

## CRITICAL ENGAGES LEADING CANADIAN GOVERNMENT RELATIONS FIRM TO ACCELERATE MAVIS LAKE LITHIUM PROJECT

Critical Resources appoints Pathway Group, a leading Canadian government relations firm, to drive advocacy, funding access, and stakeholder engagement for the Mavis Lake Project.

- **Strategic Engagement:** Appointment of Pathway Group, a leading Canadian government relations firm, to support permitting (with a former Minister of Northern Development and Mines – Ontario), unlock government funding opportunities, and strengthen stakeholder relationships.
- **Mavis Lake - Strategic Asset for North American Lithium Supply Chain:** Maiden JORC Inferred Mineral Resource of 8Mt @ 1.07% Li<sub>2</sub>O, with over 58,000 metres drilled since 2022 and an established Exploration Target, positions Mavis Lake for significant future growth.
- **Mavis Lake Infrastructure Advantage:** Mavis Lake's immediate access to highways, rail, and clean hydro-power enables efficient, lower-cost logistics and sustainable operations, with strong provincial and federal support accelerating project advancement.
- **Partnership to Accelerate Project Advancement:** The Pathway Group partnership underpins Critical's commitment to establishing Mavis Lake as a cornerstone for Canada's and North America's lithium supply chain, supporting long-term value creation for shareholders and the global energy transition.

Critical Resources Limited ('Critical Resources' or the 'Company', ASX:CRR) is pleased to announce the engagement of the Pathway Group to support the advancement of its flagship Mavis Lake Lithium Project in Ontario, Canada. This strategic partnership underscores Critical Resources' commitment to delivering a fully integrated lithium supply chain solution for Canada and North America.

Under the arrangement, the Pathway Group will provide Critical Resources with strategic counsel and support engagement with Canadian federal and provincial governments, relevant agencies, and key policymakers. Pathway Group will also offer guidance on government funding and financing, commercial and Indigenous partnerships, and enhanced visibility within Canada, to advance the Mavis Lake Lithium Project.

### ABOUT PATHWAY GROUP

Pathway Group is one of Canada's most established government relations and public affairs firms, founded in 2002. The firm specialises in government advocacy, strategic communications, funding advisory, and stakeholder engagement, with a proven track record of delivering results for resource, infrastructure, and critical minerals projects across Canada.

Supporting the Company will be a highly experienced team led by Mr Bill Mauro and Mr Al MacDermid. Mr Mauro is a **former Ontario Cabinet Minister and Mayor of Thunder Bay, having held several senior cabinet positions including Minister of Northern Development and Mines, and Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry.** Mr MacDermid, Vice President of Business Development at Pathway Group, brings over 30 years' experience in political strategy and government relations, with a background spanning senior advisory roles

in both provincial and federal governments, as well as extensive campaign management and regulatory expertise. **The whole Pathway Group team and associates offer unparalleled insight into Ontario's critical minerals policy and permitting processes, along with a proven track record in securing funding, facilitating regulatory approvals, and building strategic relationships.** Their combined networks and expertise will enable Critical Resources to accelerate permitting, unlock government funding opportunities, and strengthen the relationships essential for project success.

**Critical Resources Managing Director, Tim Wither, commented:** *'Engaging Pathway Group is a critical step in moving Mavis Lake forward. Their expertise in advocacy and stakeholder relations will ensure the Mavis Lake project is well positioned as Canada and North America advance their critical minerals strategy.'*

**Pathway Group President, Mr Peter Curtis, commented:** *'Critical Resources' Mavis Lake Lithium Project represents a significant opportunity for Ontario and Canada to strengthen their role in the Canadian and North American lithium supply chain and the global energy transition. Our team is committed to ensuring Critical has the support it needs from government, Indigenous communities, and key stakeholders to advance permitting and access strategic funding. We look forward to working closely with the Critical team to position Mavis Lake as a cornerstone of Canada's critical minerals supply chain.'*

## WHY THIS MATTERS

- **Elevates Project Profile:** Increases Mavis Lake Lithium Project's visibility and credibility in North American critical minerals initiatives, drawing interest from government, industry, and investors.
- **Unlocks Funding and Partnerships:** Increases the likelihood of securing non-dilutive government funding, grants, and strategic commercial partnerships, supporting growth and minimising shareholder dilution.
- **Strengthens Strategic Positioning:** Positions Mavis Lake at the forefront of a secure North American lithium supply chain, aligned with government priorities for energy transition and resource security.
- **Builds Broad-Based Support:** Expands national and international backing for the development of Mavis Lake's lithium resource and CRR's broader critical minerals portfolio, including strong Indigenous and community relationships.
- **Drives Long-Term Value:** Directly supports the Company's objective to establish Mavis Lake as a long-term, strategic lithium source for North America, underpinning sustainable value creation opportunity for shareholders.

