

601 Booth Street,
Ottawa, January 8, 1971

Dr. J.T. Fyles,
Mineralogical Branch,
British Columbia Department of Mines and Petroleum Resources,
Victoria, B.C.

Dear Jim:

It was nice to hear from you.

I have enclosed a copy of the isotope information on the sample that I collected from Sunro and also a copy of my submission for the yearly report. Presumably the information will be published in Paper 70-2A. It will be interesting to see what we get from the East Sooke material.

I have had grain mounts made for the heavy mineral fractions from three of the five samples that Mr. Edwards sent from Rossland. I have not studied them in detail but here is some of the information that I have. All three are composed mainly of oxides-magnetite, another oxide in about equal proportion, and possibly other oxides in smaller amounts. I haven't made any serious attempt to identify the oxides. No sulphides were found in sample #3 and only minor pyrite was found in sample #1. Sample #2 contains three sulphides in sub-equal amounts. Pyrite and millerite have been definitely identified and the third mineral is known to belong to the linnaeite group. But since the cell dimensions and optical properties are similar for minerals in this group, I haven't been able to make a definite determination. It could be polydymite (Ni_3S_4), viduarite (Ni_2FeS_4), siegenite ($Co_2Ni_3S_4$), carrollite (Co_2CuS_4), linnaeite (Co_3S_4), or possibly a solid solution combination of these minerals. When Roger Eckstrand is having more probe work done, I'll have it checked for its main elements. The locality data that I have is as follows:

- #1-#3 Main X cut-Midnight property
- #2-Pat claims-D.D.H. core
- #3-Pat claims-surface sample

I hope that you'll be able to use this information in some way.

I've scanned your Jordan River bulletin. As usual, for your work, it's a great job! The only comment that I have is that I still think you are too reluctant to speculate. There is value in speculation provided it is not confused with the facts. You didn't speculate much about the origin of the sulphide layer and you didn't say what you think is the origin of the nepheline-syenite gneiss or the molybdenite mineralization. If one is going to explore for this type of molybdenum mineralization it would be rather important to know whether or not they should restrict their activities to the gneissic terrains or perhaps look for alkaline complexes or alkalic stratigraphic horizons outside the area.

Dr. J.T. Pyles

January 8, 1971

Who is in a better position to speculate on such matters than you? I certainly have no feelings whatsoever as to what might be the significance of the nepheline-syenite gneisses. If you thought that you didn't have sufficient evidence on which to base an opinion, it would still have been useful to state possible origins. I know you have a lot more to contribute than you're willing to admit!

Now to get to my sad tales of woe. Pressure to produce is much greater here than at the B.C. Mines. I have several "crash programs" going. Until I see the light of day from these I won't have a minute to devote to the Smithers work. I know it's distressing to all concerned but I see no way out until at least March. I also know now that when I get to the B.C. work I'll just have to throw together what I have. There are just too many other demands on my time. I will try to keep you and Stu informed on my progress or lack of it.

Give my regards to Shirley, the boys, and the gang. I hope you all have a happy New Year and I will be looking forward to seeing you or one of the fellows at the Prospectors' convention.

Sincerely,

Encl.
RVK/dm

R.V. Kirkham