



TBS → Anyox

# A Ghost Town Comes to Life

by Ellsworth Dickson

**D**eep in a fjord on British Columbia's remote northwest coast, hemmed in by Alaska to the west and the Coast Range Mountains to the east, lies the site of a once-bustling town with the strange name of Anyox. Located about 145 km north of the seaport of Prince Rupert, Anyox once was the site of the largest pyritic copper smelter in the British Empire – maybe the world. Back in the 1920s and 30s, some 3,000 residents lived in the town that boasted two schools, a hospital, several stores, a movie theatre, a gymnasium, substantial docks, a 10-km railroad as well as water and sewer systems. There was even a golf course built on the slag pile. During its life, some 450 children were born in Anyox.

The town's existence was based on the huge copper-gold deposits that were mined by the Granby Consolidated Mining, Smelting and Power Company, a company whose assets were, in time, acquired by Cominco Ltd., which eventually merged with Teck Corp. to become Teck Cominco. During the mine's existence from 1915 to 1935, the operation processed 27 million tons of ore grading 1.5% copper to yield 760 million pounds of copper, 8 million ounces of silver and 140,000 ounces of gold. The copper was shipped as 500-pound slabs, called anodes, to Tacoma, Washington, USA. Production was halted, not due to depletion of ore reserves, but due to low metal prices.

Today, there is not much left of the town, which is accessible by water or float plane, except for some concrete foundations. However, the remaining mineral resources are another story. In the summer of 2003, Vancouver mining entrepreneur Marie Antoinette Shields became aware that the Anyox property had several large gold-copper deposits that were never mined out. Ms. Shields is president of MAS Capital Inc., a company that is developing key base metals, industrial minerals and precious metal acquisitions in northwest British Columbia, known as the Anyox Pendant.

"After reading the many available reports on the property I realized the potential of the project. A visit to the property and rising metal prices convinced me to acquire a 100% interest in the project which I completed in late 2003," says Ms. Shields.

These mineral groups include several important prospective properties in this extensively mineralized area. Each group contains either drilled resources, significant showings or favourable geology for base metals, industrial minerals or precious metals. The Anyox Pendant includes seven groups of claims: Donahue Creek, North Pendant, Clashmore, Hidden Creek Extensions, (excluding the Hidden Creek Mine Crown grants), Double Ed, Maple Bay and South Pendant (which includes the Bonanza sub-group). Included in the Donahue properties are the Swamp Point mineral claims with extensive limestone and granite deposits.

MAS Capital's goal for the 2004 exploration season is to conduct a region exploration program over the entire Anyox Pendant designed to investigate previous identified targets and resources. This program will include extensive airborne geophysics, geological mapping sampling under the direction of geological consultant Dr. Joe Montgomery, P.Eng. who recently completed a comprehensive review of the project.

In his report Dr. Montgomery states, "The Anyox area warrants a thorough exploration program and it is recommended that the program consist of an airborne magnetic-electromagnetic survey. Follow-up mapping and geochemical sampling should be done over anomalous areas. An allowance for 4,000 metres of reverse

circulation drilling is suggested."

"At this point in time, I have two joint venture partners and I plan to bring in several more due to the large size of the project," says Ms. Shields. Ms. Shields notes that there are four deposits that need to be drilled as well as numerous mineral occurrences that require investigation.

"In addition to the gold-copper potential," says Ms. Shields, "we are also taking a look at the zinc, lead and molybdenum potential. As well, there are industrial minerals such as sand, gravel, limestone and possibly dimension stone. There are extensive aggregate deposits on the property that can be mined and shipped inexpensively to both North American and foreign customers as the property is on deep tidewater." The sale of sand, gravel and other industrial minerals will help make the project partially self-financing, she adds.

One joint venture partner, 1st Anyox Resources Ltd. [FAR.H-TSXV], which can earn a 50% interest in approximately 6,300 hectares of the Anyox projects, has conducted preliminary exploration programs that included petrographic analysis, mapping and sampling.

In a report by previous owner/operator, Cominco Ltd., it was stated that the geological environment of the Anyox Pendant is similar to the Windy Craggy deposit, a very large polymetallic deposit in northern BC.

Ms. Shields says that the Anyox Project represents a unique opportunity to discover and develop a number of significant mineral deposits.



The Anyox Project of MAS Capital Inc.