

Date 03 June 2024

ASX Code MGA

Shares on Issue

## Company Directors

MrRichard Beazley Non-Executive Chairperson

Mr Lijun Yang Managing Director and CEO

Mr Haidong Chi Non-Executive Director

Mr John Reynolds Non-executive Director Alternate to Mr Haidong Chi

Mr Peter Stern Non Executive director

Chief Financial Officer Ms Rebecca Broughton

Company Secretary Ms Rebecca Broughton

### Contact Details

Suite 9, Level 2 389 Oxford Street Mount Hawthorn WA 6016 T: + 61 8 9380 6789 E: info@metalsgrove.com.au W: metalsgrove.com.au

## Zimbabwe Lithium Projects – Mapping and Sampling Results Received from Initial Exploration Program

## <u>Highlights</u>

- Perth-based consulting firm, GeoCOM, was engaged in February 2024 by the previous management team of MetalsGrove to undertake initial geological mapping and surface sampling on two newly acquired lithium projects in Zimbabwe, Arcturas and Beatrice.
- Geological mapping consisted of defining several pegmatites although with less detailed geological observations.
- A total of 104 rock samples were collected, prepared, and submitted to ALS South Africa for analysis - nine samples from the Beatrice region and 95 from the Arcturas region. More than one-third of the samples were collected from areas outside MetalsGrove's tenements.
- Pathfinder elements commonly associated with lithium mineralisation, such as tantalum, potassium and rubidium, were not included in the assay suite.
- The 95 samples collected from the Arcturas region recorded lithium values at trace levels or below detection limits (BDL).
- The nine samples collected from the Beatrice region area showed encouraging lithium grades, with values up to 1.44% Li<sub>2</sub>O; however, only one of these samples was collected from within MetalsGrove's tenements.
- The company is planning further exploration work on these projects, including a site visit in June.

### **MANAGEMENT COMMENTARY**

**Commenting on the assay result, Managing Director Lijun Yang, said:** "The final report and assay results from the initial surface mapping and sampling program fell short of the company's expectations. Assay results from identified pegmatites within the Arcturas Project are barren in lithium. Samples collected from the Beatrice Project showed encouraging lithium grades with lepidolite observed, but only one of these samples, grading 0.88% Li<sub>2</sub>O, was collected from within MetalsGrove's granted tenements.

"However, in the absence of detailed geological observations, and with no pathfinder elements such as tantalum, potassium and rubidium included in the assay suite, the company, whilst disappointed with the initial results, considers that further investigation is warranted.

"The company is planning further work on these projects, including a site visit in June."

Global multi-metal resource exploration company **MetalsGrove Mining Limited** (**ASX: MGA**) ("**MetalsGrove**" "**MGA**" or the "**Company**") advises that surface mapping and sampling results from the Company's initial exploration program undertaken in February at the Arcturas Lithium Project (**ALP**) and the Beatrice Lithium Project (**BLP**) in Zimbabwe have been received.

MetalsGrove acquired the two projects on 11 December 2023 under the company's previous management team.

Arcturas is located approximately 35km northeast of Harare and Beatrice is located approximately 55km south of Harare (Figure 1). The projects consist of six new lithium claims encompassing a total area of approximately 510ha and one claim in application.



Figure 1: Map of Zimbabwe showing location of Arcturas and Beatrice Lithium Projects.

Perth-based consulting firm, GeoCOM, was engaged by the previous management team of MetalsGrove in February 2024 to undertake an initial program of geological mapping and surface sampling on Arcturas and Beatrice.

Geological mapping consisted of defining several pegmatites although with less detailed geological observations. The initial site visit was primarily focussed on negotiating and acquiring the tenements.

A total of 104 rock samples were collected, prepared, and submitted to ALS South Africa for analysis, including nine samples from the Beatrice region and 95 from the Arcturas region. More than one-third of the samples collected were from areas outside MetalsGrove's tenements.

