



884113

TGS -> Huckleberry

**NEWS RELEASE**

For Immediate Release  
October 01, 1997

Office of the Premier

**HUCKLEBERRY COPPER MINE IN PRODUCTION**

VICTORIA—The Huckleberry mine opening today marks British Columbia's third mine opening of 1997, and it will create another 167 full-time jobs said Premier Glen Clark and Employment and Investment Minister Dan Miller.

"These are the types of jobs at the heart of our Jobs for BC strategy," said Clark. "These new workers are in addition to the 14,000 British Columbians who are already directly employed in the mining industry with well-paying, family-supporting jobs."

The Huckleberry mine is an open pit copper/molybdenum/gold/silver mine, located 120 kilometres southwest of Houston. The mine is owned 60 per cent by Princeton Mining Corporation and 40 per cent by a consortium of Japanese mining companies including Mitsubishi Materials Corp., Dowa Mining Company Ltd., Furukawa Company Ltd. and Marubeni Corp.

The mine will process approximately 16,000 tonnes of ore per day over an estimated 16-year mine life. Concentrates are slated for shipment through Stewart to markets in Japan.

"We'll be looking for ways to encourage more of this type of economic development and job creation in the north at the Premier's Summit on Northern Jobs and Development being held in Prince George later this month," said Miller.

Bulkley Valley-Stikine MLA Bill Goodacre noted that the project would create positive spin offs for the Terrace and Smithers area. "Huckleberry has created employment for local residents, including First Nations people," he said. "The project represents good news for the local economy and good news for the north."

The Huckleberry opening follows closely on the heels of the opening of the Golden Bear heap leach gold mine near Dease Lake and the Mount Polley copper/gold mine near Williams Lake. Three hundred jobs have been created as a result of Mount Polley and Golden Bear going into production.

- 30 -

Contact: Carron Berkes  
A/Communications Manager  
Communications Division  
Ministry of Employment and Investment  
(250) 952-0615

VGS → RG  
- Smitha

## MEMORANDUM

To: Wally Bergen, Manager Northwest Region

### MONTHLY REPORT - MAY 1997

by

Paul Wojdak, NORTHWEST REGIONAL GEOLOGIST

#### HIGHLIGHTS

\*Successful Minerals North conference held in Houston May 14-15. Registration of 107; miners and prospectors, suppliers and government agencies, community economic development officers and civic politicians. Representation from Stewart, Terrace, Smithers, Fort St James, Mackenzie, Prince George and Tumbler Ridge. Jack Miller, VP Operations for Princeton Mining spoke about the mining project risks viz a viz Huckleberry and the EA process at the May 14 banquet. MEI deputy minister, Charles Kang gave strong pro-mining speech at May 15 dinner.

\*Hunterbrooke Capital Corporation has ousted the John Brock/ Wayne Roberts management team at American Bullion in a proxy battle. In question for government is continuity of baseline studies at Red Chris pertinent to the EA process. Imperial Metals has signed a letter of intent to complete an agreement on Red Chris.

#### FIELD WORK

1) \*Huckleberry development visited on May 28 with Kelly Illerbrun, mine geological engineer. Construction is more than one month ahead of schedule and production is expected to begin in early August. Activation of electric power is expected next week. Basal till stripped from the East zone starter pit is being used to build the tailings dam. This work is progressing extremely well due to dry spring weather and dam construction will be completed beyond what was required this year. Compacted till seems to be ideal dam building material; impervious yet defomable under pressure, similar to plasticine. First exposure of East zone ore on 1028 bench! The next bench will yield several hundred thousand tonnes of ore. East zone (PAG- potentially acid generating) volcanic waste rock exposed on 1054 bench is strongly chlorite-(epidote-calcite) altered and contains coarse (unreactive) pyrite, both characteristics reduce acid generation, according to Kelly. Also, there is essentially no spalerite halo thereby reducing potential for metal leachate from waste rock. Better-than-expected copper discovered in new exposure of Main zone granodiorite. This is expected to lead to exploration drilling in 1998 that has long been recommended (by this office and by Kelly) but cash-strapped New Canamin/Huckleberry Mines was unable to do. Copper concentrate will go to a Japanese smelter but destination of moly concentrate still not determined. Perhaps Thomson Creek will be more amenable to toll roasting at Endako than was Placer Dome.