## NEXT STEPS

Critical and Pathway Group will commence coordinated engagement efforts with Canadian federal and provincial governments, relevant agencies, and key policymakers. This will be supported by ongoing technical and stakeholder work as the Company advances permitting, resource expansion, and development planning at the Mavis Lake Lithium Project.

## MAVIS LAKE PROJECT DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES – LOCATION ADVANTAGE

Strategically located in northwestern Ontario (**Figure 1**), Mavis Lake benefits from a unique combination of geological prospectivity, robust infrastructure, supportive government policy, and proximity to key North American markets. As the lithium sector enters a period of renewed optimism, Mavis Lake is ideally placed to deliver scalable, lower-cost supply, supported by government funding, streamlined permitting, and surging demand for battery materials.

- **Tier-1 jurisdiction:** Ontario's stable regulatory environment, skilled workforce, and strong mining culture provide a strong foundation for long-term project development.
- **Highly prospective geology:** Situated within the Archean Greenstone Belt, Mavis Lake hosts high-grade, hard-rock spodumene pegmatites. The district-scale landholding now exceeds 400 km<sup>2</sup>, with over 31 new LCT pegmatite discoveries underpinning ongoing resource growth potential.
- **Exceptional infrastructure:** Immediate access to the Trans-Canada Highway, all-season roads, and national rail network enables efficient logistics and export pathways to US and international customers. Clean hydroelectric power and natural gas pipelines support low-emission, sustainable operations.
- **Government and community support:** Federal and Provincial governments continue to prioritise critical minerals through funding and streamlined permitting. An Agreement-in-Principle with the Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation ensures the project aligns with community values and environmental stewardship.
- **Technical and environmental progress:** Technical and baseline environmental studies are underway, leveraging infrastructure advantages to fast-track permitting and development. The project's location allows for lower-emission operations and a commitment to minimising environmental impact.
- **Strategic positioning:** Mavis Lake is ideally located and is positioned as a potential feedstock for the North American lithium supply chain. This enhances the project's opportunities and readiness for the forecast lithium market rebound.

