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EXPLORATION '86

FALCONBRIDGE

Fistorically, Falconbridge Ltd. has followed a constant policy of exploration and acquisition since the end of World War 11.

During 1985, Falconbridge spent about \$16 million on exploration and development, of which \$14 million was spent in Canada. The Canadian expenditures broke down into \$4 million in the Sudbury area, almost \$2 million on the Callahan underground exploration, \$3.3 million from the Quebec City office, and about \$2 million each from the Winnipeg and Vancouver offices.

In Quebec the emphasis was mainly on four general areas. The main thrust was on surface and underground exploration of the Callahan and adjoining properties in the Val d'Or area. By year-end, the Callahan shaft had been sunk to a depth of 276 m and the cross-cut had been driven north-northeastward 72% of the way to the No. 4 zone under Lac de Montigny.

This shaft had been positioned to allow underground access to three other significant, but smaller gold discoveries in the vicinity. Only about half of the Callahan and adjoining property has been explored from surface, and this work will continue to the northwest in 1986. These programs are financed on a 51% Falconbridge Ltd., 49% Corporation Falconbridge Copper joint venture basis.

Surface exploration in the Lac Shortt area continued with the discovery of several low grade zones, but nothing of economic size has been encountered. Proximity to the Lac Shortt mill and the presence of many untested targets dictates continued effort in this area.

In the Ligneris Twp. area, Falconbridge has optioned two claim groups which adjoin the Vior property. Surface overburden removal, sampling, geophysical surveys and diamond drilling were completed during 1985. Assay results are awaited.

A new program of exploration has been launched from the Quebec office to explore parts of northeastern Ontario. Reconnaissance assessment of the Kirkland Lake, Timmins and Matachewan areas led to the acquisition of properties. Surveys, surface sampling and drilling will follow in 1986.

The Winnipeg office devoted most of its attention to the Sturgeon Lake, Oba, Hemlo, Dryden and Cameron Lake areas of western Ontario. In the Sturgeon Lake area, the Armstrong prospect was stripped of overburden and sampled. Irregular, high grade quartz veins were exposed, the best of which assayed 70 g gold per tonne in three trenches over an average width of 1.8 m and along a strike length of about 20 m. Drilling failed to trace this zone to depth but surface exploration on the property will continue in 1986.

Several claim groups have been optioned during 1985, which are located about 26 km west of the Hemlo discoveries, along the interphide deposits in the Flin Flon-Snow Lake belt. A long term review of known gold occurrences in northwestern Ontario continues at the Winnipeg office.

At the Delta office, just outside Vancouver, emphasis was placed on three projects. The Beau Pre property at Valentine Mountain was systematically bulk sampled along a narrow quartz vein which is known to carry small pockets of very high gold grades. Results are awaited. Other gold-bearing veins and a gold placer prospect on this property will receive attention in 1986.

The Charlemagne option at Phillips Arm, just across from Campbell River, was acquired in 1985 and surface sampling and surveys, and airborne survey coverage were completed. This is an old and well known



preted extension of the favorable stratigraphic horizon. Work will begin in 1986. In the Oba area, a volcanic-sedimentary horizon similar to that at Hemlo has been traced, trenched and drilled shallowly along a strike length of two miles. This horizon is gold bearing along its entire length, locally the grade rises to subeconomic levels over minable dimensions, but ore grades have not been discovered over significant strike lengths. Limited deeper drilling is planned for 1986.

Exploration continued on a reduced basis in search of gold and precious metals-bearing massive sulmining camp which operated at the beginning of the century. The gold bearing zone strikes northwest for a distance of 31/2 miles and contains five old gold mining properties. The mineralization is extensive but irregular in grade. The old Alexandria mine produced 1,800 tons grading 0.38 oz. gold per ton and the old Doratha-Morton 10,000 tons at 0.44 oz. gold per ton. Other old adits returned high but localized grades. The entire camp is being re-assessed to study cross-structures which appear to relate to concentration of gold.

Getty Mine

The old magnetite iron deposits of

EXPLORATION '86

British Columbia are turning up surprises at Zeballos, where gold has been found along narrow shear zones in the skarn rocks. Results are irregular and continuity over minable dimensions has not been established. Re-assessment of results to date indicate the need for more drilling in 1986.

Falconbridge's greatly reduced foreign exploration program has led to two interesting developments in 1985. Three new diamondiferous kimberlite pipes have been discovered in the vicinity of GO-25 in Botswana; and positive metallurgical results have led to diamond drilling of a cobalt deposit near Frederictown, Mo.

During 1986 it is planned that exploration will continue at about the same scale as in 1985. A total budget of about \$15 million is expected to be spent, with about \$5 million in the Sudbury area, \$3 million from the Quebec office, \$2 million from the Winnipeg office and \$2 million from the Delta office.

Emphasis will continue to be on precious metals and massive sulphide base metal deposits which contain silver and gold. Continued low metal prices require higher grades and tonnages to compete with low cost Third World producers. It is impossible to forecast or to control the grades and tonnages to be found, but lower costs can be assured by exploration near established infrastructure. This policy is reflected in the distribution of Falconbridge's exploration funds.

NORANDA

The exploration budget at Noranda Exploration for 1986 is expected to be little changed from the \$36 million spent by the company in 1985. Despite the fact that the company's exploration contribution has actually decreased during the past few years, the current level of expenditures have been maintained by increasing contributions from junior exploration partners, principally via flow-through share financings.

"The juniors have come to Noranda because of our portfolio of properties," John Harvey, president of Noranda Exploration notes."They can't use flow-through funds for property acquisitions."

Noranda is one of the few Canadian mining companies which still maintains a network of regional exploration offices across the country. "We have 14 district offices each having a district geologist," Harvey says. Each geologist is responsible for supporting prospectors and being informed about activities in their respective areas.

Harvey notes that each office has a general budget for property acquisitions and has capabilities to make quick staking decisions. The district offices come under the supervision of 6 regional centres. For example, Thunder Bay is responsible for the district offices in Hemlo, Red Lake and in the Lakehead area of Ontario. "Essentially we're a decentralized head office," Harvey says. "Our office Important projects of the 1985 season which will see follow-up exploration include the Norita base metals discovery in Quebec which was made by surface diamond drilling at a depth of 4,000 ft. At the company's Mattagami properties in northwestern Quebec, high grade zinc values have been intersected in a new deposit at a depth of 1,500 ft.

Another important property is the Mountjoy project which controls a large block of ground west of the Hollinger mine grounds near Timmins, Ont. Drilling underneath the old workings at the DeSantis mine has produced encouraging results which will be further explored this year. Near Noranda, Que, where the company was born, exploration is continuing on the old Horne property, mined as a copper orebody.



(the Toronto head office) is really a monitoring centre."

In 1985, Noranda was involved with 253 exploration projects in various stages of development, most of which are located in Ontario and Quebec. Approximately 66% of the company's budget is spent in these two provinces. In the Maritimes, Noranda's affiliate Brunswick Mining and Smelting is responsible for funding exploration programs operated by Noranda Exploration. In BC, Brenda Mines carries out programs in the province as well as in the Yukon. Brenda is also controlled by Noranda's parent company. At Hemlo, where Noranda Exploration's parent company poured its first bar of gold in 1985 from operations at its Golden Giant mine, approximately \$1 million will be spent on exploration this year. "We're looking at every property in the Hemlo camp. We're probably the most active company in this respect," Harvey says.

The company stresses that at least 50% of each year's exploration budget be devoted to diamond drilling. "If you're not drilling you're not going to find mines," is how Harvey summarizes his company's exploration philosophy. Noranda maintains a geo-

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