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NEWS RELEASE

Foran Mining Pays \$1,500,000 on Signing Definitive Agreement for the Hanson Lake Copper-Zinc Project

January 25, 2005

FOM.V

Foran Mining Corporation (“Foran”) is pleased to announce that it has entered into a definitive agreement with Cameco Corporation (“Cameco”) and Billiton Metals Canada Inc (“BHP Billiton”), which agreement allows Foran to acquire a 100% interest in the Hanson Lake Project (McIlvenna Bay Cu Zn Deposit) located in Saskatchewan.

Foran will acquire 100% of the Hanson Lake Project by:

- i) paying Cdn.\$1,500,000 to the Hanson Lake Joint Venture (Cameco and BHP Billiton);
- ii) paying a further Cdn.\$2,000,000 to the Hanson Lake Joint Venture (Cameco and BHP Billiton) before May 31, 2006. If Foran is unable to make such payment, Foran will have to issue Cdn.\$3,000,000 worth of free trading common shares, based on Foran’s average trading price over the first 15 day period in May, 2006; and
- iii) providing the Joint Venture with a 1% Net Smelter Return (NSR), with a buy-out provision in favor of Foran for the purchase of the whole NSR for Cdn.\$1,000,000 at any time.

Foran has agreed to assign its interest in the Property Option Agreement among Foran, Cameco and BHP Billiton to Copper Reef Mines (1973) Ltd. as Copper Reef has funded the initial \$1.5 million payment and agreed to issue to Foran 5,500,000 common shares of Copper Reef. Subject to regulatory approval, Foran has also agreed to subscribe for 2,500,000 units of Copper Reef at a price of \$0.20 per unit, which will give Foran a 48.41% equity interest in Copper Reef.

Copper Reef is a private company organized under the laws of the Province of Manitoba. Copper Reef has agreed to use its best efforts to undertake a public offering as soon as is reasonably possible. Stephen Masson, a director of Foran and Foran’s former CEO, is the President and Chief Executive Officer of Copper Reef.

In addition to the option to acquire the Hanson Lake Project, Copper Reef also owns a number of base metal exploration properties in Manitoba.

On behalf of the Board of Directors

“signed”

Terry Summach,
President & C.E.O.

The TSX Venture Exchange has not reviewed and does not accept responsibility for nor the adequacy or accuracy of the contents of this news release.