

MATI TALIKA

CEO & DIRECTOR

The Geologist King of
Finland's North



PROFILE OF THE WEEK



MATI TALIKKA

CEO & Director

In the high-stakes arena of junior mineral exploration, it's not just about digging deep — it's about knowing where to dig, and why. For Aurion Resources (TSX-V: AU, OTCQX: AIRRF), that precision comes to life through the leadership of Matti Talikka, the company's CEO and a proud son of Finland's mineral-rich north.

Aurion isn't chasing gold around the globe — it's laser-focused on one of Europe's final frontiers: the Central Lapland Greenstone Belt (CLGB). This underexplored stretch of terrain in northern Finland is fast becoming a hotbed for gold discovery, and Talikka just happens to know it better than most. Why? Because he grew up there.



A geologist by training and a strategist by nature, Talikka brings more than just technical know-how — he brings insider intuition. His deep roots and bold vision have given Aurion a serious edge, blending local insight with global exploration standards. Under his guidance, the company is steadily transforming raw potential into real opportunity — one drill hole at a time.

In a sector that demands equal parts science and storytelling, Talikka is quietly scripting a gold rush of his own.

From Field Geologist to Corporate Strategist: The Making of a Mining Chief

Matti Talikka’s rise to the top of Aurion Resources isn’t just a career trajectory — it’s a blueprint for the modern mineral explorer. His roots run deep in the very ground Aurion now drills, and that’s no metaphor. Between 2007 and 2015, Talikka led exploration at Dragon Mining Limited, where he was on the frontlines of discovery across Finland and Sweden. This wasn’t just geological work — it was home turf mastery. Those years embedded him into the fabric of Scandinavian geology, building a sixth sense for the region’s mineral potential.

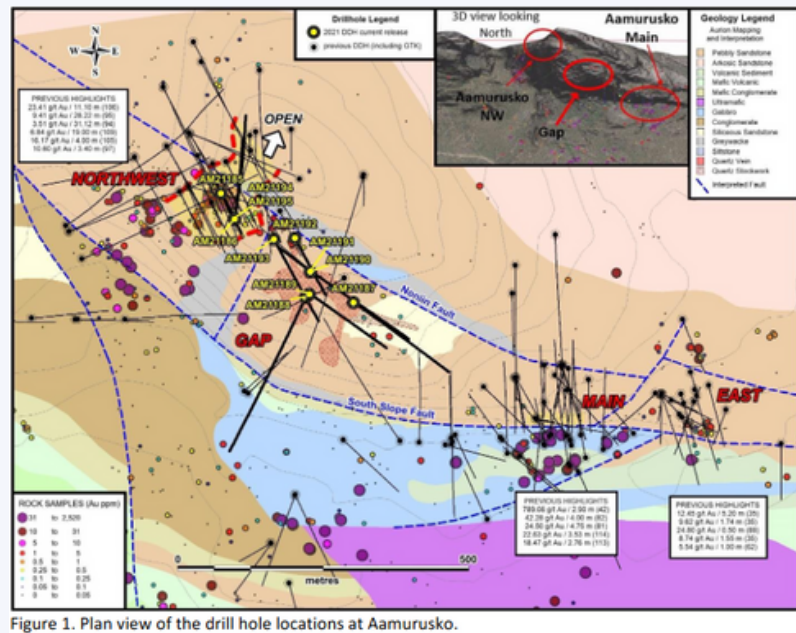


Figure 1. Plan view of the drill hole locations at Aamurusko.

But here’s where the story pivots.

In 2015, Talikka took a sharp turn — one that would shape the strategist he is today. At Outotec, a global leader in mineral processing tech, he stepped into the role of Director of Geometallurgy and Project Evaluation. Translation? He learned to look beyond rocks. Geometallurgy fuses geology, mining, and metallurgy into one question: Can this be mined profitably? And Talikka became fluent in answering it.

This dual skillset — field explorer and economic evaluator — is rare. It’s the secret sauce behind his leadership style: grounded in geology, sharpened by strategy.

By the time he stepped into the CEO seat at Aurion in 2020, Talikka had already been with the company for five years as a non-executive director. He wasn’t just familiar with the playbook — he helped write it.

The Power of Partnerships: How Aurion Is Reinventing Exploration Strategy

Strategy Element	Description
Business Model	Prospect Generator – early-stage land acquisition & development through strategic partnerships.
Objective	Minimize shareholder dilution while maximizing discovery exposure.
Key JV Partners	- B2Gold- Kinross Gold
2025 Highlight Deal	Partnership with KoBold Metals
KoBold's Contribution	Up to USD \$12 million in exploration funding
Commodity Focus (KoBold)	Base metals + critical minerals (for green energy transition)
Aurion's Retained Rights	100% ownership of gold and silver discoveries
Technology Advantage	Access to AI + machine learning via KoBold's proprietary tech
Sustainability Tie-in	Aligns with the global push for green energy-critical minerals
CEO's Perspective	"We retain full gold and silver upside while leveraging advanced tools for critical metals."