Pathfinder elements commonly associated with lithium mineralisation, such as tantalum, potassium, and rubidium, were not included in the assay suite.

The coordinates and assay results for each of the 104 samples are detailed in Table 1.

## **Arcturas Lithium Project**

Arcturas is located approximately 15km west of the Arcadia Lithium Mine (Figure 2).



### Figure 2: Map illustrating location of Arcturas Lithium Prospect.

Considered to be one of the world's largest hard-rock lithium resources, Arcadia, which is owned and operated by Zhejiang Huayou Cobalt, was acquired in December 2021 from Prospect Resources Limited (ASX: PSC) at a cost of approximately US\$378m. Arcadia currently produces approximately 450,000 t/y of lithium concentrates. Prospect Resources retained the Step Aside Lithium Project, located approximately eight kilometres to the north of Arcadia, where recent drilling success (announced January 2024) includes 67m @ 1.17% Li<sub>2</sub>O.



The region is considered highly prospective, hosting many pegmatite zones variously mineralised in lithium (spodumene and lepidolite)-caesium-tantalum (LCT) and beryllium.

A total of 95 samples were collected from the Arcturas Project area. GeoCOM reports that no lithium-bearing minerals were observed.

All samples recorded lithium values at trace levels or below detection limits (Figure 3).



Figure 3: Map of Arcturas illustrating surface sampling locations and results.



## **Beatrice Lithium Project**

Beatrice is located a short distance from the Joyce Gold Mine (Figure 4).



Figure 4: Map illustrating location of Beatrice, including Pegmatite band trends.

Beatrice is a well-known pegmatite zone that is mineralised in lithium (lepidolite)-caesium-tantalum (LCT).

Nine samples were collected for assay by GeoCOM.

These variously recorded encouraging lithium grades, with values of up to 1.44% Li<sub>2</sub>O. Unfortunately, only one of these samples, at the grade of 0.88% Li<sub>2</sub>O, was collected from within MetalsGrove's granted tenements (Figure 5).





Figure 5: Map of Beatrice illustrating surface sampling locations and results.

Lepidolite, the lithium-bearing mineral observed in these samples, can be identified by its distinctive purple colour (Figures 6).



Figure 6: Rock chip sample ID: 85500 From MGA Tenement 0.85% Li<sub>2</sub>O.



## Next steps

As set out above, the work undertaken on Arcturas and Beatrice was of only an initial nature.

Geological mapping was undertaken with less detailed geological observations than would usually be the case. The initial site visit was primarily focussed on negotiating and acquiring the tenements.

Pathfinder elements commonly associated with lithium mineralisation, such as tantalum, potassium, and rubidium, were not included in the assay suite.

The company is planning further exploration work on these projects, including a site visit in June.

#### This announcement was authorised for release by the MetalsGrove Mining Ltd Board of Directors.

| HAREHOLDER ENQUIRIES     | MEDIA ENQUIRIES                     |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Mr Lijun Yang            | Sam Burns                           |
| Managing Director & CEO  | SIX <sup>®</sup> Investor Relations |
| MetalsGrove Mining Ltd   | +61 400 164 067                     |
| ijunY@metalsgrove.com.au | sam.burns@sdir.com.au               |

## About MetalsGrove

MetalsGrove Mining Ltd (ASX: MGA) is a global multi-metal resource exploration company focused on the exploration of its portfolio of high-quality lithium project in Zimbabwe and multi-metals projects including rare earth, copper-gold, manganese and base metal projects in Western Australia and the Northern Territory of Australia.



Figure 7: MetalsGrove Mining Ltd Global Exploration Projects location map.



## **Competent Person Statement – Exploration Strategy**

The information in this announcement that relates to exploration strategy and results is based on information provided to and compiled by Mr Lijun Yang who is currently a member of the Australian Association of Geologists (MAIG). Mr Lijun Yang is Managing Director and CEO of MetalsGrove Mining Limited.