Province of  
British Columbia

Ministry of  
Energy, Mines and  
Petroleum Resources  
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY BRANCH

# MEMORANDUM

Suite 301, 865 Hornby Street, Vancouver, B.C. V6Z 2G3

Telephone: (604) 660-2708

Fax: (604) 775-0313

DATE: February 11, 1993

File: HUCKLEBERRY  
Your File: 15140-20/Huck

TO: Brian Braidwood  
Project Evaluation Coordinator  
Mine Development Assessment Process  
C/O Mine Development Assessment Branch

SUBJECT: HUCKLEBERRY PROJECT - PRE-APPLICATION PROSPECTUS

I am pleased to see this project progressing along towards production. I firmly believe that more properties regionally would benefit at some point in time from an initial producer.

This region is/will be attractive due to relatively good road access, an underutilized local labour force, and the prospects of relatively cheap hydroelectric power. The previous studies (including geological and metallurgical) by Granby and Noranda, will serve as a good base for New Canamin's proposed pre-feasibility studies. The Land Claim scenario will undoubtedly be important.

Based on previous mine statistics, a mine life of +40 years may be optimistic or unrealistic; nevertheless, the project has that long term potential to provide real economic and social benefit regionally and provincially.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tom Schroeter".

Tom Schroeter, P. Eng  
Senior Regional Geologist

TS:mch

CC: Bruce Graff

YBS → Huckleberry

I N T E R O F F I C E   M E M O R A N D U M

Date: 16-Jun-1994 10:18am PDT  
From: David Lefebure  
DLEFEBURE  
Dept: Energy, Mines & Petroleum Res.  
Tel No: 952-0404

TO: Ron Smyth - Min. of EMPR ( RSMYTH )  
CC: Bill McMillan ( WCMILLAN )  
CC: Tom Schroeter ( TSCHROETER )  
CC: Andre Panteleyev ( APANTELEYEV )  
Subject: RE: Huckleberry

Ron:

The current Ministry expert is Paul Wodjak who has visited the property at least twice, followed by Tom who knows the area and has visited it last year. Andre is knowledgeable about the deposits in the area and visited it in the 70's? Don and Larry know the geology.

I guess we need to establish what we want out of the visit. Options are:

- 1) visit by Andre in late July, will require change to his schedule
- 2) visit by Larry or Don to be arranged by Bill
- 3) visit by Tom, me and others? in early September

Cheers,  
Dave

TGS → Huckleberry

I N T E R O F F I C E M E M O R A N D U M

Date: 04-Jul-1994 10:55am PDT  
From: Duane Anderson  
DANDERSON  
Dept: Energy, Mines & Petroleum Res.  
Tel No: 952-0516

TO: Ron Smyth - Min. of EMPR ( RSMYTH )  
CC: Tom Schroeter ( TSCHROETER )  
CC: Andre Panteleyev ( APANTELEYEV )  
CC: George Owsiacki ( GOWSIACKI )

Subject: Huckleberry Sheet

Thanks for "Huckleberry Porphyry Copper Deposit". Informative but absence of date reduces value begs questions as to timeliness (unless in dated publication). Note that DDH-94-180 press release was Jun 10/94. Jun 20/94 press release reports on higher copper and gold grades for 147 foot section near surface and high-grade copper results for holes 181 thru 185.

Recent press releases quite exciting as preliminary analysis indicated that indicated tonnage @ 0.6% ==> marginal/sub-economic property. However, large tonnage @ 0.8% would be economic. Question: like to listen to geologist re: objectives, timing and budget of New Canamin's exploration program so as to improve path that project is on. Is that Andre P?

At your convenience.

Duane A.

YBe → Reg. Mar.  
- Smithers

I N T E R O F F I C E M E M O R A N D U M

Created: 05-Oct-1997 09:12pm PDT  
Sent: 05-Oct-1997 09:50pm PDT  
From: Wallace Bergen of EI  
WBERGEN  
Title: Regional Manager  
Dept: Employment & Investment  
Tel No: 847-7385

TO: See Below

Subject: NW Region Weekly Report to October 3/97

ⓧ ⓧ

MINES

Huckleberry Mine was officially opened on October 1 and started things with a real blast. As of the opening ceremony most mill systems were up and running, with the exception of the moly recovery, which should be operational in about 3 weeks. As of the opening ceremony 5 unit trucks of concentrate had been shipped to the terminal in Stewart. Both the Premier and MEI Minister Miller noted the need for continued exploration to identify new mine potential. An ongoing problem with the placement of ARD rock on site is being addressed.

