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82M/02

**A TANTALUM PROPERTY: (The Tan Claims)**  
Kamloops Mining Division, British Columbia

**Tantalum** is an important metal in the high tech industry. The value has trebled over the past twelve months, currently at \$185(US)/lb Ta<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>, and exploration for tantalum has increased dramatically throughout the world. Principle sources of tantalum in the world are carbonatite and pegmatite bodies. Carbonatites also host and are a source of niobium and rare earth metals. The Tan claims cover both pegmatites and a newly discovered carbonatite body in the carbonatite belt of south-central British Columbia, with highly anomalous tantalum, gold, niobium and rare earths in silt and panned concentrate samples.

**Location, Access and Topography:** 44 km northeast of Sicamous, B.C.; NTS 82M/02E. Road access is possible via a network of logging roads from Sicamous and Perry River to the eastern and western parts of the property. The claims are in rugged and precipitous terrain of the Monashee Mountains with elevations rising to over 2500 meters (asl).

**Claims:** Tan 1 - 4 claims (71 claim units). Tenure numbers: 384320 - 384323. Owners: Warner Gruenwald, P. Geol. (250-549-5192) and John R. Kerr, P. Eng. (604-681-2271). Other tenures in the area are shown on accompanying maps.

**Geology:** Claims underlain by thick succession of metamorphic rocks of the Shuswap and Monashee complexes. A major west dipping thrust structure, referred to as the Monashee decollement, is located to the east of the property area, separating the footwall rocks of the Monashee complex from the Shuswap complex. Several northwesterly linears transect the property, along which carbonatite bodies intrude. One such carbonatite of unknown size has been mapped along a road cut in the western portion of the claims. Several pegmatite veins and dykes have also been mapped in the area.

**Geochemistry and Geophysics:** The claims were staked as the result of anomalous tantalum in stream silt samples and panned concentrates. These samples were collected as part of a 300 sq km regional sampling and prospecting venture. Results of the regional sampling are available under separate terms. Threshold for weakly anomalous tantalum in silts is 4 ppm, and significantly anomalous tantalum in silts is 10ppm. Samples collected within all areas of the claims range 6 - 23ppm tantalum. A panned concentrate sample in the northwest corner of the claims indicates 157ppm tantalum. Gold ranges to 100ppb; Niobium to 859ppm; and Rare Earths (Cerium + Lanthanum) to 2000ppm.

An interesting magnetic high is located in the northern half of the claims and is part of an 18 km long lineal belt through the Perry claims, extending north to the Ren tantalum showing and carbonatite, owned by Cross Lake Minerals. This feature is possibly a series of small syenite intrusions, commonly associated with carbonatite emplacement.

**Terms:** The owners have sunk approximately \$10,000 into the cost of claim location and work directly related to the claims. This value is expected to be recovered as an initial downpayment. Two years of assessment work (\$15,000) is to be committed to a 2001 field program. A three or four year option agreement is anticipated involving cash and stock payments, leaving the owners with a token NSR. Offer us the initial year's work, and we shall consider lower cash obligations.

**Tantalum** is the flavour of the month. As we bring in a new and positive government, let's put British Columbia on the map as a supplier of tantalum. **Present us an offer!**



