RECOMMENCEMENT OF DRILLING AT ELEMES PROJECT IN KAZAKHSTAN

TSX-V: ARK / OTCQB: ARKRF

VANCOUVER, BC, Feb. 20, 2026 /CNW/ - **Arras Minerals Corp.** (TSXV: ARK) (OTCQB: ARKRF) ("**Arras**" or "**Arras Minerals**" or "**the Company**") is pleased to announce the recommencement of diamond drilling at the Elemes Project in northeastern Kazakhstan.

Tim Barry, CEO of Arras Minerals commented, *"The 2026 program at Elemes is off to a very strong start. Two rigs have just mobilised to site, with a further two rigs scheduled to arrive in March as we materially accelerate activity across the project. With approximately 20,000 metres of drilling planned this year, this represents our most ambitious program to date and reflects our growing confidence in the scale potential emerging at Elemes. Our focus is to rapidly advance and expand the Berezski North and Berezski Central discoveries while continuing to define the broader porphyry footprint. In parallel, we will begin systematically testing Berezski East and Novii targets to determine their relationship to the main porphyry centres, with the objective of unlocking the potential across the 10-kilometre Berezski Trend."*

He went on to add, *"The final Magneto-telluric and gravity survey results received in December have sharpened our targeting and provided greater conviction in the structural controls and scale of the system. Drilling to date has returned broad, near-surface intervals of copper and gold mineralization, reinforcing our view that Elemes has the potential to host a significant, large-scale porphyry system comparable to low-cost producing mines in Kazakhstan. We believe 2026 will be a transformative year for Arras as we continue to demonstrate the scale and continuity of this emerging copper-gold district."*

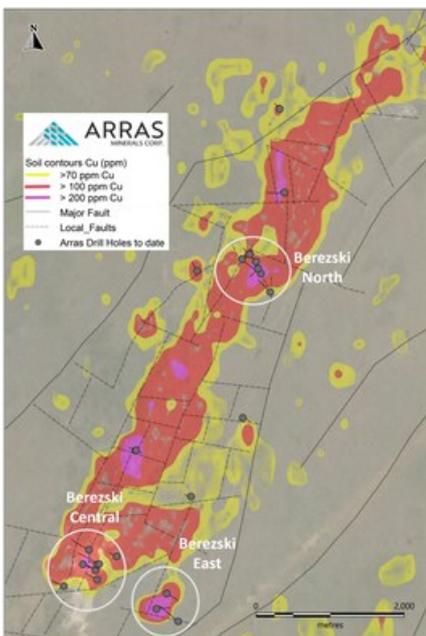


Figure 1: Berezski Trend showing Key Target Areas (CNW Group/Arras Minerals Corp.)



Figure 2. Elemes Project (Berezski East target) - two drill rigs operating February 19, 2026 (CNW Group/Arras Minerals Corp.)

Two diamond drill rigs have arrived on site, with the first two holes commencing at the Berezski East target, focusing on defining and expanding the wide zones of gold-copper mineralization intersected by holes EL24004 (138.8m grading 0.77 g/t Au and 0.09% Cu starting from a depth of 1.2m) and EL25019 (457.5m grading 0.61 g/t Au and 0.10% Cu from surface), and explore the prominent gravity anomaly located to the east-northeast of drill-hole EL25019.

Upon completion of these two holes, both drill-rigs will move up to drill at Berezski North, 4.5 kilometres northwest of Berezski East to follow-up on our previously announced holes EL25023 (246.2m grading 0.75 g/t Au, 0.24% Cu starting from a depth of 0.8m) and EL25014A (154.0m grading 0.72 g/t Au, 0.28% Cu starting at a depth of 130m), and to explore for the continuation of porphyry style bornite-chalcocopyrite mineralization intersected by hole EL25027 (results pending).

Two more drill rigs will arrive at site March, and will commence drilling at Berezski Central, where the Company has completed nine holes and defined a zone of copper-gold mineralization measuring approximately 600m x 500m by up to 550m depth. The target remains open to the north and south and top-of-bedrock (KGK) drilling reported in December 2025 ([link](#)) identified the continuation of gold and copper mineralization extending under cover to the east and west of the currently defined Berezski Central Target area.