Large placer operators in the Atlin area are still operating. Most will shut down by the end of October. One operator plans on mining through the winter as weather permits.

No activity at either New Polaris or Redfern (Tulsequah) sites. Tulsequah EA Project Report is in the public review stage with agency comments to follow.

Longer than expected electrical installation has slowed the B.C. Chrysotile project at Cassiar. Company still hopes to run some product before freeze-up.

Wally Bergen  
Cusac Gold Mines is working at a reduced rate but has made some interesting drill hole intersections. Reclamation of some of the open pit disturbances has commenced and will continue until snow fall is too great. Cusac is moving to reduce it's outstanding reclamation liability as a result of discussions with Smithers and Victoria staff.

Golden Bear has started up the cyanide destruction circuit in anticipation of an Oct 10-14 detoxification process the the heap leach pad. Leaching has been very successful to date.

Premier Mine is down to 2-2 person crews on site, with one week in and one week out. Property is on a care and maintenance basis until further notice. The company is commencing discussions regarding site reclamation.

Wally Bergen

TOS → RG  
- Pr. Geo.

I N T E R O F F I C E   M E M O R A N D U M

Created: 14-Jun-1996 08:51am PDT  
Sent: 14-Jun-1996 10:03am PDT  
From: Bob Lane of EI  
BLANE  
Title. Regional Geologist  
Dept: Employment & Investment  
Tel No: (604) 565-4244

TO: See Below

Subject: Lane Weekly Report, June 9-15

Gave talk to coal group in Tumbler Ridge on "Mineral Exploration Highlights in NE-C, B.C. 1995/96" as part of the Barry Ryan/Dave Lefebure coal tour.

Tour of Shikano Pit (Quintette) provided by Kevin Sharman of Teck Corp. Very complex geology results in high mining costs and lower than desired production. Remaining reserves at Shikano are good for another 1.5 years worth of production. By that time, production at Babcock is scheduled to be in full swing.

Visited Cariboo Gold Quartz mine, in Wells, with Ken Macdonald and discussed the history of the area, its geology and potential to host bulk tonnage Au reserves with Richard Hall, Project Geologist for International Wayside Mines, and several other staff (Jim Miller-Tait, Ken Robertson, Ken Lord, Frank Callaghan-Pres.). At the time of our visit, Glamis Gold was reviewing the project. Several other potential investors will also be evaluating the project in the near future. Rehabilitation is proceeding, along with u/g drilling, at rather a slow pace and on a shoestring budget, until money is raised or a JV formed. The project is far from the glamorous picture painted by GCNL and SW news releases! A tour of the rehabbed u/g workings, through the Rainbow and Sanders zones to the edge of the Pinkerton zone, left me with the impression that the company may still be relying on a denser pattern of higher grade veins vs. lower grade mineralized wallrock to constitute the bulk tonnage deposit.

Traveled to Vancouver to work out of the Vancouver office Thursday and Friday.

Organized plans to visit Spanish Mountain, Gibraltar Mine, and QR Mine next week with Tom Schroeter (Van. office-GSB).

More rock collections coming north...parts to be given to Dave Forshaw, a very keen, hungry-for-knowledge type of part-time prospector from Mackenzie.

Spoke with Richard Friedman, geochronologist at UBC...more dates from Capoose batholith. Two U-Pb titanite fractions from a monzonite sample gave dates 148 Ma.

Also, concordant U-Pb zircon dates were for Huckleberry were recieved...both the Main zone stock and East zone are 83.5 Ma (Bulkley Intrusion age and Kasalka age also!). Rich also mentioned that the corrected age (using new constants) for the Huckleberry date in the CIM Porphyry volume (using new constants) is 83.1 Ma.