Mr Lijun Yang has sufficient experience which is relevant to the style of mineralisation and exploration processes as reported herein to qualify as a Competent Person as defined in the 2012 Edition of the 'Australasian Code for Reporting of Exploration Results, Mineral Resources and Ore Reserves'.

Mr Lijun Yang consents to the inclusion in this announcement of the information contained herein, in the form and context in which it appears.

This announcement includes information that relates to Exploration Results prepared and first disclosed under the JORC Code (2012).

### Forward Looking Statements

This announcement may contain certain "forward looking statements" which may not have been based solely on historical facts, but rather may be based on the Company's current expectations about future events and results. Where the Company expresses or implies an expectation or belief as to future events or results, such expectation or belief is expressed in good faith and believed to have a reasonable basis.

However, forward looking statements are subject to risks, uncertainties, assumptions, and other factors which could cause actual results to differ materially from future results expressed, projected or implied by such forward looking statements. Such risks include, but are not limited to exploration risk, mineral resource risk, metal price volatility, currency fluctuations, increased production costs and variances in ore grade or recovery rates from those assumed in mining plans, as well as political and operational risks in the countries and states in which we sell our product to, and government regulation and judicial outcomes.

For more detailed discussion of such risks and other factors, see the Company's Prospectus, as well as the Company's other filings. Readers should not place undue reliance on forward looking information. The Company does not undertake any obligation to release publicly any revisions to any "forward looking statement" to reflect events or circumstances after the date of this announcement, or to reflect the occurrence of unanticipated events, except as may be required under applicable securities laws.

| Sample ID | Project  | Easting | Northing | Li (ppm) | Li <sub>2</sub> O (%) | Cs (ppm) |
|-----------|----------|---------|----------|----------|-----------------------|----------|
| 85301     | Beatrice | 277919  | 7975119  | 3750     | 0.81                  | 470      |
| 85302     | Beatrice | 277758  | 7974769  | 4590     | 0.99                  | 380      |
| 85303     | Beatrice | 277375  | 7974796  | 5530     | 1.19                  | 590      |
| 85304     | Beatrice | 277602  | 7975084  | 6480     | 1.40                  | 840      |
| 85401     | Arcturas | 314868  | 8031030  | 10       | 0                     | 0        |
| 85402     | Arcturas | 315094  | 8031416  | 30       | 0.01                  | 0        |
| 85403     | Arcturas | 315090  | 8031448  | 20       | 0                     | 0        |
| 85404     | Arcturas | 315106  | 8031482  | 30       | 0.01                  | 0        |

#### Table 1 Assay results for all samples









# JORC Code, 2012 Edition – Table 1

## **Section 1 Sampling Techniques and Data**

(Criteria in this section apply to all succeeding sections.)

| Criteria                 | JORC Code Explanation   | Commentary   |
|--------------------------|---|--|
| Sampling<br>Techniques   | <ul> <li>Nature and quality of sampling<br/>(e.g. cut channels, random chips, or<br/>specific specialized industry<br/>standard measurement tools<br/>appropriate to the minerals under<br/>investigation, such as down hole<br/>gamma sondes, or handheld XRF<br/>instruments, etc). These examples<br/>should not be taken as limiting the<br/>broad meaning of sampling.</li> <li>Include reference to measures<br/>taken to ensure sample<br/>representivity and the appropriate<br/>calibration of any measurement<br/>tools or systems used.</li> <li>Aspects of the determination of<br/>mineralisation that are Material to<br/>the Public Report.</li> </ul> | • The rock chip samples were collected as<br>1-3 kg field samples from representative<br>outcrops with the samples being<br>collected from multiple sites from within<br>a single outcrop to provide<br>representivity of the samples. |
| Drilling<br>Techniques   | <ul> <li>Drill type (e.g. core, reverse<br/>circulation, open-hole hammer,<br/>rotary air blast, auger, Bangka,<br/>sonic, etc.) and details (e.g. core<br/>diameter, triple or standard tube,<br/>depth of the samples were rock chip<br/>samples, no drill samples were<br/>collected.</li> </ul>   | • No drilling results included in release.   |
| Drill Sample<br>Recovery | <ul> <li>Method of recording and assessing core and chip sample recoveries and results assessed.</li> <li>Measures taken to maximize sample recovery and ensure representative nature of the samples.</li> <li>Whether a relationship exists between sample recovery and grade and whether sample bias may have occurred due to</li> </ul>  | • No drilling results included in release.   |

