

**El Nino Ventures Inc. Drills 9.23 % Zinc, 108.7 gpt Silver, 0.18 % Copper, 0.336 gpt gold and 2.58% Lead Over 31 Metres at Murray Brook Polymetallic Deposit Bathurst Mining Camp, New Brunswick**

- Significant drill results include:
  - 5.89% zinc, 1.82% lead, 0.323 gpt gold and 79.9 gpt silver over 57.2 metres in MB-2012-107
    - Including **9.23% zinc, 2.58% lead, 0.336 gpt gold and 108.7 gpt silver over 31 metres**
  - 4.56% zinc, 1.27% lead, 0.604 gpt gold and 47.1 gpt silver over **125** metres in MB-2012-110
    - Including **7.92% zinc, 1.64% lead, 0.241 gpt gold and 61.88 gpt silver over 37 metres**
- Metallurgical tests in progress

**July 17, 2012**, Vancouver, Canada; El Nino Ventures Inc. (“ELN” and the “Company”) (TSX.V: ELN; OTCQX:ELNOF Frankfurt: E7Q) is pleased to announce assay results for results for the latest round of drilling from the 18,467 metre drill program at the Murray Brook deposit, in the Bathurst Mining Camp of New Brunswick, Canada (Figure 1). The drill program commenced on February 9, 2012 and was completed on June 17, 2012, 97 vertical holes have been completed for a total of 18,470 metres drilled (Figure 2).

The assay results for 12 holes are reported here (Table 1). **Drill hole MB-2012-110 intersected 125 metres of 4.56% zinc, 1.27% lead, 0.604 gpt gold and 47.1 gpt silver. This interval includes 37 metres grading 7.92% zinc, 1.64% lead, 0.14% copper, 0.241 gpt gold and 61.88 gpt silver from 108 metres down hole.**

Drill hole MB-2012-107 intersected 57.2 metres of 5.89% zinc, 1.82% lead, 0.323 gpt gold and 79.9 gpt silver from 54.8 metres down hole. This interval includes 31 metres grading 9.23% zinc, 2.58% lead, 0.18% copper, 0.336 gpt gold and 108.7 gpt silver from 62 metres down hole.

**Drill hole MB-2012-102 intersected 50.2 metres of 4.15% zinc, 1.05% lead, 0.83% copper, 0.324 gpt gold and 42.5 gpt silver from 83 metres down hole. This interval includes 21 metres of 6.12% zinc, 1.56% lead, 1.07% copper, 0.269 gpt gold and 60.8 gpt silver from 83 metres down hole.**

Three holes were drilled to provide sample materials for metallurgical tests on the Murray Brook deposit. Metallurgical tests are in progress in advance of a Preliminary Economic Assessment (PEA or Scoping Study) study in Q1 2013.

## **2012-2013 Exploration Program**

A minimum **\$3 million budget** has been proposed for the 2012-2013 exploration program. The budget includes \$2.5 million for diamond drilling work on the Murray Brook deposit and a \$500,000 exploration geophysical program on the Murray Brook property and the adjacent Camel Back property (Figure 2). The objective of this exploration program is to explore for VMS deposits at depths of up to 200 metres below surface. The Camel Back property is located in the area between the Murray Brook deposit to the west, which is one of the largest massive sulfide deposit in the Bathurst Mining Camp (BMC), and the Caribou deposit to the east.

The 2012 Program consists of

- \$2.5 million budgeted for drill programs for measured resources
  - 18,470 metre drill program began February 2012
  - Delineate the outer perimeter of the Murray Brook deposit and advance the resources into the **measured** (highest confidence) category
- \$0.5 million budgeted for exploration of the Camel Back Property
  - Mapping and prospecting
  - Ground gravity geophysics
  - 2000 metres of drilling with bore-hole EM surveys
- **Metallurgical studies**

## **The Exploration Agreement**

Votorantim is the Operator of the Murray Brook Project. In January 2011, ELN announced that it provided notice to Votorantim to enter into a Participation Agreement on the Murray Brook polymetallic massive sulfide deposit situated in the Bathurst Mining Camp in New Brunswick, Canada.