Huckleberry

I N T E R O F F I C E M E M O R A D U M

TGS -> NEWS  
Huckleberry

Created: 02-Feb-1998 09:12am PST  
Sent: 02-Feb-1998 09:12am PST  
From: Smyth, Ron EI:EX  
Ron.Smyth@gems4.gov.bc.ca@GEMS@VE

NUS

Title.  
Dept:  
Tel No:

TO: TSCHROETER ( TSCHROETER@A1 )

Subject: FW: NW Noon News

> -----  
> From: Hesketh, Joan EI:EX  
> Sent: Friday, January 30, 1998 5:07 PM  
> To: Hermann, Fred EI:EX; Van Oort, Bou EI:EX; Smyth, Ron EI:EX;  
> German, Gerald EI:A1; MacRae, John EI:EX; Lieutard, Denis EI:EX; Hall,  
> Ted J EI:A1; Bergen, Wallace G EI:A1; Whale, Andrew EI:A1; Meyers,  
> Rick E EI:A1; Miltenberger, Gary EI:A1  
> Subject: FW: NW Noon News  
> Sensitivity: Private

> FYI -  
> Joan

> -----  
> From: Berkes, Carron EI:EX  
> Sent: Friday, January 30, 1998 12:36 PM  
> To: Hesketh, Joan EI:EX  
> Cc: Starkes, Terri EI:EX  
> Subject: FW: NW Noon News  
> Sensitivity: Private

> fyi

> -----  
> From: Reid, Kathy EI:EX  
> Sent: Friday, January 30, 1998 12:33 PM  
> To: Zadravec, Don EI:EX; Little, Christine EI:EX; Pires, Ben EI:EX;  
> Cech, Peter EI:EX; Berkes, Carron EI:EX; Fulton, Elaine EI:EX; Sall,  
> Sabba EI:EX  
> Subject: NW Noon News  
> Sensitivity: Private

> The Cheslatta nation of northern BC has won a small victory in court  
> in its battle with the government over the Huckleberry gold and copper  
> mine. BC Supreme Court Chief Justice Brian William's has ruled the  
> Cheslatta weren't properly consulted about the project. He has  
> ordered mapping information be provided to the band but he refused to  
> grant an injunction to stop work at the mine, saying it's too far  
> advanced to unscramble the egg.

> -----  
>  
>  
>



GS -> Huckleberry

I N T E R O F F I C E M E M O R A N D U M

Created: 07-Apr-1998 02:37pm PDT  
Sent: 07-Apr-1998 02:40pm PDT  
From: Paul Wojdak of EI  
PWOJDAK  
Title. Regional Geologist  
Dept: Ministry of Energy & Mines  
Tel No: 847-7391

TO: Tom Schroeter of EI

( TSCHROETER )

Subject: Huckleberry stats

Tom:

1997 production stats from Huckleberry,

1.25 million tonnes milled, with head grade of 0.65% Cu.  
Copper recovery of 77.5%

Metal produced was 6.3 million kgm of coper, 61 kgm of gold and  
1480 kgm of silver (No moly).

Paul

I N T E R O F F I C E   M E M O R A N D U M

Created: 18-May-1998 09:14am PDT  
Sent: 18-May-1998 10:07am PDT  
From: Paul Wojdak of EI  
PWOJDAK  
Title. Regional Geologist  
Dept: Ministry of Energy & Mines  
Tel No: 847-7391

TO: See Below

Subject: Weekly report, May 15

*Premier*  
Coeur d'Alene Mining made a second examination of the Premier mill as a possible site to treat gold ore from its Kensington deposit near Juneau, Alaska. Potentially, ore would be barged to Stewart and trucked to Premier. The company is unable to permit mill development on site due to strident public opposition.

Huckleberry mill continues its much improved performance: throughput of 19,600 tonnes per day (rated at 18,000 tpd) and 91% copper recovery (92.5% target) for the month of April. Operating cost is \$Cdn 1.09 (US 0.76).

Golden Bear mine site is active with heap leach gold production expected to start by June 1.

Town of Mackenzie's enthusiastic support made Minerals North a successful event. Registration of about 65 (including speakers) with about 90 present at the banquet to hear DM Joan Hesketh speak about the mining initiative and state that Bill 12 (Mining Rights Amendment) had received royal assent. Maureen Lipkewich was presented with a \$10,000 cheque by Bruce Bried (Snip mine) on behalf of CIM for the Mining Association's school program.

