



## **Traverse Financial to invest in Black Spruce Exploration**

St. John's, Newfoundland & Labrador – July 12, 2013 – Traverse Financial Corporation (“Traverse”), an independent corporate finance firm, has entered into a subscription agreement subject to certain terms and conditions, to invest up to US\$10 million in the equity of Black Spruce Exploration Corp. (“BSE”), an exploration and production company with property rights, licenses and interests in the province of Newfoundland.

BSE will use the investment to contribute towards its drilling activities in Western Newfoundland. As of this date BSE has signed operating or acquisition agreements with two different entities—Shoal Point Energy Ltd. and Ptarmigan Energy Inc.—and has agreements in principal with Deer Lake Oil & Gas Inc. and Enegi Oil PLC, which will be finalized in the near term, to become the operator for eight licenses and more than 2.3 million exploration acres in Western Newfoundland.

“We’re delighted that Traverse has come on board and wants to play a significant role in working with us to develop these reserves,” commented BSE President & CEO David Murray. “This agreement demonstrates the belief they and other investors have in this project and in the enormous potential for energy development in Western Newfoundland.”

Traverse has established “Traverse Energy Fund LP”, a limited partnership through which the investment in BSE will be made by Traverse and its strategic investors. Traverse will subscribe for equity of BSE at a valuation of US\$1.00 per common share and US\$1.25 per flow-through share through this investment vehicle.

Managing Partner of Traverse, David LaFrance, sees BSE as a unique opportunity to participate in both the conventional oil formations and nonconventional shale oil formations, the energy source that is revolutionizing the global energy markets rapidly becoming a new and significant source of relatively low cost oil in the US and Canada.

“BSE is bringing experience in horizontal drilling and hydraulic fracturing techniques to the region, allowing shale oil to be extracted in an economical and environmentally safe manner. Newfoundland is surrounded by proven conventional oil reserves, and the engineering data received to-date suggests that the exploration licenses cover a unique geological formation, which should compare favorably with some of the largest and productive unconventional shale oil fields in the United States.”

LaFrance continues:

“We’re especially excited to bring this opportunity to our investors. David Murray and his team at Black Spruce Exploration have done a great job of consolidating the exploration licenses through the agreements they have signed, while at the same time mitigating risk and ensuring large upside potential for exploration partners, local businesses and investors. It’s very exciting.”



For more information on Black Spruce Exploration, visit [www.blspexp.com](http://www.blspexp.com) or contact...

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### **About Black Spruce Exploration Corp.**

Black Spruce Exploration, with offices in Calgary, Alberta, St. John's and Corner Brook, Newfoundland, is an exploration and production company with property rights, licenses and interests in the province of Newfoundland & Labrador.

### **About Traverse Financial Corporation**

Traverse is an independent asset management and corporate finance firm whose principals have significant transactional experience and have sourced and managed mezzanine debt, venture and private equity investments and portfolios. For more information on Traverse Financial Corporation, visit [www.traversefinancial.ca](http://www.traversefinancial.ca) or contact David LaFrance at (416) 254-6228 / email [David.LaFrance@TraverseFinancial.ca](mailto:David.LaFrance@TraverseFinancial.ca) or John Kennedy (416) 712-8140/ email [John.Kennedy@TraverseFinancial.ca](mailto:John.Kennedy@TraverseFinancial.ca)

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