

## Kettle River encouraged by findings on two properties

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GREENWOOD, BC—Testing has begun on **Kettle River Resources Ltd.**'s joint venture with **Blackberry Gold** on the Similkameen project in the Princeton-Tulameen area of southern British Columbia.

"Prospecting for the sources of platinum and gold being uncovered in the alluvial testing program will be an important part of the program," says George O.M. Stewart, president of Kettle River (KRR:VSE). This will involve sampling five- and 10-yard rock piles accumulated during previous sample testing of the ancient river channel in January. Sampling with portable test plants began April 24.

"We are getting coarse gold and visible platinum, so it looks encouraging," Stewart says. "The formula for the platinum is roughly similar to tulameenite, which is a mainly platinum/iridium mineral with some iron and some copper in it. The gold is also high in nickel, so it proves our theory that this channel is an ancient channel of the Tulameen River, which comes from the ultra-basic complex in Tulameen. It's never been mined. There was quite a bit of gold taken out of the Tulameen and Granite Creeks—it's been picked over pretty carefully—but this is way up in the 3,500-foot elevation. We're quite excited about it."

Platinum nuggets taken from the area have been tested and analyzed by electron microscope in the CF Minerals lab in nearby Colona.

The testing program is in the initial stages and will be expanded into a large-scale bulk testing and prospecting program by May 10, Stewart says.

"We will be trying to find out how big the area is. It looks like the channel could be three or four miles long through this big meadow. There is 10 to 15 feet of overburden on top of it, so we have to get through that."

Kettle River and Blackberry are seeking flow-through financings to help fund the program. Kettle River still has more than C\$1.5 million in its treasury.

Kettle River, also the operator of the Rainbow joint venture project, (50% Kettle River, 50% **Dentonia Resources**) in the Greenwood area of southern British Columbia, has uncovered a zone of high-grade gold/silver mineralization near a zone of intense silicification at that property.

Because initial surface assays were in partially oxidized quartz material, company geologists used a combination of drilling, blasting, and excavating to make a 17-foot-deep cut in the rock, enabling them to obtain fresh, unoxidized samples. These

samples, from a stockwork zone, are presently up for assay. The operators of the quarry of quartz have encountered sulphide in the deeper cuts in the quartz quarry, and these are being sent for assay. Work last year showed the quartz in the quarry to be anomalous in gold and fluorine.

"It looks like the zone is overlain by serpentine, which didn't make a very good host, so the mineralization doesn't come to surface. Mainly it's been oxidized, but it

looks like the Tertiary mineralization is butting up against the overlying older serpentine and it didn't appear to penetrate it. It wasn't all oxidized, but some of the assays were quite high," Stewart says. "It has all the earmarks of the top of an epithermal system, with high-grade veins and mineralization on one end." Stewart says Kettle River plans a drilling program after assays from the recent work are received. ✕