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Dear Jack and Mariette;

Thank you for your recent letter bringing me up to date on your field plans. I'll be finishing up the field component of my project this summer with approximately 1-2 months of mapping, depending on budgets. I hope to concentrate my efforts on the Brucejack Lake area, and on the region between Harrymel Creek and Snippaker Creek. Other options for me include some detailed structural work at Johnny Mountain or underground at Eskay Creek, or some attempts at regional stratigraphic correlations southward towards Granduc. Clearly, there are many remaining holes in our coverage, some of which are well suited for a concentrated 1-2 week effort by yourselves. I outline a few of them here in my order of preference for urgency:

1. Treaty Nunatak: John Thompson and I have spent three too-short visits to these area, and we are always forced to leave before adequately resolving the problems. Last summer we came up with a very workable stratigraphy for the area, as outlined in our current research paper. What remains to be shown is how high in this stratigraphic succession alteration at treaty gossan reaches- we both see similarities of altered rocks on the margins to the upper pyroclastic sequence on the east Treaty ridge. If this can be shown, it means that alteration on the Nunatak is as young as Bajocian- i.e., a bit younger than we suspected previously. I think that this problem can be solved with some fairly detailed (1:5000 to 1:10000) mapping of the Nunatak and a few outlying rocks. Other structural problems will no doubt arise- such as the significance of the N-S cleavage in the area, the position of the Sulphurets thrust fault, etc.

2. Hazelton-Bowser structural transition in Sulphurets area: I'm always impressed when flying between Treaty Creek and Sulphurets with the intensity of the folds and faults in the Bowser Lake Group. Have you or anybody else mapped these structures, and observed the transition into structurally deeper rocks of the Hazelton Group? Some af the folds seem to have the opposite vergence of what I would expect from the geometry of the Sulphurets Thrust Fault.

3. East Flank Unuk River: It looks as if there are two separate felsic flow units on the east side of the Unuk River in the area north of John Peaks. Only a few traverses have actually covered the whole slope from the alpine to the river, but these have raised some intriguing stratigraphic possibilities. It won't be nice work (Steep, devils club, slippery), but somebody should map the hillside in more detail.

These are just a few suggestions- I'm sure that we could sit down with a map and come up with many more. We don't have much of a budget this year, so you won't be able to count on us for logistical freebies. However, we can make some effort to combine trips/fly camps if possible. It would be great to have you both in the Iskut again this summer, and I hope your managers can spring loose the necessary funding.

Now for a little Vancouver snobbery: It was sunny and 13⁰ over the weekend here. Too warm to ski, so we took the sea kayaks out instead- very springlike, lots of shorts and t-shirts on the streets. If you are out here in September, perhaps you'd like to join us for a long weekend of sea kayaking?

Cheers-