Paul Wojdak

Distribution:

|                          |                |
|--------------------------|----------------|
| TO: Wallace Bergen of EI | ( WBERGEN )    |
| CC: David Lefebure of EI | ( DLEFEBURE )  |
| CC: Duane Anderson of EI | ( DANDERSON )  |
| CC: Bob Lane of EI       | ( BLANE )      |
| CC: Mike Cathro of EI    | ( MCATHRO )    |
| CC: Robert Pinsent of EI | ( RPINSENT )   |
| CC: Paul Wilton of EI    | ( PWILTON )    |
| CC: Tom Schroeter of EI  | ( TSCHROETER ) |

VB → RG  
- Smithers

INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

Created: 01-May-1998 04:02pm PDT  
Sent: 01-May-1998 04:51pm PDT  
From: Paul Wojdak of EI  
PWOJDAK  
Title: Regional Geologist  
Dept: Ministry of Energy & Mines  
Tel No: 847-7391

TO: See Below

Subject: Weekly report, May 1

Visited Huckleberry with high school student, Phillip Krauskopf (future geologist?) on April 30. East zone starter pit is several benches into ore and new mine geologist Steve Blower (from Similkameen) has identified the key structural control, an ESE fault. The East zone dike/stock is localized by the fault and highest grade copper (+1% Cu) is on the south (footwall) of the fault. Pit cut-off grade is 0.26-0.30% Cu. The mine is trying to manage production based on ore hardness (actually fracture density). Mill through-put ranges from 700-1100 tonnes per hour. Discussed property exploration potential which is good, the edges of the deposit etc were not well drilled. Mine buildings are only about 30 meters from the East zone ultimate pit. Start-up mill problems are mainly solved but the mill was down for pump and conveyor repairs, and concentrate trucks were not running for a time due to repairs on the access road, parts of which are in terrible (spring) condition. Planned production for 1998 is 6.6 million tonnes at 0.625% copper. To date mine grade is slightly better than estimated from exploration drilling so that 0.65-0.66% might be achieved. The high grade East zone starter pit contains about 14 mT and mining of the lower grade Main zone will begin in 1999, before returning to the East pit.

Bren-Mar Resources will begin drilling on the Turnagain Nickel prospect on May 4/5. Aim to visit on May 20.

Snip Discussed Snip Mine and future directions of Prime Resources with Bruce Bried (Snip manager). Snip expected to close March, 1999. Estimated gold content of tailings pond is about 80,000 ounces (Skyline interested). Most of which would have been recovered if a cyanide mill had been installed, but that might have required an additional 2 years in mine approval- hence the resource was forsaken. Possible new directions (in light of Walter Segsworth, new top man): More aggressive exploration/development, Prime paid about \$75 million in tax last year (great stats for Iskut-Stikine LRMP but not for shareholders), perhaps an expanded interest to include base metals (Segsworth's Noranda, Westmin background) and perhaps international opportunities (Homestake focus is on targets of + 3M oz Au, Prime focus on smaller targets).

INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

Created: 19-Apr-1998 09:59pm PDT  
Sent: 19-Apr-1998 10:44pm PDT  
From: Wallace Bergen of EI  
WBERGEN  
Title: Regional Manager  
Dept: Ministry of Energy & Mines  
Tel No: 847-7385

TO: See Below

Subject: NW Region Weekly Report to April 19, 1998

Silvertip  
(Midway)  
MINES

On April 7 Imperial Metals Corporation filed an application with the EAO to enter the Silvertip Mine into the EA process for certification. On April 14, after discussion with resource agencies and review by the EAO, the EAO returned the application to Imperial Metals with a request for improvements to information regarding wildlife values, First Nations, public involvement, transboundary concerns associated with the Yukon and the projects relationship the CEA.

Huckleberry Mine continues to improve production as start up is completed. The moly circuit is now operational and daily processing through the mill has gone as high as 22,000 t. The initial production target for the mill was 18,000 tpd. There has been no lost time accidents and Bryan indicated good OHS standards from his last visit.

Tulsequah is commencing into the permitting process with the SUP process for road access commencing in May and mine permitting commencing in the last week of April. The EAO is continuing discussions with various groups that have concerns regarding the mine and have been meeting with representatives of the U.S. Department of the Interior in Washington D.C. last week.

LAND USE PLANNING

The Bulkley-Nechako Regional District is commencing the review of the Houston-Topley-Granisle Official Community Plan. Bruce and I attended an initial meeting with BNRD staff and MELP to commence the review process. The Regional District was open to comments about consideration of mineral values and recognised the need for sand and gravel extraction.

MISCELLANEA

Bruce is coordinating the presentation of the MX Code to government staff and industry in NW Region. Current plans call for government staff to receive a presentation during the morning of April 29 and for the Smithers Exploration Group to receive a presentation during the afternoon.

Paul, Mary Lou and Jill attended KEG and the planners workshop in Kamloops.

TOS → Reg. Mgr  
- Smithers