|  | preferential loss/gain of<br>fine/coarse material.   |
|--|--|
| Logging  | <ul> <li>Whether core and chip samples have been geologically and geotechnically logged to a level of detail to support appropriate Mineral Resource estimation, mining studies and metallurgical studies.</li> <li>Whether logging is qualitative or quantitative in nature. Core (or costean, channel, etc.) photography.</li> <li>The total length and percentage of the relevant intersections logged.</li> <li>All sample coordinates and photos were recorded by contracted field geologists.</li> <li>All sample coordinates and photos were recorded by contracted field geologists.</li> <li>There was no detailed geological observation was recorded</li> </ul>   |
| Sub-<br>sampling<br>Techniques<br>and<br>Sample<br>Preparation | <ul> <li>If core, whether cut or sawn and whether quarter, half or all core taken.</li> <li>If non-core, whether riffled, tube sampled, rotary split, etc. and whether sampled wet or dry.</li> <li>For all sample types, the nature, quality and appropriateness of the sample preparation technique.</li> <li>Quality control procedures adopted for all sub-sampling stages to maximize representivity of samples.</li> <li>Measures taken to ensure that the sampling is representative of the in-situ material collected, including for instance results for field duplicate/second-half sampling.</li> <li>Whether sample sizes are appropriate to the grain size of the material being sampled.</li> <li>The samples were crushed in Zimbabwe local lab of Performance Laboratories, Zimbabwe (PVT) Ltd at 85% passing 4.5mm to general coarse material.</li> <li>Homogenously splitted, packed and stored 300-400g coarse material at for future reference.</li> <li>Pulverised 300-400g of coarse material to generate the fine material with 85% passing 75 micron.</li> <li>Homogenously splitted and packed 250g of pulverised fine material and shipped to ALS lab Johannesburg of South Africa.</li> </ul> |
| Quality of<br>Assay Data<br>and<br>Laboratory<br>Tests         | <ul> <li>The nature, quality and appropriateness of the assaying and laboratory procedures used and whether the technique is considered partial or total.</li> <li>For geophysical tools, spectrometers, handheld XRF</li> <li>The fine material samples were assayed at ALS lab Johannesburg of South Africa</li> <li>The samples were assayed for selected element determination by Sodium Peroxide Fusion and dissolution</li> </ul>  |

|  | <ul> <li>instruments, etc, the parameters used in determining the analysis including instrument make and model, reading times, calibrations factors applied and their derivation, etc.</li> <li>Nature of quality control procedures adopted (e.g. standards, blanks, duplicates, external laboratory checks) and whether acceptable levels of accuracy (i.e. lack of bias) and precision have been established.</li> <li>followed by ICP-MS analysis with a method precision at ± 10 – 15%.</li> <li>There were no QAQC samples submitted with these rock chip samples.</li> <li>The Standard, blank and duplicated samples were added by ALS lab.</li> <li>The sample size is considered to be appropriate for the material grain size.</li> </ul> |
|--|--|
| Verification<br>of Sampli<br>and Assay | <ul> <li>The verification of significant intersections by either independent or alternative company personnel.</li> <li>The use of twinned holes.</li> <li>Documentation of primary data, data entry procedures, data verification, data storage (physical and electronic) protocols.</li> <li>Discuss any adjustment to assay data.</li> </ul>  |
| Location<br>Data Poir                  | <ul> <li>Accuracy and quality of surveys<br/>used to locate drillholes (collar and<br/>down-hole surveys), trenches, mine<br/>workings and other locations used<br/>in Mineral Resource estimation.</li> <li>Specification of the grid system<br/>used.</li> <li>Quality and adequacy of<br/>topographic control.</li> </ul>   |
| Data Spac<br>and<br>Distributi         | <ul> <li>Data spacing for reporting of Exploration Results.</li> <li>Whether the data spacing and distribution is sufficient to establish the degree of geological and grade continuity appropriate for the Mineral Resource and Ore Reserve estimation procedure(s) and classifications applied.</li> <li>Whether sample compositing has been applied.</li> </ul>   |