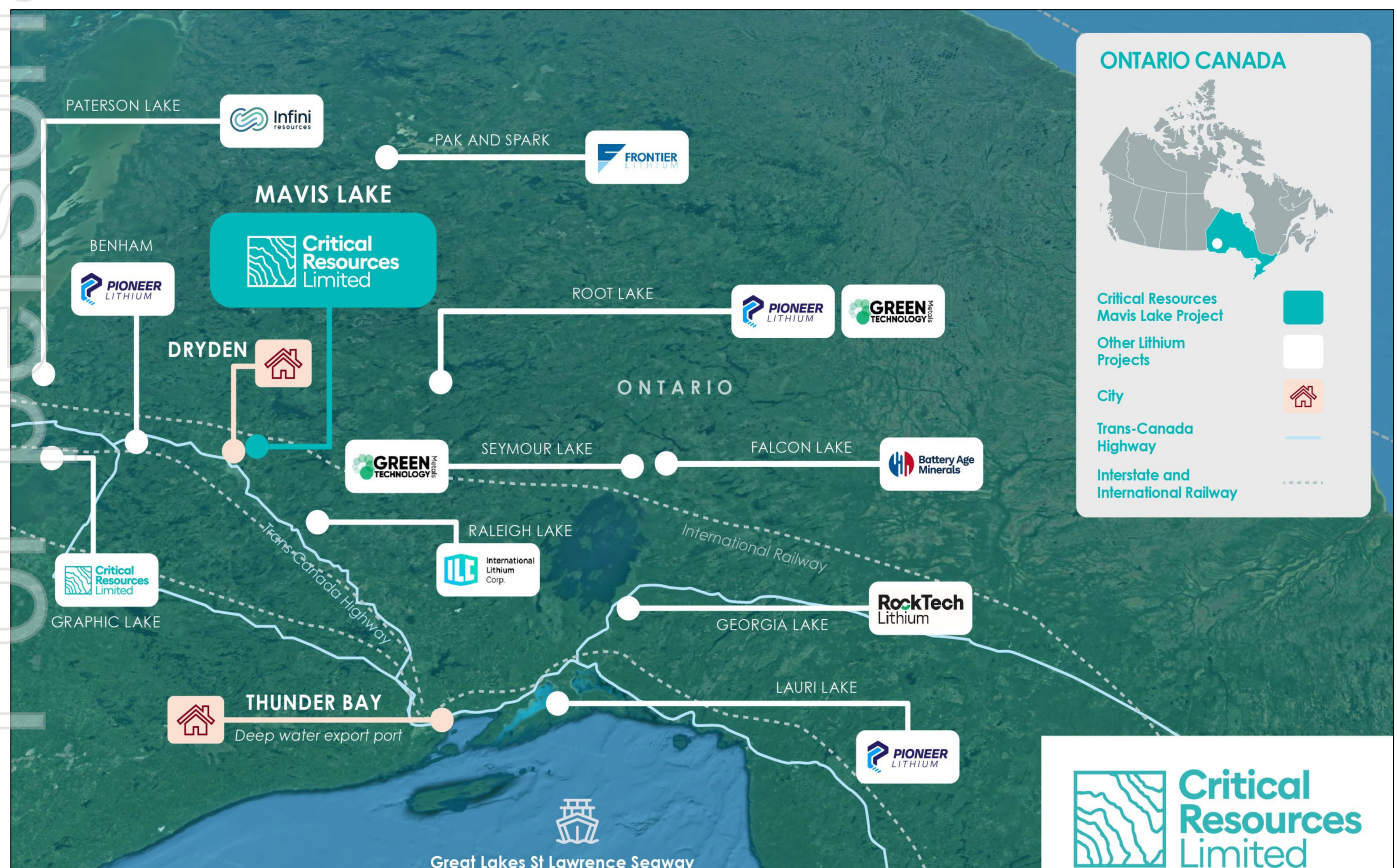


Figure 1 – Location of Critical Resources Mavis Lake project with surrounding lithium prospects

This announcement has been approved for release by the Board of Directors of Critical Resources.

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**E:** [info@criticalresources.com.au](mailto:info@criticalresources.com.au)

**P:** +61 (8) 9465 1024

## ABOUT CRITICAL RESOURCES LIMITED

Critical Resources Limited (ASX:CRR) is an Australian mining and technology company focused on the exploration and development of metals and advanced next generation battery technologies essential for a sustainable future. The Company's portfolio includes the Mavis Lake Lithium Project in Ontario, Canada, the Halls Peak Base Metals Project in New South Wales, Australia, a growing gold and antimony presence in New Zealand.

For more information, visit: [www.criticalresources.com.au](http://www.criticalresources.com.au)

## PREVIOUSLY REPORTED INFORMATION

This document contains information relating to the Mineral Resource estimate for the Mavis Lake Lithium Project, which is extracted from the Company's ASX announcement dated 5 May 2023 and reported in accordance with the 2012 JORC Code and available for viewing at [criticalresources.com.au](http://criticalresources.com.au). The Company confirms that it is not aware of any new information or data that materially affects the information included in the original announcement and that all material assumptions and technical parameters underpinning the Mineral Resource estimate continue to apply and have not materially changed.

This announcement contains information on the Mavis Lake Project extracted from ASX market announcements dated 25 October 2021, 16 June 2022, 21 July 2022, 13 September 2022, 25 October 2022, 31 October 2022, 20 December 2022, 23 January 2023, 9 February 2023, 27 March 2023, 3 April 2023, 16 June 2023, 27 June 2023, 17 July 2023, 24 July 2023, 21 August 2023, 13 September 2023, 19 September 2023, 19 October 2023, 24 October 2023, 2 November 2023, 15 November 2023, 13 February 2024, 18 March 2024, 17 April 2024, 2 May 2024, 22 May 2024, 29 May 2024, 2 July 2024, 8 July 2024, 24 July 2024, 22 August 2024, 28 October 2024, 30 October 2024, 2 December 2024, 27 June 2025 and 25 August 2025 reported in accordance with the 2012 JORC Code and available for viewing at [www.criticalresources.com.au](http://www.criticalresources.com.au). The Company confirms that it is not aware of any new information or data that materially affects the information included in any original ASX market announcement.

### Mavis Lake Lithium Project - Mineral Resource Estimate

Mavis Lake -Lithium Project JORC Classification	Li <sub>2</sub> O Cut-Off grade (%)	Tonnage (Mt)	Li <sub>2</sub> O (%)
Inferred	0.3	8.0	1.07
<b>Total*</b>		<b>8.0</b>	<b>1.07</b>

\*Reported at a cut-off grade of 0.30% Li<sub>2</sub>O for an open pit mining scenario. Estimation for the model is by inverse distance weighting. Classification is according to the JORC Code Mineral Resource categories. Refer to ASX:CRR announcement 5 May 2023.

## FORWARD LOOKING STATEMENTS

This announcement may contain certain forward-looking statements and projections. Such forward-looking statements/projections are estimates for discussion purposes only and should not be relied upon. Forward-looking statements/projections are inherently uncertain and may therefore differ materially from results ultimately achieved. Critical Resources Limited does not make any representations and provides no warranties concerning the accuracy of the projections and disclaims any obligation to update or revise any forward-looking statements/projections based on new information, future events or otherwise, except to the extent required by applicable laws. While the information contained in this report has been prepared in good faith, neither Critical Resources Limited or any of its directors, officers, agents, employees or advisors give any representation or warranty, express or implied, as to the fairness, accuracy, completeness or correctness of the information, opinions and conclusions contained in this announcement.