Under Votorantim's Option and Joint Venture Agreement with Murray Brook Minerals Inc. and Murray Brook Resources Inc., both privately held companies, Votorantim can earn a 50% interest in the properties by funding \$2,250,000 in exploration expenditures and making payments totalling \$300,000 over a three year period that commenced November 1, 2010. Votorantim can earn an additional 20% interest in the properties by funding an additional \$2,250,000 in exploration expenditures over an additional two year period. ELN has elected to enter into a participation agreement wherein it can earn 50% of Votorantim's interest by paying 50% of the costs incurred by Votorantim in the Option and Joint Venture Agreement.

On May 10, 2012 ELN announced that Murray Brook Minerals Inc. (MBM) has been given formal notice by ELN and Votorantim Metals Canada ("Votorantim") of a **50% earned interest in the Murray Brook, Polymetallic project, Bathurst, New Brunswick. MBM has also been provided with a valid notice that ELN and Votorantim are exercising their option to acquire and become owner of an additional 20% (for a total of 70%) beneficial interest in the Murray Brook mining claims.**

## **Qualified Persons Statement**

This news release has been reviewed and approved for technical content by Ali Hassanalizadeh M.Sc. P.Geo a qualified Person under the provisions of National Instrument 43-101.

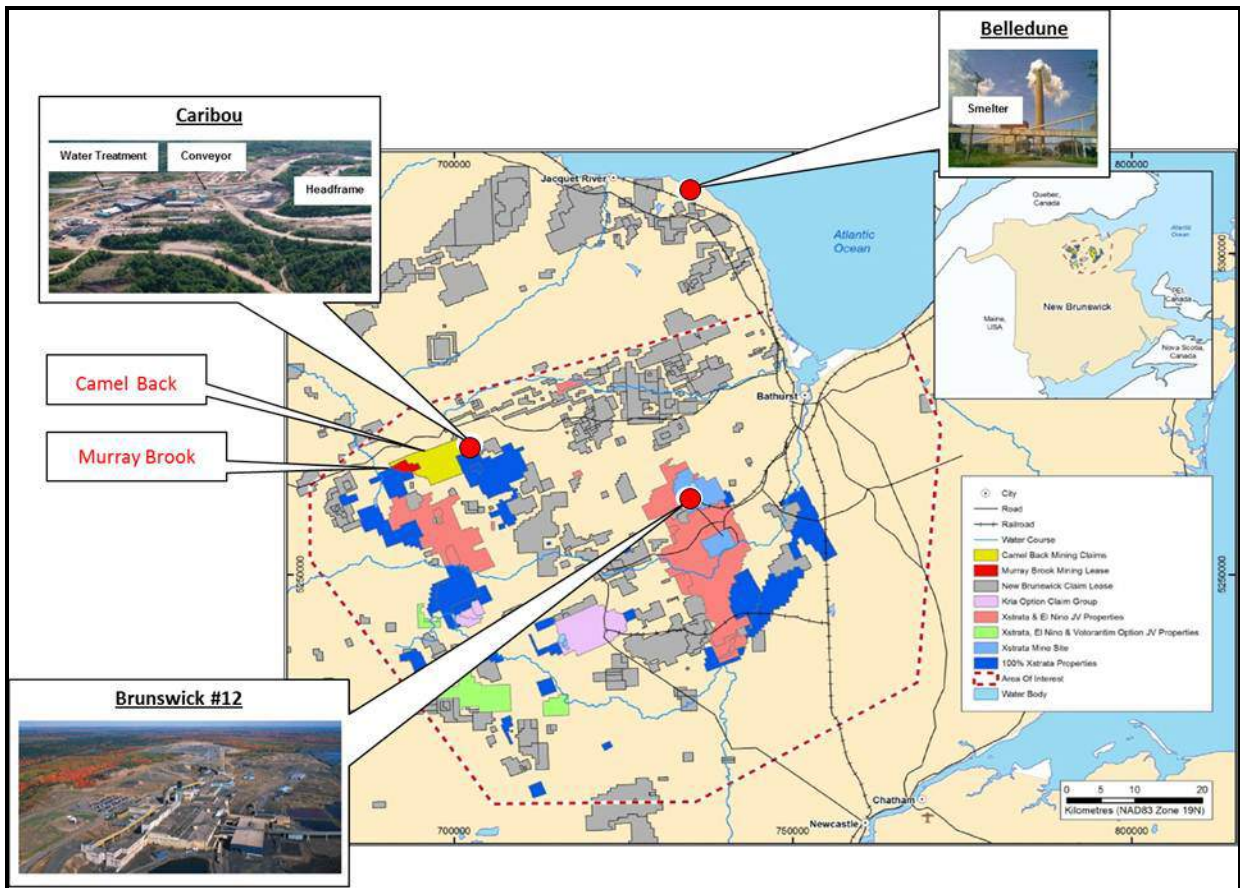


Figure 1- Land tenure map showing the location of the Murray Brook Project in the northwest part of the Bathurst Mining Camp, New Brunswick.

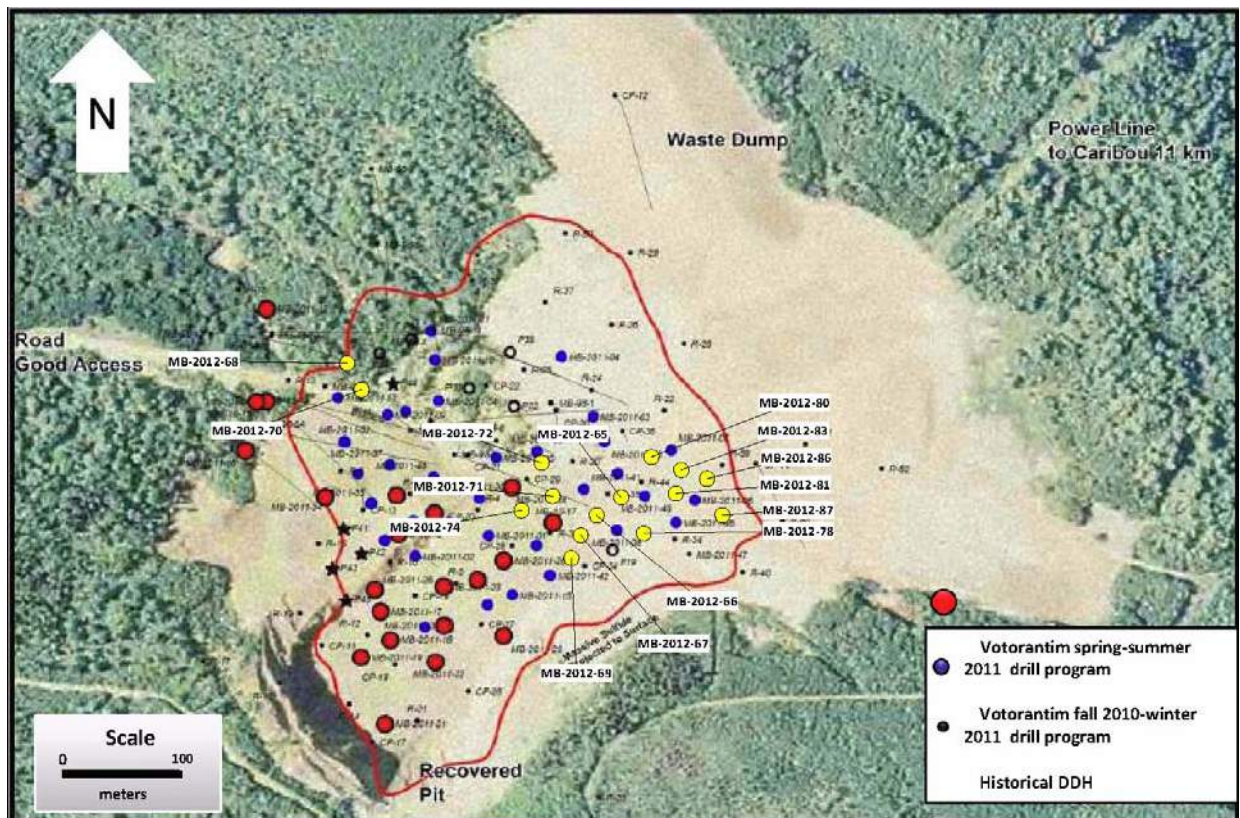


Figure 2 - Plan view of the drill hole collar locations at the Murray Brook Project site.



