



Golden Crown
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Donald J. Rippon
#63 - 590 -17th Street
West Vancouver, B.C.
V7V 3S7

File: Golden Crown

February 1, 1999

Dear Don:

Re: 1998 MINERAL EXPLORATION REVIEW

Thank you for your letter/fax dated January 30, 1999 concerning your property holdings in the Greenwood/Grand Forks camp, along with other area projects. I appreciate and value feedback at any time; without it things will never change. First of all, let me assure you that there was/never has been/ never will be any "ignorance" towards activities in these areas of the province by me. I know over the year you have very briefly discussed your work with me; unfortunately, these discussions seemed (to me at least) to be 'hurried', rather than 'structured'. I certainly appreciate being kept abreast of company/individual activities, both confidentially and for the record. Unfortunately, when it comes to writing up the "Annual BC Exploration Review", timing plays an important role. As you are well aware, I 'monitor' provincial exploration activities on a day-to-day basis. I make use of many sources, including the Regional Geologists. The KEY contacts/sources of information are the operators themselves. As time and resources permit, I attempt to visit active projects during the summer months (usually with the Regional Geologists). For your information, I did hook up with Paul Wilton last season; unfortunately NOT in the Greenwood/Grand Forks camp. I begin preparation of the Review in early October and the First Draft is submitted to Victoria by mid-November in order to meet a variety of deadlines.

As you can appreciate, I cannot mention all of the hundreds of active projects throughout the province. Here again, I rely on input from the Regional Geologists for their 'candidates' for inclusion. Having said this, the best way to ensure that a company's project may be considered for inclusion is for the company to 'volunteer' information DIRECTLY to me in the fall. In your particular case, I had no specific information to go on. I was certainly aware of the progress on your project, but without "details", I'm sorry - I can't include things.

I'm glad you're pleased with Paul Wilton's "presentation". The Regional Geologists are afforded with much more SPACE in their respective reviews than I am. Hopefully, I will



get a chance to visit your site with Paul next year. In any event, I invite you to keep me abreast of your project(s), bearing in mind the type of data and timing constraints which I require.

For those who know me, you can be assured that my heart lies with "prospectors"; furthermore, communication is the key to encouragement and promotion. Let's keep the link close and work towards the same goal. I would certainly appreciate an "update" on your project(s) - just give me a call and we'll line up a convenient time.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tom".

Tom G. Schroeter, P.Eng.
Senior Regional Geologist



Ministry of Energy and Mines
Energy and Minerals Division
Geological Survey Branch

300 - 865 Homby Street
Vancouver, BC
V6Z 2G3 Canada

FAXED

FAX SHEET

Mineral Development Office

Date:	Feb. 1/99	Time:	2:55pm	Total Pages (incl. cover):	3
→	TO: <u>Don Rippon</u> <u>#63-590-17th St.</u> <u>West Van.</u> Organization: _____ Fax: <u>925-1002</u> Phone: _____				
→	FROM: Tom G. Schroeter, P. Eng. Senior Regional Geologist Phone: (604) 660-2812 Fax: (604) 775-0313				
→	CC: _____				
→	ACTION: <input type="checkbox"/> In response to your request <input type="checkbox"/> For your action <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> For your information <input type="checkbox"/> For distribution <input type="checkbox"/> For approval <input type="checkbox"/> For comment				
→	<input type="checkbox"/> Urgent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Confidential				

COMMENTS:

See attachment.

Tom

Mining Corporation, drilled seven core holes totalling 520 metres. The drilling contributed new geological information about some of the gold-silver-bearing quartz veins of the camp but no economic gold grades were found in any of the holes.

Near the headwaters of Haus Creek, about 4 km southwest of Greenwood, First Gold Resources Corp. explored the **Wildrose** gold-bearing, massive pyrrhotite-pyrite vein underground by extending one of the existing drifts a distance of approximately 100 metres. The vein proved difficult to follow due to its variable thickness and frequent fault offsets. At the **Golden Crown** project in the Wellington Camp southeast of the Phoenix mine, Century Gold Corp. carried out a comprehensive program of trenching and mapping the geological setting of the many gold-bearing veins on the property. Some rehabilitation of the underground workings was completed also and the company has plans for both underground exploration development and drilling to enlarge on known mineral resources beneath the former producing Golden Crown and Winnipeg mines. These two mines produced a total of about 55 000 tonnes of gold-silver-copper ore, hosted in both quartz veins and massive sulphide veins, in the early 1900's.

