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# Northair busy on many B.C. properties

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Northair Mines is primarily engaged in the operation of its 300 ton per day gold mine near Squamish, B.C., and during the past year, a surface and underground exploration program has been carried out to extend the known mine reserves. Results to date have produced targets which are presently being drilled. As well, a summer program of mapping, trenching and sampling is planned.

The company has acquired the old Bully Hill producer in the Redding, California area. An exploration program is planned for 1981 after all the necessary permits have been received.

As manager and part-owner of several mineral resource companies, Northair conducts extensive exploration work on many other properties, all in British Columbia.

Co-ordinating this work is Fred G. Hewett, newly appointed exploration manager for the Northair Group. Northair also uses extensively the services of two consulting geologists, G. A. Noel and J. W. MacLeod. The following is a brief summary of the Northair Group's mineral exploration efforts through its various associated companies.

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A production decision on the Summit Lake gold property of Scottie Gold Mines near Stewart, B.C., was announced in December, 1979, following two years of exploration and development which proved up ore reserves of 225,000 tons grading 0.65 oz. gold per ton. Northair has a 17% interest in Scottie.

As work progresses toward the June, 1981, production start-up date, plans are to prove up additional reserves with an underground diamond drilling program to begin in mid-1981. The program will explore further the main ore zone and also investigate several other zones not yet developed.

Consolidated Silver Ridge Mines holds a 60% working interest

(Northair 30%) on the Red Dog claims, located near Nuttlude Lake, in northwestern B.C. In 1979 and 1980 exploration work comprised trenching, diamond drilling, geological and geochemical surveys. Northair has a management contract with this company.

Results from the work have indicated a potentially large zone containing 2-3 million tons with low grade gold values. G. A. Noel, consulting geologist, states it is quite probable that this tonnage could be increased by additional drilling as the zone is open to the north and south. More work is planned for the property in 1981.

Newhawk Gold Mines' past exploration work has focused on the Hawk claims, a 50-50 joint venture program with Northair Mines. Work on the property has been suspended. Meanwhile, Newhawk has acquired through option a new gold-copper-molybdenum-tungsten prospect. It consists of 63 units located 50 km northwest of Kamloops. A program of soil sampling, geophysical surveys and 1,000 ft. of diamond drilling to test for massive sulphide mineralization has been recommended for 1981. Exploration of the Silver Tusk property, adjacent to the Northair Mine, has produced some excellent intersections but drilling and development have not as yet proved sufficient reserves to warrant production. Brandy is 21.8% owed by Northair.

The main zone of interest is the Silver Tunnel zone, accessible by a 600 ft. adit completed last summer. In total, over 10,000 ft. of diamond drilling has been completed.

### Precious metals in Asarco program

Asarco Exploration's budget is \$600,000 for the coming season in Western Canada, much of which will be spent drilling two properties near Smithers, B.C. One of these is a

copper-molybdenum prospect while the other is lead-zinc-silver.

In southeastern B.C. drilling is planned for two gold properties, while a helicopter reconnaissance program is scheduled for a gold-silver-lead-zinc prospect in the north-eastern part of the province.

Asarco's western exploration office located in Vancouver is headed by R. E. Gale. Ten people will be involved in the company's western exploration program this year including four geologists.

Eastern Canadian activities are directed from headquarters in Toronto, where Manager R. S. Gray heads a team of four geologists.

Asarco's budget for exploration in eastern Canada this year is, in order of \$750,000, up a little bit from 1980, Mr. Gray says. About half the exploration effort will be on gold prospects in the Porcupine-Matheson area, Ontario. This will include follow-up drilling on the Nighthawk Lake gold discovery made by Asarco last summer.

Also, a number of grass roots programs are scheduled for several areas of Ontario. In New Brunswick, drilling is planned on a lead-zinc prospect in the Bathurst area, to test geochemical anomalies.

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