**Table-1 Compositd drill hole intercepts\***

Hole ID	From	To	Interval**	Cu%	Pb%	Zn%	Au gpt	Ag gpt
MB-2012-102	68.00	118.20	50.20	0.83	1.05	4.15	0.324	42.5
<b>Including</b>	<b>83.00</b>	<b>104.00</b>	<b>21.00</b>	<b>1.07</b>	<b>1.56</b>	<b>6.12</b>	<b>0.269</b>	<b>60.8</b>
MB-2012-102	122.50	174.00	51.50	0.09	0.89	3.39	0.199	34.7
MB-2012-103	133.10	150.30	17.20	0.79	1.06	2.24	1.379	47.8
MB-2012-103	159.00	162.25	3.25	0.32	1.25	2.11	1.308	30.2
MB-2012-104	165.00	182.00	17.00	1.37	0.65	1.32	0.584	33.7
MB-2012-104	183.00	241.00	58.00	0.44	1.06	1.89	1.382	49.3
MB-2012-104	246.51	254.57	8.06	2.52	0.10	0.18	0.375	17.3
MB-2012-106	93.95	104.45	10.50	0.33	1.57	3.86	1.302	74.2
MB-2012-106	129.00	149.50	20.50	0.32	1.23	2.99	1.108	54.5
MB-2012-107	54.80	112.00	57.20	0.15	1.82	5.89	0.323	79.9
<b>Including</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>0.18</b>	<b>2.58</b>	<b>9.23</b>	<b>0.336</b>	<b>108.7</b>
MB-2012-109	128.00	202.95	74.95	1.29	0.27	0.67	0.668	22.3
MB-2012-110	108.00	233.00	125.00	0.26	1.27	4.56	0.604	47.1
<b>Including</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>0.14</b>	<b>1.64</b>	<b>7.92</b>	<b>0.241</b>	<b>61.88</b>
MB-2012-111	145.30	162.50	17.20	0.91	0.13	0.38	0.249	16.1
MB-2012-112	167.20	220.15	52.95	0.49	0.87	1.96	0.847	45.7
MB-2012-113	53.00	94.25	41.25	0.61	0.26	1.24	0.357	16.4

\*The composite assays provided are of massive sulfide intersections only employing a 0% Zn cutoff

\*\*The widths of the intersections are approximate to the true width of the mineralized zone.

**About El Niño Ventures Inc. Bathurst Projects**

**1. Bathurst Mining Camp Project (Tri-Party Agreement)**

Consists of an initial 4,712 claims in the Tri-Party Agreement with Xstrata & Votorantim whereby Votorantim may incur exploration expenditures of \$10 million over a period of 5 years to earn a 50% interest. Votorantim may further increase its interest to 70% by spending an additional \$10 million over 2 years.

## 2. Murray Brook Project

The Murray Brook Project is historically the 5<sup>th</sup> largest massive sulfide deposit in the Bathurst Mining Camp and has excellent infrastructure. Votorantim can earn up to a 50% interest in the Murray Brook Project by funding \$2,250,000 of exploration expenditures over a period of 3 years. Votorantim may acquire a further 20% by incurring an additional \$2.5 million in exploration costs over an additional two year period. ELN has elected to participate by paying 50% of Votorantim's exploration costs during the earn-in period.

In 2011, ELN and Votorantim spent \$2.1 million on exploration; and completed 10,000 metres of drilling. Drill results to date have been encouraging.