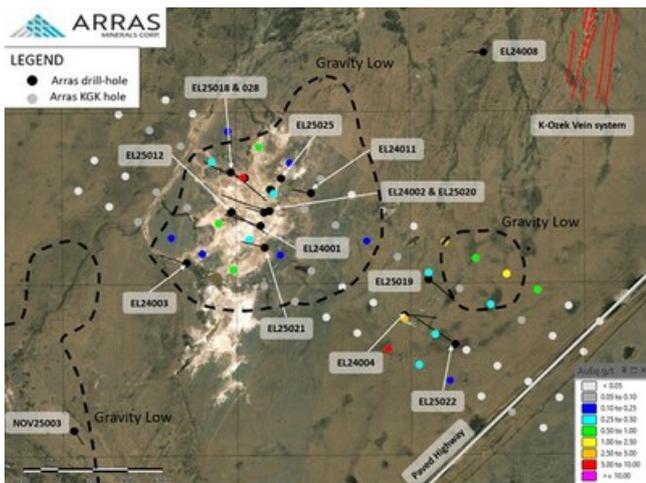


Figure 3: Plan map of completed Arras diamond drill-holes and KGK results (AuEq). (CNW Group/Arras Minerals Corp.)

Notes: For copper and gold equivalent calculations the following metal process were used: US\$3.75/lb. Copper, US\$3,000/oz Gold, US\$35/oz Silver, US\$30/lb Molybdenum, and metallurgical recoveries have been updated to Cu 90%, Au 85%, Ag 75%, Mo 80%. All intervals are presented as core lengths as the true thicknesses of mineralization is currently unknown.

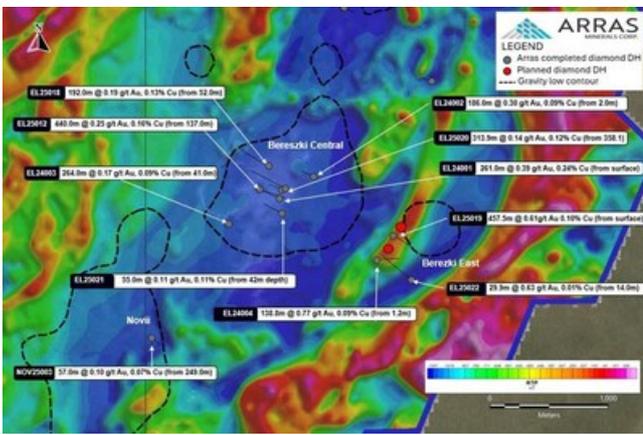


Figure 4. Berezski East Target with completed drill-holes and initial two holes planned for February 2026 (CNW Group/Arras Minerals Corp.)

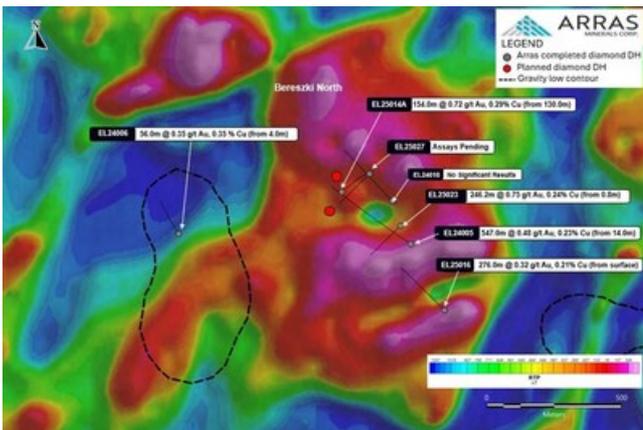


Figure 5. Berezski North Target with completed drill-holes, and initial two holes planned for March 2026. (CNW Group/Arras Minerals Corp.)

Elmes Phase II Drill Program: Since June of last year, Arras Minerals has been advancing its 20,000m Phase II diamond drill program at the Elmes Project. Drilling was paused in late December for a scheduled winter break and recommenced in February. Nearly 10,000m were completed in 2025, and the strength of the results has prompted Arras to plan an expansion of the program to 30,000m, with completion targeted by the end of 2026.

Elmes Project Overview: The Elmes Project comprises two exploration licenses covering 531 square kilometres in northeast Kazakhstan, located approximately 13 km southwest of Ekibastuz and just 20 km from Arras's operational base. The project benefits from exceptional infrastructure, with a paved highway crossing the licence, and access to 1100 KVA power lines, heavy rail, and other utilities within a 15 km radius.

Situated within the prolific Bozshakol-Chingiz metallogenic belt, Elmes lies near significant regional deposits, including the Beskauga porphyry copper-gold-silver deposit (~80 km east) and KAZ Minerals' Bozshakol copper-gold mine (~60 km northwest), which reported mined grades in Q1 2025 of 0.37% Copper and 0.20 g/t gold.¹

Geologically, the property is underlain by interbedded intermediate volcanic and sedimentary rocks intruded by multiple phases of diorite and monzodiorite porphyry. Copper-gold mineralization occurs in sheeted and stockwork quartz-chalcopyrite veins associated with these intrusions. In addition, high-grade low-sulphidation epithermal veins have been mapped on the property, representing a secondary exploration target.

