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Dear Rod,

I had contacted Margaret Caughey in April regarding the upcoming Technical Committee meeting (May 23, 1991) for the Iskut Project and suggested that as the principal contributor to the project, NSERC may wish to consider having a representative attend the meeting; I felt that you would be the logical person. She indicated that NSERC would not be sending someone, which was, in my opinion, unfortunate, as a forum such as this is most effective for getting information across, and for discussing many of the types of questions raised in your letter of May 17, 1991. I hope that you may be able to attend future meetings, and I will ensure that you are notified well in advance. At present, I plan for a "Field Data Dump" in early October by the research team; this will NOT involve extensive slide preparation, but will rather involve display of photographs illustrating key field relationships observed during the 1991 season. Each researcher will also prepare a poster during the Fall (to be displayed possibly at NWM in Spokane (December), and definitely at Round Up in Spring 1992); these posters will be displayed to the Technical Committee well prior to any public presentation. A formal Technical Committee meeting (one day) will take place prior to GAC/MAC in May 1992.

At this time (May, 1992) David Bridge will be involved in write-up of the Kerr Thesis. He is hoping to spend time with you during this season, as am I. We will both be based, I believe, at Newhawk's camp - I am presuming the Placer will not have a Kerr program this summer. In addition, I intend to arrange to have John Payne spend a day with David if possible - John will be working for Granges on the Unuk River Property at various times during the summer.

As you know, MDRU (Iskut Project) is looking forward to contributing to your research in the Sulphurets Camp, as per your letter of April 16, 1991, and my response of May 2, 1991 (ref: ajm/279). Would such an arrangement be satisfactory to you, or do you have other plans for geochemistry? Our geochemical program has been halted temporarily, as we have some questions regarding the quality of trace element data received from XRAL. I shall keep you informed of progress here. In addition, Rod, I hope that at least two samples from the Sulphurets camp will be collected for U-Pb zircon geochron this summer. I would like to ask your advice regarding the highest priority rocks for this portion of the program.

Regarding geochron, I have included photocopies of Peter Van Der Heyden's preliminary concordia plots for the Bronson Stock, Red Bluff Porphyry, Inel Stock & Eskay Creek Porphyry; NSERC will of course be getting a copy of the Technical report accompanying these data as soon as I complete it. Of particular interest, note that the age of the Eskay Porphyry appears to be statistically different than other published

data from the Texas Creek/Premier Porphyry feldspar megacrystic suite (189-195 Ma), and that the Red Bluff porphyry seems to have suffered Pb-loss at, or soon after, initial crystallisation of the zircons; this may indicate that hydrothermal alteration at Red Bluff is roughly synchronous with intrusion. Other items of interest that came out at the Technical Meeting :

1. The felsic (? Dilworth) rocks at Eskay are rhyolites (as opposed to being dacites/andesites in the Stewart area (c.f. work by Aldrick, Brown on the Dilworth formation))
2. The argillites overlying the felsic rocks at Eskay appear to be correlative with the Salmon River rocks described elsewhere, based on rocks identified by Ganga Nataraja and collected by Art
3. Hydrothermal alteration in the 21 Zone (samples collected by Art) does not obscure totally the protolith chemistry
4. The felsic rocks at Eskay were deposited in a submarine environment, as opposed to subaerially in the Stewart and other areas (see work of Anderson)
5. While no vent facies has been recognised in the 21 Zone area, intercollated argillite/silt horizons become more prevalent and thicker as one proceeds SSW from the 21 zone onto the American Fibre property, suggesting a facies change away from volcanic-dominated to mixed volcano-sedimentary
6. False pyroclastic textures are present in the felsic rocks at Eskay, caused by extensive devitrification of felsic glass (c.f. "False Pyroclastic Textures ...", Rod Allen, Econ. Geol. 1988)

My plans are to head north in early/mid July and I will be in the Iskut area for the bulk of the summer, until late September. Work will include (a) Brucejack - as per our previous discussions, with a view to a fluid inclusion study (b) Ecstall's MacGold and Noranda's Barytex/Arc claims in and around the Lehto porphyry - attempting to drag the lithostratigraphy westward from the Lakewater Property, (c) additional "Texas Creek" rocks, such as McQuidSan Ridge, (d) the Snippalter Ridge Lower Jurassic section - unless Bob Anderson's crew confirm that they will be measuring it. In addition, I plan to spend time (amount as appropriate) with David Rhys at Snip, David Bridge at Sulphurets, Tina Roth at Eskay, and I will be hauling Roland Bartsch through the portions of the stratigraphy with which I am familiar in and around Eskay Creek. My exact location at any one time can be obtained from Soaya Tietjen (604-822-6136), who is John's assistant. I look forward very much to hearing from you as to your plans.

All best wishes,

Yours sincerely,



James Macdonald