The first NI 43-101 Mineral Resource Estimate for the Murray Brook Zn-Cu-Pb-Ag-Au deposit, which includes explanatory footnotes, is presented in the table below (see ELN press release dated February 28, 2012). The resource estimate is based on various assumptions regarding mining methods, processing and metal recoveries, payable metal NSR credits and metal prices. This estimate makes no provision for capital costs to mine the deposit, nor mill the material mined, as resources are not reserves.

**Murray Brook Mineral Resource Estimate Summary**

Category	NSR Cut-Off \$/t	Tonnes	Cu%	Pb%	Zn%	Au gpt	Ag gpt
Measured	\$20	1,620,873	0.27	1.19	3.53	0.5	44.1
Indicated	\$20	17,063,441	0.43	0.93	2.52	0.51	38.8
M + I	\$20	18,684,314	0.42	0.95	2.61	0.5	39.3
Inferred	\$20	3,020,893	0.62	0.75	1.83	0.75	35

**Mineral resources which are not mineral reserves do not have demonstrated economic viability.**

The estimate of mineral resources may be materially affected by environmental, permitting, legal, title, taxation, socio-political, marketing, or other relevant issues.

(1) The quantity and grade of reported Inferred resources in this estimation are uncertain in nature and there has been insufficient exploration to define these Inferred resources as an Indicated or Measured mineral resource and it is uncertain if further exploration will result in upgrading them to an Indicated or Measured mineral resource category.

(2) The mineral resources in this news release were estimated using the Canadian Institute of Mining, Metallurgy and Petroleum (CIM), CIM Standards on Mineral Resources and Reserves, Definitions and Guidelines prepared by the CIM Standard Committee on Reserve Definitions and adopted by CIM Council

(3) The Dec 31, 2011 two year trailing average US metal prices used in this estimate were \$3.71/lb Cu, \$1.03/lb Pb, \$0.98/lb Zn, \$1,397/oz Au, \$27.63/oz Ag. The C\$/US\$ Exchange rate was 0.99.

(4) Overall payable metal in the NSR calculation were 81% Cu, 72% Pb, 64% Zn, 71% Au and 56% Ag.

(5) Mineral resources were determined within a Whittle pit shell with 45 degree slopes utilizing mining costs of C\$2.50/tonne for mineralized material and waste rock, and C\$1.75/tonne for overburden.

(6) Costs used to determine the C\$20/tonne NSR resource cut-off value were processing at C\$15/tonne and G&A C\$5/tonne.

(7) The Murray Brook Mineral Resource Estimate was undertaken by Eugene Puritch, P.Eng. of P&E Mining Consultants Inc.

The Technical Report on the 2012 NI 43-101 Mineral Resource Estimate is filed on SEDAR.com and is available on ELN's website

### **Votorantim Metals Canada Inc. Statement**

Technical details in this news release were provided by Votorantim whose professional geologists conduct operations consistent with mineral industry best practices. Votorantim accepts no responsibility for this news release or any inferences made from the technical details provided herein.

### **About Murray Brook Minerals Inc.**

Murray Brook Minerals Inc. is a privately owned mining exploration company, owner of one of the largest deposits in the Bathurst Mining Camp, (New Brunswick, Canada) the Murray Brook Deposit, as well as of the Camel Back Property consisting of 215 claims.

### **About Votorantim Metals Canada Inc.**

Votorantim Metals Canada Inc. is a subsidiary of Votorantim Metais; a company that is part of the Votorantim Group that was founded in Brazil in 1918 operates in twenty countries and has over forty thousand employees. **Votorantim Metais is the largest electrolytic-nickel producer in Latin America and one of the world's leaders in the production of zinc, aluminum and nickel.**

### **About El Nino Ventures Inc.**

El Niño Ventures Inc. is an international exploration company, focused on exploring for lead, zinc, copper, gold and silver in New Brunswick, Canada and copper in the Democratic Republic of Congo ("DRC").

On Behalf of the Board of Directors



**Harry Barr**  
**Chairman & CEO**  
**El Nino Ventures Inc.**

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