Property-wide soil sampling programs defined two extensive Cu-Mo-As geochemical anomalies: the Berezski and Aimandai Trends, both considered priority targets for follow-up exploration drilling. A

Phase 1 drill program on the Berezski Trend in late 2024 returned high-grade porphyry/epithermal copper and gold mineralization in results announced in Q1 2025. A 20,000m Phase 2 drill program commenced in May 2025 which was expanded to 30,000 metres in January 2026 and is expected to be completed by the end of 2026.

References

¹Bozshakol Q1, 2025 Report

https://kazminerals.com/app/uploads/2025/12/q3-2025-production-report_final.pdf

Quality Assurance and Quality Control

The Company adheres to CIM Best Practices Guidelines for exploration related activities conducted on its property. Quality Assurance and Quality Control (QA/QC) procedures are overseen by the Qualified Person.

Arras Minerals QA/QC protocols are maintained through the insertion of certified reference material (standards), blanks and field duplicates within the sample stream. Drill core is cut at Arras Minerals operations base in Ekibastuz, Kazakhstan by Company personnel. Diamond drill core was sawed in-half with a diamond saw, and then sampled in maximum 2-meter intervals, stopping at geological boundaries, with one-half placed in sealed bags and shipped to the laboratory and the other half retained on site.

Each bagged core sample was shipped to ALS Laboratory in Karaganda, Kazakhstan. Samples were dried, crushed and pulverized to >80% passing -200 mesh. The prepared sample splits were sent to the ALS Chemex's geochemical analysis laboratories laboratory in Loughrea, County Galway, Ireland and Lima, Peru for multi-element analysis. Multielement analyses were analyzed with ICP-MS following a four-acid digestion (method ME-MS61) and samples containing >1.0% copper are analyzed via method Cu-OG62.

Gold analysis was conducted by ALS Chemex at the analytical laboratory in Karaganda, Kazakhstan. Gold was analyzed by fire assay (30 g) with an AA (atomic absorption) finish (method Au-AA23) with detection limits of 0.005 g/t gold. Samples containing greater than 10.0 g/t gold are analyzed by fire assay with a gravimetric finish (method Au-GRA21).

ALS is an accredited laboratory which is independent of the Company. Chain of custody is maintained from the drill to the submittal into the laboratory preparation facility.

Qualified Person

The scientific and technical disclosure for this news release has been prepared under supervision of and approved by Matthew Booth, Vice President of Exploration, of Arras Minerals Corp., a Qualified Person for the purposes of NI 43-101. Mr. Booth has reviewed and approved this release. Mr. Booth has over 20 years of mineral exploration experience and is a Qualified Person member of the American Institute of Professional Geologists (CPG 12044).

Gold, copper and other mineral equivalents are calculated on the basis specifically set forth in respect thereto in this presentation and are based upon the reasonable assumptions as to the prices of various metals and their recoveries thereof made by management of the Company on a project-by-project basis as converted metal. All drill-hole intervals are reported as drill widths, as true thicknesses are unknown. Assumed metal prices are: US\$3.75/lb. Copper, US\$3,000/oz Gold, US\$35/oz Silver, & US\$30/lb Molybdenum.

The Company has updated metal recoveries: 90% for copper, 85% for gold, 75% for silver, and 80% for molybdenum. These figures are based on a review of published data from advanced-stage porphyry projects (including Vizcachitas, Los Andes Copper; Copper Creek, Faraday Copper; Valeriano, ATEX Copper; Los Helados, NGEx Resources Inc.; Opemiska, XXIX Metal Corp; Costa

Fuego, Hot Chili Limited; Moonlight-Superior, US Copper Corp; Warintza, Solaris Resources, Inc.; Chita Valley, Minsud Resources Corp.; Hat, Doubleview Gold Corp.).

Copper Equivalent ("CuEq") grades reported for the drill holes at Elemes were calculated using the following formula: $CuEq \% = ((Copper (\%)) * 0.9) + ((Gold (g/t) \times 0.8571) * 0.85) + ((Silver (g/t) \times 0.0117) * 0.75) + ((Molybdenum (ppm) \times 6.8568) * 0.80)$.

Gold Equivalent ("AuEq") grades reported for the drill holes at Elemes were calculated using the following formula: $AuEq \text{ g/t} = ((Gold (g/t) * 0.85) + ((Copper (\%) \times 1.1667) * 0.9) + ((Silver (g/t) \times 0.0136) * 0.75) + ((Molybdenum (ppm) \times 8.0) * 0.80)$.

