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Exploration

During 1984, Westmin spent approximately \$4 million on mineral exploration compared with \$3.4 million in 1983.

Emphasis continues on programs directed towards precious metal and poly-metallic massive sulphide deposits.

Minesite

Exploration activity in the vicinity of the Lynx mine resulted in the discovery of three new massive sulphide zones — two of which appear to be on the Lynx mine horizon. The third, considerably to the west of the H-W orebody, is on a deeper horizon, at a comparable level to the H-W horizon. Additional drilling is planned in 1985 to further define these zones.

Stewart Area, British Columbia

Westmin is carrying out exploration for precious metals in the Stewart area of northwestern British Columbia under the terms of joint venture arrangements with Tournigan Mining Explorations Limited on the Big Missouri property and with British Silbak Premier Mines Limited, on the Silbak Premier property. In 1984, work on both of these precious metal properties resulted in the expansion of the reserve base.

Big Missouri

Four potential open-pit zones containing gold, silver and minor base metal mineralization have been defined on the Big Missouri property and at the end of 1983, open-pit geological reserves were estimated at 2,167,000 tons grading 0.098 oz gold equivalent/ton. In 1984, a modest drilling program concentrated on establishing continuity within the Dago Zone and resulted in a small increase in reserves. As detailed calculations are incomplete, this increase in reserves has not been included in the above total.

A feasibility study is scheduled for completion in June 1985 and, when delivered to Tournigan, will result in Westmin achieving a 70 per cent interest in the property.

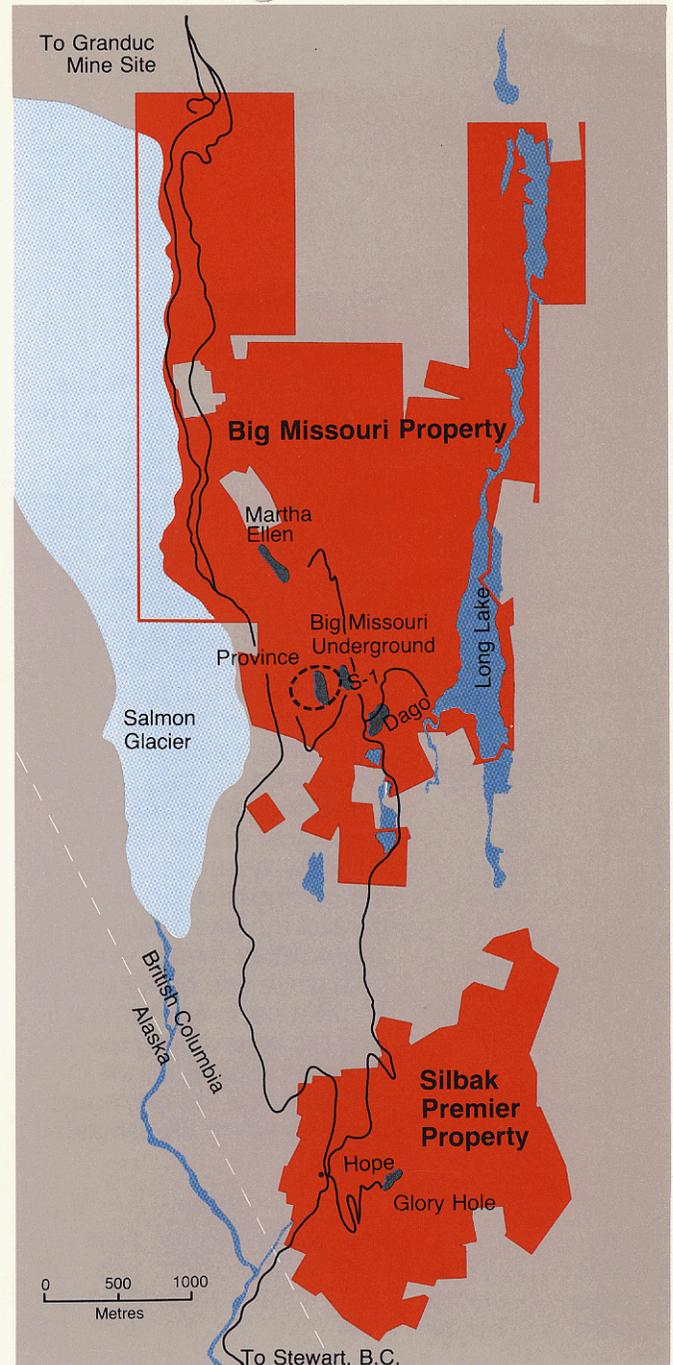
Silbak Premier

The expansion of geological reserves in the Glory Hole area was the focus of the diamond drill program in 1984. A steeply dipping zone up to 60 metres wide and up to 600 metres long has been partly defined and estimated open-pit geological reserves are tabulated below.