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| Orientation •<br>of data in<br>relation to<br>geologic al<br>structure<br>• | Whether the orientation of<br>sampling achieves unbiased<br>sampling of possible structures and<br>the extent to which this is known,<br>considering the deposit type.<br>If the relationship between the<br>drilling orientation and the<br>orientation of key mineralised<br>structures is considered to have<br>introduced a sampling bias, this<br>should be assessed and reported if<br>material. | The rock chip samples were collected<br>from the exposed pegmatite outcrops or<br>historical working site from Arcturas and<br>Beatrice region area. |
|---|--|--|
| Sample •<br>security  | The measures taken to ensure sample security.  | The samples were delivered to the ALS Johannesburg, by contracted delivery company.  |
| Audits or •<br>Reviews  | The results of any audits or reviews of sampling techniques and data.  | There have not been any external audits of these first pass rock chip sample results.  |

## **Section 2 – Reporting of Exploration Results**

(Criteria listed in the preceding section also apply to this section.)

| Criteria  | JORC Code Explanation  | Commentary  |
|---|--|---|
| Mineral<br>Tenement<br>and Land<br>Tenure<br>Status | <ul> <li>Type, reference name/number, location and ownership including agreements or material issues with third parties such as joint ventures, partnerships, overriding royalties, native title interests, historical sites, wilderness or national park and environmental settings.</li> <li>The security of the tenure held at the time of reporting along with any known impediments to obtaining a licence to operate in the area.</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>A total of 104 rock samples were collected from the region covered area of claim License Number: 000450AA, 005434AA, 016961BA, 016956AA and 016982BA.</li> <li>Over one-third of the samples were collected from areas outside MetalsGrove's tenements.</li> <li>There is a strategic agreement with third parties (JV agreements 95% MGA and 5% JV Partners La Rich Resources and CN Mining Syndicate).</li> <li>There are no reserves or national</li> </ul> |
| Exploration   | Acknowledgment and appraisal of  | parks to impede exploration on the tenure.  |
| Done by<br>Other<br>Parties.                        | exploration by other parties.  | <ul> <li>All historical work referenced in this<br/>report has been undertaken by<br/>previous project explorers. Whilst it</li> </ul>  |

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|         |   | could be expected that work and<br>reporting practices were of an<br>adequate standard, this cannot be   |
|---------|---|--|
| Geology | • Deposit type, geological setting and style of mineralisation. | <ul> <li>This craton is bound by the Zambezi<br/>Belt to the north and north-east, the<br/>Limpopo Belt to the south, and the<br/>Mozambique Belt to the east. As<br/>opposed to the Kaapvaal Craton, the<br/>Zimbabwe Craton is composed<br/>predominantly of greenstone belts<br/>and subordinate granites and granitic<br/>gneisses (Wilson, 1981). The<br/>greenstone belts fall into three<br/>distinct stratigraphic groups. In order<br/>of younging these are</li> </ul>   |
|         |   | • the Sebakwian.   |
|         |   | • the Bulawayan and  |
|         |   | • the Shamvaian.   |
|         |   | • The belts are associated with granitic rocks, ultramafic intrusions and a swarm of mafic dykes which culminated in the intrusion of the Zimbabwe Great Dyke at approximately 2.5 Ga (Wilson and Wilson, 1981).   |
|         |   | • The claims are within a greenstone<br>belt in a foliated metabasaltic<br>pillowed in part. Claims are located<br>within the Goromonzi communal<br>lands. The local geology is composed<br>mainly of greenstone intruded by<br>pegmatites which are mineralised<br>with Be, Li, Sn and Ta. There is a<br>metagabbro, massive and<br>amphibolitized trending NW-SE to<br>the southern part of the pegmatitic<br>structures. Vee Cee and Guiney Bore<br>old Mines are within claims |