On behalf of the Board of Directors,

"Tim Barry"

Tim Barry, MAusIMM CP(Geo)

Chief Executive Officer and Director

Further information can be found on:

- the Company's website <https://www.arrasminerals.com> or
- follow us on LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/arrasminerals> or
- follow us on X (formerly Twitter): <https://twitter.com/arrasminerals>

About Arras Minerals Corp: Arras is a Canadian exploration and development company advancing a portfolio of copper and gold assets in northeastern Kazakhstan, including the Elemes copper-gold porphyry project where initial drill results in 2025 identified porphyry style mineralization across a 10 km line of strike. The Company has established one of the largest land packages in the country prospective for copper and gold. The Company's shares are listed on the TSX-V under the trading symbol "ARK" and on the OTCQB under the trading symbol "ARRKF".

Cautionary note regarding forward-looking statements: This news release contains forward-looking statements regarding future events and Arras' future results that are subject to the safe harbors created under the U.S. Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and the Exchange Act, and applicable Canadian securities laws. Forward-looking statements include, among others, statements regarding plans and expectations of the exploration program Arras is in the process of undertaking, the timing, scope, nature, breadth and other information related to Arras' exploration program, any results that may be derived from the Arras' exploration program, the prospects of Arras' business plans, and any expectations with respect to any permitting, development or other work that may be required to bring any of the projects into development or production. These statements are based on current expectations, estimates, forecasts, and projections about Arras' exploration projects, the industry in which Arras operates and the beliefs and assumptions of Arras' management. Words such as "expects," "anticipates," "targets," "goals," "projects," "intends," "plans," "believes," "seeks," "estimates," "continues," "may," variations of such words, and similar expressions and references to future periods, are intended to identify such forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements are necessarily based upon a number of assumptions that, while considered reasonable by management at the time, are inherently subject to business, market and economic risks, uncertainties and contingencies that may cause actual results, performance or achievements to be materially different from those expressed or implied by forward-looking statements. Such assumptions include, but are not limited to, assumptions that the anticipated benefits of Arras' proposed exploration program will be realized, that no additional permit or licenses will be required in connection with Arras' exploration programs, the ability of Arras' to complete its exploration activities as currently expected and on the current anticipated timelines, that Arras' will be able to execute on its current plans, that Arras' proposed explorations will yield results as expected, and that general business and economic conditions will not change in a material adverse manner. Although Arras has attempted to identify

important factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those contained in forward-looking information, there may be other factors that cause results not to be as anticipated, estimated or intended. There can be no assurance that such information will prove to be accurate, as actual results and future events could differ materially from those anticipated in such statements. Accordingly, readers should not place undue reliance on forward-looking information. Such statements represent the current view of Arras with respect to future events and are necessarily based upon a number of assumptions and estimates that, while considered reasonable by Arras, are inherently subject to significant business, economic, competitive, political and social risks, contingencies and uncertainties. Risks and uncertainties include, but are not limited to the following: inability of Arras to realize the benefits anticipated from the exploration and drilling targets described herein or elsewhere; inability of Arras to complete current exploration plans as presently anticipated or at all; inability for Arras to economically realize on the benefits, if any, derived from the exploration program; failure to complete business plans as it currently anticipated; overdiversification of Arras' portfolio; failure to realize on benefits, if any, of a diversified portfolio; unanticipated changes in market price for Arras shares; changes to Arras' current and future business and exploration plans and the strategic alternatives available thereto; growth prospects and outlook of the business of Arras; and the ability to advance Arras' projects and its proposed exploration program; risks inherent in mineral exploration including risks related worker safety, weather and other natural occurrences, accidents, availability of personnel and equipment, and other factors; aboriginal title; failure to obtain regulatory and permitting approvals; no known mineral resources/reserves; reliance on key management and other personnel; competition; changes in laws and regulations; uninsurable risks; delays in governmental and other approvals, community relations; stock market conditions generally; demand, supply and pricing for uranium; and general economic and political conditions in Canada, Kazakhstan and other jurisdictions where Arras conducts business. Other factors which could materially affect such forward-looking information are described in the filings of Arras with the Canadian securities regulators which are available on Arras' profile on SEDAR+ at www.sedarplus.ca. Readers are cautioned that forward-looking statements are not guarantees of future performance and that actual results or developments may differ materially from those expressed or implied in the forward-looking statements. Any forward-looking statement made by Arras in this release is based only on information currently available and speaks only as of the date on which it is made. Arras undertakes no obligation to publicly update any forward-looking statement, whether written or oral, that may be made from time to time, whether as a result of new information, future developments, or otherwise.

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