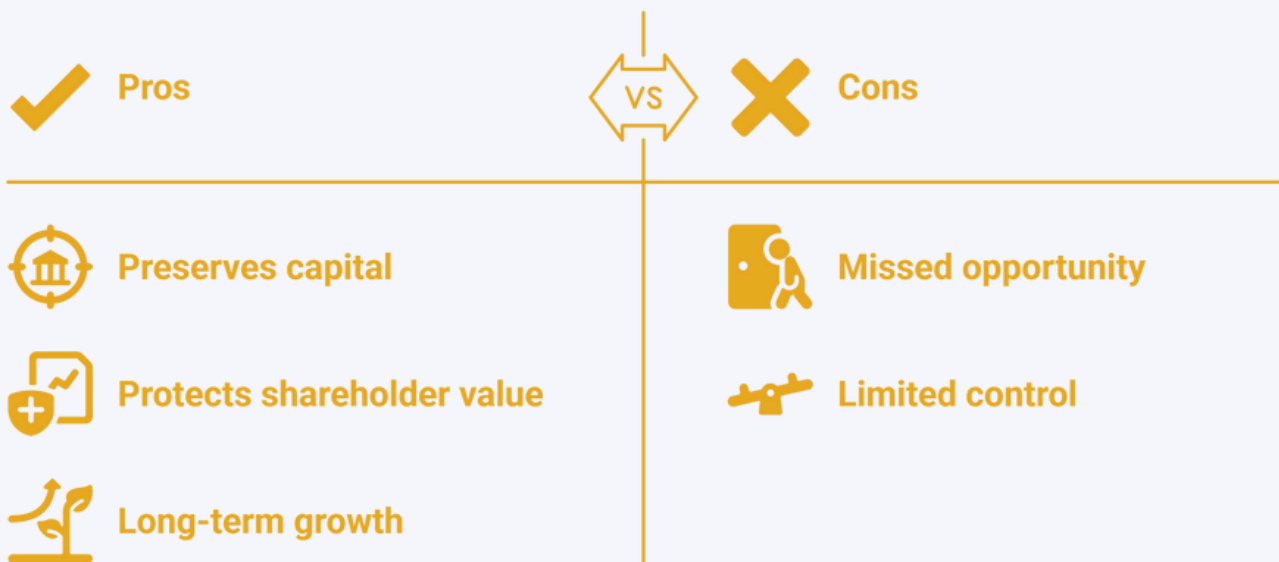
"The agreement with a split commodity structure enables Aurion to retain full exploration and ownership rights over significant gold and silver discoveries while leveraging KoBold's expertise in exploration for metals and minerals important for the green energy transition."

Navigating a New Mining Camp: Leadership Through Complexity and Challenge

Talikka’s leadership has been defined by a disciplined, long-term approach to value creation. This was put to the test in 2024 when joint venture partner B2Gold received an offer from Rupert Resources for its 70% interest in their shared project, triggering Aurion’s Right of First Refusal (ROFR). Acquiring the majority stake was a tempting proposition, but it would have required a substantial and highly dilutive financing. Talikka’s response was a clear reflection of his core philosophy.

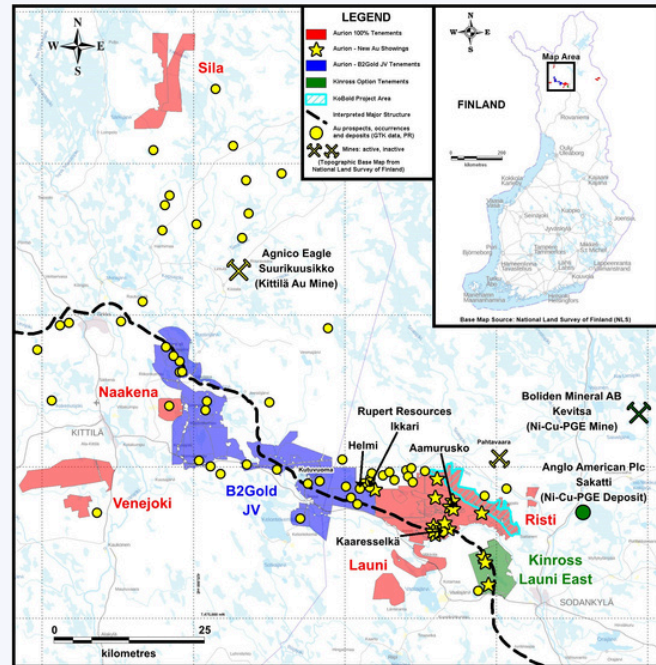
“After careful consideration Aurion has chosen not to exercise its RORF,” he stated, adding, “Aurion is keen to minimize shareholder dilution and continue as a partner in the JV company to unlock further value as the area is developing towards a new gold camp”. This decision prioritized the integrity of the company's capital structure over the allure of aggressive expansion—a move that protects per-share value for existing investors. It is this financial prudence, combined with technical innovation in the field—such as using Base of Till (BoT) sampling and advanced geophysics to explore beneath the region's challenging glacial cover—that underpins the company’s sustainable growth strategy.

Aurion's ROFR decision



Conclusion: Building a Legacy in Lapland

Under Matti Talikka's leadership, Aurion Resources has evolved into more than just a gold exploration company. It has become a model for modern mineral discovery in a top-tier jurisdiction. By combining his profound, native understanding of Finnish geology with a global strategic perspective, Talikka has de-risked the exploration process through intelligent partnerships, embraced technological innovation, and maintained an unwavering focus on long-term shareholder value. With a portfolio of high-grade discoveries like Aamurusko and Kaaresselkä on its 100%-owned Risti property, and a pipeline of targets being advanced by world-class partners, the future of Aurion Resources appears inextricably linked to the vision of its CEO. Matti Talikka is not just exploring for gold in Finland; he is building a legacy.





AURION RESOURCES

AURION'S NEXT CHAPTER: DISCOVERY WITH PURPOSE, GROWTH WITH PRECISION

Guided by Matti Talikka's vision, Aurion Resources is poised for sustainable, high-impact growth—leveraging innovation, partnerships, and deep geological insight to shape Finland's next great gold frontier.

www.aurionresources.com

www.miningdiscovery.com

📍 Office in Newfoundland
120 Torbay Road,
Suite W220
St. John's, NL A1A 2

📍 Office in Sodankylä
Aurion Resources Oy,
org number 2579876-8
Kaarrostie 15

✉ info@aurionresources.ca

☎ +358 50 374 3609

