

REPORT ON BANKS ISLAND SILICA DEPOSIT

The Banks Island silica deposit is located 60 miles south of Prince Rupert B.C. On the east coast of Banks Island and 700 feet south of Patsey Cove. The quartz outcrop is of exceptionally good quality, and when developed will produce large quantities of pure quartz. The quartz is white, more or less vitreous in texture, and contains no sulphides of any kind.

2. Some tests have been made by a Seattle Analyst from samples taken at random; the test was made for a corporation to determine its suitability for silico-metallic compounds, and the President of the Corporation informed the writer it was suitable for that purpose.

3. The full width and length has not yet been determined by strippings, however, the width is not less than 60 feet, and the exposed length over 100 feet. On the North the main quartz body dips under a muskeg swamp, on the south it ends abruptly against a vertical wall of pyrrhotite and magnetite, an offshoot of the main quartz body continues on the east wall of the iron outcrop, the walls of this 10 foot offshoot quartz vein are vertical and project some 6 to 7 feet above the ground level. On the southern end it is covered by debris.

4. The rocks are grano-diorite of the Coast Range batholith. The structural conditions are favourable as to the continuity of the quartz body in depth, the vertical position of the quartz vein warrants this assumption. The texture and quality of the silica is not likely to change much, glacier erosion has not been deep in these granitic rocks.

5. To make estimates on the tonnage possibilities on surface outcrops may lead to erroneous conclusions. A considerable tonnage could be estimated now, as the main quartz outcrops project some 10 to 15 feet above the ground level.

6. Quarrying could be carried on without much preparation as the quartz outcrops are well exposed on the surface. The distance between the outcrops and Patsey Cove is about 500 feet; the ground slopes ideally for a trunk road or tramway. A wharf can be built on a flat rock in Patsey Cove. There is about 15 feet of water along the flat rock. There is plenty good timber for construction purposes. A small water power can also be made available at little cost.

Respectfully submitted C. W. Frank.

Industrial Minerals

BRITISH COLUMBIA
WAR METALS RESEARCH BOARD

May 7, 1943.

Mr. C. W. Frank,
1029 Douglas Street,
Victoria, B. C.

Dear Mr. Frank:

You may remember discussing the Banks Island silica deposit with me a year or so ago. At that time you anticipated taking up the deposit.

For the purposes of my records, could you let me know if you hold this deposit now, and also the names and lot numbers of the original Crown-granted claims covering this deposit? I remember your showing me a report you had on the deposit, in which this information was given.

There are no tangible developments in silica yet, but I am looking into the possibilities of silica production and would consequently appreciate the requested information.

Thanking you in anticipation.

Yours very truly,

J. M. Cummings,
Mining Engineer.

/MG

215 Campbell Bldg. Victoria B.C. May 12th 1943

Industrial
Minerals

J. M. Cummings M.E.

Dear Sir:

Re Banks Island Silica.

I have your letter of May 7th and to state in reply that myself and A. J. Farquharson whom you know, are at the present time in good standing regarding these Crown grants would not be correct as we are behind in our dues, but if you have any tangible developments in Silica, kindly let me know, as I am out much time and money, and would like to make good my ~~good~~ expenses if that is possible. Mr Farquharson got my last copy of report I made years ago, but the map I enclose tells nearly the full story, only one analysis was made in Seattle 99.5% Silica, what I call impure silica on my map is smoky quartz and may prove just as high in silica as the white quartz.

Now Mr Cummings don't forget an old prospector, and be sure to let me ^{know} if there is a chance to do some business, in that case we have to make haste to clear title. any further information you need, I be glad to oblige you. yours sincerely C. W. Frank

P.S. Mr Farquharson was away for that reason I did not reply before this time. C.W.F.

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May 14, 1943.

Mr. C. W. Frank,
215 Campbell Bldg.,
Victoria, B. C.

Dear Mr. Frank:

Thank you for your letter of May 12th re Banks Island silica. I appreciate this very much and will certainly let you know if anything develops.

There has been a definite enquiry from an interested party, but I don't know as yet how serious they are. If these people decide to go ahead, I would suggest that some arrangements be made on a royalty basis plus a down payment sufficient to cover your expenses to date. I'm afraid that anything much more ambitious might nip any proposed enterprise in the bud, as the outfit concerned is good, but small.

I hope that something definite will develop in the near future.

Yours very truly,

J. M. Cummings,
Mining Engineer.

/MG

215 Campbell Bldg. Victoria B.C. May 16/43

J. M. Cummings M. E. Vancouver B.C.

Industrial Minerals (40)

NM-silver

Dear Mr Cummings

Your kind letter of 14th instant to hand.

I agree with your suggestion of asking a small cash payment to cover actual expenses, and a royalty basis thereafter. 250.⁰⁰ covers my expenses, and Farquharson around 50.⁰⁰ dollars.

But the time I have wasted trying to find a buyer goes back fifteen years. In case you have a real interested party, find out what they are willing to pay in cash and royalty, in that case I will immediately pay up my back dues of 50.⁰⁰ dollars.

You understand the buyer don't need to know that much, I see to it that there is a clear title to property, you please respect my confidence in this regard, as Farquharson would be mad by telling all.

I have been busy writing a report on the mineral belt north of the V.R. railway, any time you like to have a copy I would be pleased to send you a copy. I enclose an original draft map covering the territories in my report. I let Dr Walker read it he thinks it is O. Kay, however I could not mention the mercury output at Pinchi Lake.

Thanks for your kindness of the part, I remain yours very truly

C. W. Frank.

BRITISH COLUMBIA
WAR METALS RESEARCH BOARD

NM - Silica
sand

434 Simcoe St.
Victoria B.C.

Aug. 22, 1945

J. M. Cummings, Esq.,
c/o B.C. Industrial & Scientific Research Council,
University of British Columbia,
vancouver B.C.

Dear Mr. Cummings:

I am enclosing you a report which C.W. Frank has given me in connection with the silica deposit on Banks Island. You told me one time that you had gone up and looked at the property. Would you be prepared to o.k. this report, if it isn't asking too much of you; or let me know what is wrong with it. No doubt you will understand what I am getting at for I am endeavouring to do business with this property. Mr. Frank tells me that you have told him that the Banks Island silica deposit is the best you had seen. Would you please give me your views upon the same and is there any sulphides in the same? I will treat any information you give me confidential. *otherwise*

Thanking you sir for a very early reply,

I remain,
Yours ever truly,

A. J. Marquharson
A. J. Marquharson

JM -
Silica Sand

August 29, 1945

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Division of Mining &
Metallurgy

Mining Building,
University of B. C.

Mr. A. J. Farquharson,
434 Simcoe Street,
VICTORIA, B. C.

Dear Mr. Farquharson:

Your letter of August 22 and enclosure on silica deposit on Banks Island are at hand. I visited this deposit in 1937, and consider it one of the most encouraging of the silica deposits I have seen.

In general, the report submitted by Mr. Frank appears to be fairly accurate representation of the facts. At the time of my visit to Banks Island, I estimated that there might be available a minimum of 5000 to 10,000 tons of silica free of sulphides. The margins of the body are covered, and hence the tonnage may be considerably larger, but would have to be proved by stripping and drilling. The quality of the exposed quartz is good.

With kind regards,

Sincerely yours,

$SiO_2 = 98.8 - 99.3$

$Fe_2O_3 = 0.1 \text{ to } 0.16$

J. M. CUMMINGS,
Acting Head,
Division of Mining & Metallurgy.

JMC:MG

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