Late in the year, Solex Energy Inc. commenced a small program of underground exploration of the gold-silver-bearing quartz vein at the **Gold Drop** mine east of Jewel Lake. At the **Old Nick** nickel-cobalt prospect near Bridesville, Applied Mine Technologies Inc. financed a small program of mapping and magnetometer surveys early in the year. At year-end, Gold City Industries Ltd. was preparing to launch a 1000m rotary drilling program on the property.

INDUSTRIAL MINERALS

Early in the 1990's, resident prospectors in the Slocan Valley recognized the gemstone potential of abundant corundum crystals occurring in syenitic gneisses of the Valhalla Gneissic Complex in the Passmore area. They staked the original **Blu Starr** claims and began extracting, shaping and polishing the corundum crystals and marketing them locally as natural star sapphires. Further prospecting located more rich corundum occurrences in the area and also revealed the presence and exceptional gem quality of other stones such as beryl, tourmaline and smoky quartz. Eventually their total claim holdings were purchased by Anglo Swiss Resources Inc. which began extracting small bulk samples of the sapphire-bearing rock, concentrating the gems and sending them away for heat treatment testing and other market evaluations, with very encouraging results in most cases. Meanwhile, Anglo Swiss continued to map and prospect the area intensively, employing the original owners to perform much of the field work. The company also applied for placer designation of a portion of the Slocan River valley, recognizing that the abundance of sapphires in the local bedrock should be reflected in viable concentrations of placer gems in the river gravels. The application was approved, placer claims have been staked and the company is now testing the possible placer resource. During the 1998 season, Anglo Swiss has greatly magnified the potential of its property by not only finding a new large and very rich sapphire occurrence, but by discovering concentrations of exceptionally large and high-quality gem garnets and iolite (gem-quality cordierite). The abundance of iolites of exceptional quality and colour has the potential to be very large and to outstrip in economic importance the original sapphire resource. The significance of gemstones as an important mining resource in the Kootenays is starting to be acknowledged, mainly due to the aggressiveness, sophisticated management and success of Anglo Swiss and of the original prospector-discoverers.

The other major industrial mineral project in the region occurred at **Jubilee Mountain** south of Golden and just west of Spillimacheen where WWC Consulting Ltd. prospected, mapped, trenched and drill-tested a barite resource on claims optioned from prospector Art Louie. The claims are located immediately east of the former Silver Giant (or Giant Mascot) silver-lead-zinc-barite mine. The barite occurs in widespread veins and brecciated cavity-fillings (Minfile 082KNE079).

At its **Aspen** claims adjoining its Bull River mine lease on the southwest, the R.H. Stanfield Group is exploring and testing an extensive stock of porphyritic syenite as a possible economic

Donald J. Rippon

#63 - 590 - 17th Street, West Vancouver, B.C. V7V 3S7 TEL/ FAX: 604-925-1002

January 30, 1999 -- BY FAX

Mr. Tom Schroeter, P.Eng.
Senior Regional Geologist, Vancouver
Geological Survey Branch.
Ministry of Energy and Mines

RE: 1998 BC MINERAL EXPLORATION REVIEW

Dear Mr. Schroeter,

I can not tell you how disappointed I was reading your review for mineral exploration in 1998. There is not one mention of the work we and others completed in 1998 in the Greenwood/Grand Forks camp. Your associate Paul Wilton did a very good presentation of the two projects that we were involved with this year, Wildrose and Golden Crown Projects that represented \$300,000.00 worth of work in 1998 and were the only substantial projects in the area. As well in 1997 we completed \$175,000.00 worth of exploration on the Royal Attwood and Golden Crown projects that were not mentioned in 1997.

None of these efforts have been presented in your reviews despite myself mentioning to you on several occasions about our activities and the other information available to you through regional geologists and other sources that seem to be ignored.

It is difficult enough in this mining environment to press ahead let alone when our own Senior Regional Geologist ignores our accomplishments. There are other examples from the past where our activities and properties have been excluded from the annual reviews.

I must say that all other BC Government agencies we deal with, Claims Permitting, Regional Geologists, Inspectors etc are extremely helpful. If we are to encourage people to explore in this province then at least we can recognize their accomplishments, especially prospectors such as myself who you referred to at roundup(" god bless prospectors") during your presentation.

As you can tell I am very upset about this and would appreciate a response prior to taking this up with the Minister of Energy and Mines if necessary.

Sincerely,


Donald J. Rippon