|   |   | tonalitic augen gneiss to the east.<br>Some of the claims are within this<br>contact zones where there is<br>potential for gold mineralisation. |
|---|---|---|
| Drillhole<br>Information  | <ul> <li>A summary of all information material<br/>to the understanding of the<br/>exploration results including a<br/>tabulation of the following<br/>information for all Material drillholes:</li> <li>easting and northing of the drillhole<br/>collar elevation or RL (Reduced Level –<br/>elevation above sea level in metres) of<br/>the drillhole collar dip and azimuth of<br/>the hole</li> <li>down hole length and interception<br/>denth hole length</li> </ul>   | No drilling results included in release.  |
| Data<br>Aggregation<br>Methods  | <ul> <li>In reporting Exploration Results, weighting averaging techniques, maximum and/or minimum grade truncations (e.g. cutting of high grades) and cut-off grades are usually Material and should be stated.</li> <li>Where aggregate intercepts incorporate short lengths of high grade results and longer lengths of low grade results, the procedure used for such aggregation should be stated and some typical examples of such aggregations should be shown in detail.</li> <li>The assumptions used for any reporting of metal equivalent values should be clearly stated.</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>No data aggregation methods were<br/>applied to the rock chip sampling<br/>data.</li> </ul>  |
| Relationship<br>Between<br>Mineralisati<br>on Widths<br>and<br>Intercept<br>Lengths | • If the geometry of the mineralisation<br>with respect to the drillhole angle is<br>known, its nature should be reported.  | • The pegmatite samples are representative of the outcrops.   |
| Diagrams  | • Appropriate maps and sections (with scales) and tabulations of intercepts should be included for any significant discovery being reported These should  | • See maps in the body of the report.   |

and taff-like horizons (t) and also

| Balanced<br>Reporting                       | <ul> <li>include, but not be limited to a plan view of drillhole collar locations and appropriate sectional views.</li> <li>Where comprehensive reporting of all Exploration Results is not practicable, representative reporting of both low and high grades and/or widths should be practiced avoiding misleading reporting of Exploration Results.</li> </ul>  | • The reporting of these rock chip sample results is considered to be representative.   |
|---|---|---|
| Other<br>Substantive<br>Exploration<br>Data | <ul> <li>Other exploration data, if meaningful<br/>and material, should be reported<br/>including (but not limited to):<br/>geological observations; geophysical<br/>survey results; geochemical survey<br/>results; bulk samples – size and<br/>method of treatment; metallurgical<br/>test results; bulk density, groundwater,<br/>geotechnical and rock characteristics;<br/>potential deleterious or contaminating<br/>substances.</li> </ul> | • There are no other substantive exploration results associated with these rock chip samples.   |
| Further<br>Work                             | <ul> <li>The nature and scale of planned further work (e.g. tests for lateral extensions or depth extensions or large-scale step-out drilling).</li> <li>Diagrams clearly highlighting the areas of possible extensions, including the main geological interpretations and future drilling areas, provided this information is not commercially sensitive.</li> </ul>   | <ul> <li>Further site visit was planned as needed.</li> <li>Drilling will be planned subject to further exploration results.</li> <li>The images included show the location of the current areas of interest</li> </ul> |