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Schroeter, Tom EM:EX

From:

Whale, Andrew EM:EX

Sent:

Monday, February 05, 2001 9:46 AM

To:

Anderson, Duane; Cheetham, Pat; Cochrane, Marlene; Finvers, Maija; German, Gerald; Guthrie, Shelley; Jorgensen, Sharon; Lieutard, Denis; McLaren, Graeme; Phelan, Bill; Readshaw, Kerry; Schmitt, Rolf; Schroeter, Tom; Starkes, Terri; Stewart, Linda; Campbell, Karen; Downie, Arlene; MacDonald, Linda; Smolik, Valerie; Curtis, Ross; Hesketh, Joan; O'Rourke, Patrick; Elkins, Paul; Grieve, Dave; Roach, Dennis; Rosentreter, Rieva; Turner, Jim; Whale, Andrew; Wilton, Paul; Wuschke, Steven; Conte, Rick; Hermann, Fred; Smyth, Ron; Berdusco, Ricci; MacDonald, Garry; Booth, Richard; Carr, Chris; Carter, Tom; Errington, John; Hoffman, Al; McKillop, Greg;

Rennie, Loma; Adams, Rick; Bergen, Wally; Beswick, Ed; Hall, Ted

Subject:

Kootenay Review - Feb 2nd, 2001

Cominco staff attended a KMDRC meeting on Jan 30 to present their plans for phase 2 of the Bluebell Mine clean up. The Bluebell Mine closed in 1972 and, while the mill was removed band the portal closed, spilled concentrate contaminated a considerable area on land, and in Kootenay Bay. The spillage on land was cleaned up in 2000 in phase 1 with concentrate being trucked to Sullivan Mine tailings ponds, and more benign material being backfilled into the glory hole. Phase 2 is remediation of spills in Kootenay Lake. BCMELP and MEM support Cominco limited objective to remove contaminants to 0.5m below the lake low water mark and construct a new beech which will be extended to 5.0m below low lake level to cover contaminants in that zone. [Note this appears appropriate considering the limited effects of contamination identified in an environmental assessment of the lake bottom conditions]. DFO and Environment Canada expect a much more extensive program [which is unrealistic]. Cominco staff will continue to meet with DFO and EC in an attempt to gain approval [without a CEA process]. Note that the project is limited by the availability of tailings disposal at Sullivan [mine closes at end of 2001], low water level in the lake [managed by BC Hydro as April1], and the Cominco's commitment.

Following direction of the new FN consultation guidelines, the KKTC were consulted on Cominco Bluebell clean up project. Unfortunately the KKTC do not supporting the concept as they have concerns about the impacts on Kootenay Lake fishery. Although KKTC staff were invited to the KMDRC meeting, they could not attend because of limited capacity [they have 6 staff in their resource section while a US sister tribe have 120!, a glimpse of their treaty aspirations!]. Permitting staff will attempt to arrange a meeting with KKTC staff at which Comico can give their presentation and we hope MELP staff can help support the project. [Note that, while Kootenay FN may be more amenable to the treaty process than some other parts of the province, Mines Branch staff will likely be overwhelmed as we attempt to apply the new "risk free" consultation guidelines to the many permit amendments for the producing mines in this region.].

Kootenay Exploration Highlights:

- Cordilleran Roundup deemed to be a success [although we understand that some of our more active juniors may have incited to explore in Peru following Peru day]
- Kootenay RG posting closed on Feb 9th, 2001.
- representatives of **Sultan Minerals** and **Redhawk Resources** encountered at Roundup, expressed optimism and enthusiasm for major activity in 2001 at the **Kena** and **Remac** projects respectively.
- Rio Algom's exploration staff are still waiting to learn their fate after the Billiton takeover Sieg Weidner still would like to continue some work in the Sullivan sedex hunt in this area, and is particularly positive about the potential of Chapleau's Pakk property
- At the Mag property near Cranbrook airport, Pathfinder Resources completed one vertical hole to a depth
 of 662 metres. This is an intriguing Olympic Dam-type Au-Cu-REE prospect centered on a very strong
 aeromagnetic anomaly adjacent to the Reade Lake stock (Cretaceous), which intrudes Pc Aldridge fm.
 Sediments.
- At the Peg claims (optioned from PA grantee Peter Klewchuk) in the Matthew Creek area west of Kimberley, the joint venture of Chapleau Resources and Naneco, has completed four very short core holes to test two of several leucogranitic pegmatite bodies which are loaded with beryl crystals, smaller in size but