A further drilling program will be undertaken in 1985 to complete the delineation of this zone.

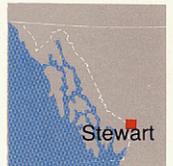
Reserve Category	Grade			
	Tons	Gold oz/ton	Silver oz/ton	Gold Equiv.* oz/ton
Probable	1,348,000	.073	3.48	.156
Possible	1,535,000	.066	3.31	.145
Inferred	1,412,000	.074	2.89	.143
Total	4,295,000	.071	3.22	.148

*Based on 42 ounces silver/ton equivalent to 1 ounce gold/ton.



Stewart Area, B.C.

■ Mineral Deposits



Blue Moon, California

In March 1984, Westmin concluded an agreement with Colony Pacific Explorations Ltd., whereby the Company can earn a minimum 50 per cent interest in the Blue Moon - American Eagle property in Mariposa County, California.

A 10,000 foot diamond drill program was initiated in early 1984 to test the continuity of two mineralized zones which were previously discovered by Colony Pacific. This drilling program, plus geological studies undertaken by Westmin, confirmed the continuity of the two parallel massive sulphide zones which remain open in both strike and dip directions. These data, in conjunction with previous drilling results, provided a basis for the calculation of the geological reserves which are tabulated below:

Reserve Category	Tons	Grade				
		Gold oz/ton	Silver oz/ton	Copper %	Lead %	Zinc %
Probable	812,200	0.051	2.73	0.98	0.39	7.57
Possible	942,300	0.034	2.17	1.21	0.27	8.92
Sub Total	1,754,500	0.042	2.43	1.10	0.33	8.30
Inferred	1,278,000					
Total	3,032,500					

Geological studies have identified additional targets which require follow-up testing and in early 1985 a further diamond drill program commenced.

Western Shield

In 1984, Westmin established a joint venture with Barringer Magenta and six properties in northeastern Manitoba were acquired. These properties contain geological, geochemical and/or geophysical features considered indicative of gold and/or massive sulphide deposits. Detailed prospecting, accompanied by geological mapping and selective geochemical and ground geophysical surveys resulted in the discovery of gold showings on two properties.

Coal and Industrial Minerals

Coal

Westmin's coal revenues increased to \$5,265,000 in 1984 from \$4,575,000 the previous year and are expected to approximate \$5 million in 1985. Coal royalties received, which will continue into the next century, will increase at a rate greater than inflation under the terms of the various lease agreements.

Presently leased lands in the Highvale mine area near Lake Wabamun are only a small portion of the Company's coal rights, which include, in addition to Crown coal lands, some 507,000 acres of mineral title lands in central Alberta.

Westmin continues to maintain its 12-1/2 per cent interest in the Sukunka Coal Project in northeastern British Columbia.

The depressed state of world coal markets has significantly curtailed current coal exploration and development. Westmin's activity will be restricted to modest exploration on the Company's Crown holdings in Alberta and a

detailed appraisal of some near-surface coal lands in the north-central part of the province for use as possible feed-stock for steam production in the Company's "huff and puff" low-gravity oil areas.

In addition, Westmin intends to selectively evaluate high-quality coal prospects in British Columbia and the western United States.

Industrial Minerals

Royalty revenues from Westmin's leases to Alberta Sulphate Limited totalled approximately \$268,000 in 1984. During the latter part of the year Noranda sold its interest in Alberta Sulphate to another company. It is anticipated that the new owners will give greater priority to the operation, possibly leading to higher royalty revenue for Westmin.

During the early part of 1984, the Company opened up its Nordegg limestone quarry for a one-month production of stone. During the summer, all the necessary Government approvals and licences were obtained to put the quarry into permanent production. Negotiations are currently proceeding with a contracting company to operate the quarry on a year-round basis.

All necessary approvals have now been acquired to open Westmin's Mount Palsson limestone quarry in northeastern British Columbia. Investigations are continuing to find sufficient markets to commence production.

Westmin continues to actively investigate other industrial mineral prospects in Western Canada.